

SPORTS

Remember the Chaparrals

By Jon Samples Sports Editor Photo's by Russel Augustine

Awalk through the P.E center is usually enough to break the monotony of any average students day. Shouts and whistles periodically burst from the Arena – which echo throughout the entire building – the crashing sound of weights rings from the strength complex and friendly interactions amongst friends and teammates can be seen around every corner.

As the academic year draws to a close, this building – which is usually so full of life – has quieted.

The 2006-07 athletic year has been tremendously successful for many of the college's teams, who have used the P.E. center as their home base for the past 10 months.

In the last three years the college has won the Pepsi Na-

tional Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators Award and is poised to win it for a consecutive – and unbelievable – fourth straight year.

While the NJCAA should consider re-naming the NATYCAA award the Chaparral award – having won it every year of its existence – COD students and staff should consider what has allowed us to take this award; the athletes.

With only softball and track & field still in season, it has become obvious in the halls of the P.E. center that many of the college's athletes are heading home for the summer. But while their seasons have faded their accomplishments have not.



Women's Tennis

It's been almost eight months since the women's tennis team won their regional championship, and Wednesday they topped that accomplishment with the national title – the first in the 40-years the sport has been played at the college.

"This was an outstanding group, they worked hard and they were extremely dedicated," said head women's tennis coach Jim Bowers.

"We qualified back in October and we've been playing ever since then at an indoor facility. They were all hungry for a championship coming into this tournament."

The tournament started Saturday and culminated Wednesday with a first place finish for the college.

The team won in both the #4 singles and #6 doubles and first in overall team points.

Bowers is in his third year as head coach. He replaced Dave Webster in 2005, when he led the men's team to a National Championship.

"It's tough the men's team had such a hard season, but I'm just so excited right now for the women's team," said Bowers.

Men's Tennis

Out-manned and out-gunned the men's tennis team has not been able to match their 2005 National Championship season.

However, in a testament to their resilience, the team competed despite not having a full team.

They finished 2-5 this season and third place in the conference.

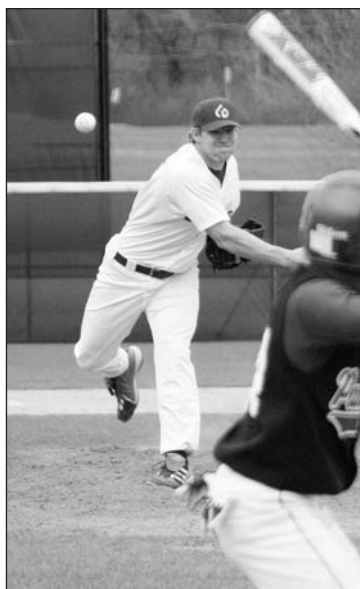
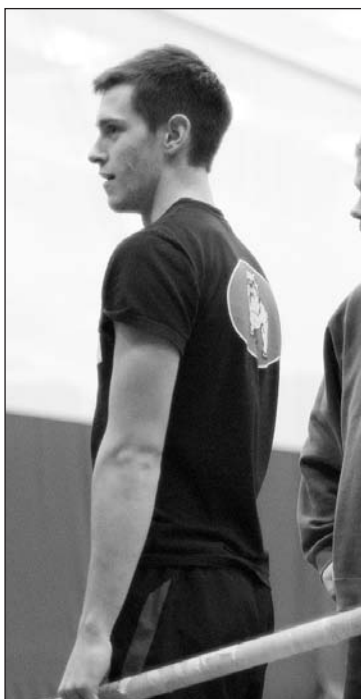
Men's & Women's Track

Jane Vatchev's 2007 team is still looking for its place in the college's national tournament history.

While they have not yet competed in the national tournament, both the men and women's team had great regional meets.

The men's team finished second in the regional competition and the women's team dug deep to pull out a first place performance.

The women's team won the Region IV championship. 18 men and six women are competing in this week's national tournament.



Baseball

Excuses are like *expletive deleted*, but I guess we'll blame this season on the weather.

With nearly a third of their season cancelled due to inclement weather conditions, it was hardly a surprise Dan Kusinski's team couldn't find a grove in 07'.

The team finished the season 17-17 losing to Rock Valley 9-17 in the regional tournament.

Along with a sporadic schedule the team also faced a number of injuries to key player.

- Dave Moore to a season-ending injury.
- Chris Paul and Chris Mc Call, for periods of time due to injuries

"The biggest accomplishment for our team this season was perseverance," said Kusinski.

"We faced a number of obstacles and met them all head-on. Despite all these setbacks, the players never felt sorry for themselves and went in to every game with the mindset that they will win."

Volleyball

Improvements are made in steps, and the 2006 volleyball team is in the process of making those steps.

With an overall record of 15-22, they finished considerably better than their 7-28 record the year before.

Led by sophomore Sarah Chamberlain, the team won their first playoff game, eventually losing to Harper College and finishing second in the region.

Women's Soccer

Overall the women's soccer team had a promising year, finishing the regular season 4-1 with big wins against Triton College and Joliet Junior College.

The Chaparrals continued their dominance in the Region IV playoffs with two more wins against their conference rivals.

However, Rochester College ended the team's hope for a national run. Jason Hunter's team lost 0-5 in the District Tournament, which ended their season.

In three years as head women's soccer coach, Jason Hunter has an imposing 48-8-3 record.



Men's Soccer

As the only team at the College of DuPage that chooses to compete at the division I level, coach Jim Kelly's team has proven it has a fierce competitive spirit.

Since N4C play began in 2002 the men's soccer team is yet to lose a conference game – an unbelievable 38-0 record.

They won their fifth straight conference championship in the 2006 season and -- for 17 times in 18 years -- walked away with the NJCAA Region IV Division I Championship.

The Chaparrals went to the national tournament where they defeated the #1 ranked defending National Champions, Georgia Perimeter. They eventually went on to tie for third place in the tournament.

Sophomore Rodgers Obua was named Conference Player of the Year. Chaparral players who made the All-Conference team were sophomore Brian Temmerman and freshman Jakub Gerlach.

"The fact that we started the season with only three players from last year's squad made for a difficult start," said assistant soccer coach William Fajkus. "As a group we developed a great deal of depth which is a good sign for [next season]."



Women's basketball

Four of the last five years the women's basketball team has made the national tournament; most recently finishing in fifth place.

The team finished with an 8-2 conference record – losing only to Joliet Junior College, which it went on to beat in the Region IV Championship.

Overall the Chaparrals had a record of 25-8 and in Beth Mitchell's last year as head coach received an exceptional going away present.

The team started the national tournament on positive note with a 79-66 win over Northland Community & Technical College.

However, they wouldn't stay in the winners bracket for long. In the Chaparrals next two games they looked unlike the team who made the tournament, losing by 15 to Mohawk Valley and by 16 to Monroe.

Vaiva Peterson was named NJCAA first-team All-American, first-team All-Region, N4C All-Conference and All-Tournament player at the national tournament.

Mallory Carlini was named first-team All-Region and along with Courtney Koller made N4C All-Conference.

Golf

The golf team fell short of making the national tournament, but strong individual performances and a valiant effort allowed this year's team to exceed everyone's expectations.

Jeff Nichilo, who led the team, finished second in regionals and earned a spot on the Region IV Division III All-Region team.

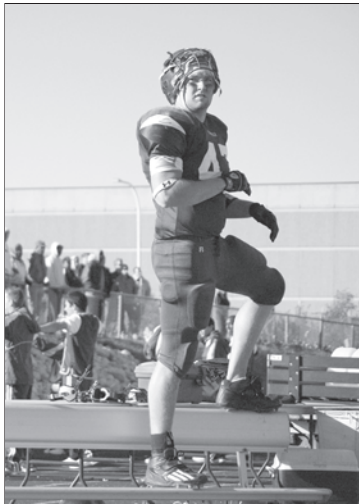
"The team struggled early in the season, but made a consistent effort to improve each tournament," said head coach Jason Hyatt. "In the end [we] fell just short of our goal... qualifying for nationals."

Football

Fred Fimbres' first year as head coach could not turn-around the troubled Chaparral football team, but all is not lost.

The 2006 team saw a sharp increase in offensive production compared to the 05' season and despite finishing with a 2-7 record are hopeful for next year.

Sophomore quarterback, Tom Specia and receiver Tim Haiges, along with a promising group of incoming freshmen, have even the most cynical naysayer believing in next year's team.



Men's Basketball

In Don Klaas's twenty-ninth year as head coach for the Chaparrals, his team finished with a 25-10 record.

A flawless 10-0 conference record along with a Region IV Championship victory over conference rival Joliet Junior College were mere hurdles for Klaas's team; they were on their way to nationals.

Sophomore Renell Taylor and freshman Tim Niles were just two pieces of a stellar cast of characters, who all contributed to the teams third place national finish. Taylor made first team All-Conference and became the first Chaparral ever to be named to the Division III National Sophomore All-Star team.

Niles was named Player of the Year in the North Central Community College Conference and along with freshman Ryan Tyszkiewicz made second team All-American.

Otis Scarver made the National All-Tournament team.

"This has been one of the most enjoyable years of my coaching career," said Klaas.

"At the mid-way point of the season, this team was 8-8 and heading toward mediocrity. These young men never gave up. They knew how to overcome adversity [and] they knew how to win."

A large section of the team is eligible to play the 07'-08' season, and the only thing keeping the Chaparrals from another outstanding year is if last years eligible freshmen decide not to return.

Cross Country

After three years as the head men's and women's cross country coach, Matt Cousins has decided to step down from the position, but not before he led his team to an outstanding season.

The men's team finished second overall in the national tournament – the highest finish in the team's history.

Both John Fry and John Fisher were named All-Americans and had a great season overall.

The women's team placed seventh in the national tournament, but is expected to have a better finish next year under the guidance of Jane Vatchev.

"We had a great season," said Cousins. "Both the Men and Women's teams will be Championship contenders next year. I had a great time for the past three seasons."

Softball

The softball team is heading into the national tournament with one thing in mind, a National Championship.

So far the team has an overall record of 30-12 and have already claimed the conference and regional championships.

This is the fourteenth consecutive season the softball team has made the national tournament.



Swimming

Last years returning swimmers: Ivan Rodriguez, John Crowder, Nathan Oelslager, Kevin Satler, Kristen Yasz, Jenna Flentge, Holly Jordan, and Angela Moulton all contributed in the teams success this past season.

The men's team finished first place in the national tournament amongst non-scholarship schools and fifth overall.

Despite being understaffed the women's team competed well at nationals, finishing fifth amongst non-scholarship schools.

"I want to thank the Swimmers for there commitment to the College of DuPage program," said head coach Marc Gamble.

"The swimmers at the college start training in September and finish in March, which is a long season."

Remember the Coaches

Jim Kelly - Men's Soccer
•N4C Coach of the Year
•Region IV Coach of the Year

Jason Hunter - Women's Soccer
•N4C Coach of the Year
•Region IV Coach of the Year

Don Klaas - Men's Basketball
•N4C Coach of the Year
•Region IV Coach of the Year
•District 2 National Coach of the year
•IBCA Division III Coach of the Year

Beth Mitchell - Women's Basketball
•Region IV Coach of the Year
•District B National Coach of the Year
•IBCA Division III Coach of the Year

Danielle Cline - Softball
•N4C Coach of the Year
•Region IV Coach of the Year

Jane Vatchev - Men's & Women's Track
•Region IV Women's Coach of the Year

Mitchell poised to resign

Beth Mitchell to leave college after fifteen years on job

By Jon Samples Sports Editor

While the college will not confirm or deny Beth Mitchell's departure as head women's basketball coach until a formal letter of resignation has been produced, Jon Keith, principle of Wheaton Academy, verified Wednesday that Mitchell has accepted an employment offer from the West Chicago area high

school.

"We have decided to expand our Student Services department and [Mitchell's] credentials in advising will make her a great fit," said Keith in reference to Mitchell's new position as guidance counselor. Along with a counseling position, Mitchell will also take over as head coach for Wheaton Academy basketball team, replacing second year coach Tom Jamerson.

Jamerson also serves as Director of Athletics for the Wheaton Academy Warriors. According to Keith, "[Jamerson]



Photo by Jon Samples

son] is stepping down as coach to focus more on his AD position."

"We have 17 varsity sports here at Wheaton Academy and football is coming back next season after a 17 year break," said Jamerson. "I felt the time requirements as athletic director and basketball coach would limit my ability to do both. My main responsibility is as athletic director."

Mitchell began working at the college in 1992. In 2002-03 she took over as the Chaparrals women's basketball coach while also serving as Athletic Academic Advisor.

In five years as the coach of the women's team, Mitchell has finished in the top five at the national tournament four times.

The year before Beth Mitchell replaced Earl Reed as head women's basketball coach, the team had won the national Championship for the second time in Reed's 11 year career.

The next season Mitchell led her team to a third place national finish; only topped by the team's second place finish the following year.

She only failed to reach the national competition once in her five years as coach – 2005 when her team tied with Joliet as conference champs.

The Chaparrals had a 9-1 conference record that season.

In the teams most current season Mitchell again led her team to nationals, finishing fifth in the competition and failing to capture a Na-

tional Championship title.

Little did the college know this would be the last chance for her to capture the elusive national title, as the 2006-07 season would be her last in green and yellow.

"[Mitchell] was a first class person, incredibly professional and really personable," described Jamerson after his first meeting with Mitchell. "Her resume and accomplishments speak for themselves. She has had tremendous success at the NJCAA level and we're very excited about having her."

Mitchell holds a Bachelors of Science in health, physical education and recreation from

see 'Mitchell resigns' page 31

Sports Schedule Spring 07

BASEBALL		
FEBRUARY		
Sat., 17	at Southwestern Illinois	cancelled
Sun., 18	at Southwestern Illinois	cancelled
Sat., 24	at Southeastern Illinois	cancelled
Sun., 25	at Southeastern Illinois	cancelled
MARCH		
Sat., 3	at Shawnee	cancelled
Sat., 4	at John A. Logan	L-11, L0-11
Sun., 11	vs. Southwestern CC at Metrodome	W7-2, W7-6
Sat., 17	at Carl Sandburg	W6-2, W7-4
Sat., 24	at Kankakee	L 1-5, L 2-7
Sun., 25	CARL SANDBURG	cancelled
*Sat., 31	at Joliet	W5-0, L1-10
APRIL		
*Sun., 1	JOLIET	L 7-12, L 5-13
Tue., 3	at Oakton	L 4-6
Thu., 5	at Olive-Harvey	W15-1, W13-1
Fri., 6	BENEDICTINE	cancelled
Sat., 7	at Illinois Tech	cancelled
Mon., 9	at South Suburban	W 7-5
Tue., 10	at Kishwaukee	cancelled
Wed., 11	at Concordia	cancelled
Thu., 12	WAUBONSEE	cancelled
Fri., 13	at McHenry	cancelled
Sat., 14	HARPER	W 3-0, W 11-7
Sun., 15	at Harper	L 8-15, L 4-10
Tue., 17	PRAIRIE STATE	cancelled
Wed., 18	ELMHURST	W9-2
*Sat., 21	at Rock Valley	W16-6, W20-10
*Sun., 22	ROCK VALLEY	W 10-3, W 14-0
Mon., 23	at Benedictine	W 5-2
Tue., 24	OLIVE-HARVEY	W 17-5
Wed., 25	WAUBONSEE	L 5-9, L 5-8
*Sat., 28	TRITON	L 5-6, L 12-13
*Sun., 29	TRITON	L 4-8, L 6-15
MAY		
Tue., 1	Region IV Tournament vs. ROCK VALLEY	L 9-17

SOFTBALL		
MARCH		
Fri., 16 - Fri., 23	Disney Spring Games Orlando, FL	n/a
Tue., 31	JOLIET	W3-2, W5-0
APRIL		
*Tue., 3	at Triton	W10-1, W15-1
Thu., 5	MADISON AREA TECH	W13-7, L1-10
Sat., 7	MORTON	10 a.m.
Sat., 7	KISHWAUKEE	W9-6, W15-1
*Tue., 10	ROCK VALLEY	W15-3, W5-1
Wed., 11	ELGIN	cancelled
Fri., 13	at Oakton	W9-0, W11-2
*Sat., 14	at Harper	postponed
*Tue., 17	HARPER	W10-3, W13-6
Wed., 18	McHENRY	W1-0, W5-3
Thu., 19	SOUTH SUBURBAN	W8-1, W13-2
Fri., 20	PRAIRIE STATE	3 p.m.
*Sat., 21	at Rock Valley	W15-6, L4-6
Tue., 24	at Kankakee	L0-1, L6-9
Wed., 25	LAKE COUNTY	cancelled
Fri., 27	at Moraine Valley	cancelled
*Sat., 28	TRITON	L 2-9, W 7-0
MAY		
*Tue., 1	at Joliet	W 4-2, W 8-0
Fri., 4	Region IV Tournament at Joliet	W 15-5, W 13-9
Sat., 5	Region IV Tournament at Joliet	L 3-5, W 8-7

SOFTBALL CON'T		
Thu., 17 - Sat., 19	NJCAA Division III Nationals at Rochester, MN	tba

TRACK & FIELD		
FEBRUARY		
Sat., 3	Tadd Metzger Indoor Invitational at Carthage College Kenosha, WI	n/a
Sat., 10	Dick Pond Indoor Invitational at Lewis University	n/a
Fri., 16	Chicagoland Women's Indoor Championship at Lewis University	n/a
Sat., 17	Chicagoland Men's Indoor Championship at University of Chicago	n/a
Fri., 23	University of Chicago Indoor at University of Chicago	n/a
MARCH		
Fri., 2	Carthage Last Chance Meet at Carthage College Kenosha, WI	cancelled
Sat., 24	Early Spring Opener at Augustana College	n/a
Sat., 31	Elmhurst College Open at Elmhurst College	10 a.m.
APRIL		
Thu., 5 - Sat., 7	Chicagoland Championship at North Central College	10 a.m.
Sat., 14	Wheaton Invitational at Wheaton College	10 a.m.
Sat., 21	Benedictine Eagle Invitational at Benedictine College	10 a.m.
Fri., 27	Super Regional Championship at Rend Lake CC Ina, IL	tba
Sat., 28	Super Regional Championship at Rend Lake CC Ina, IL	tba
MAY		
Sat., 5	Wisconsin Twilight Invitational at University of Wisconsin Madison, WI	tba
Thu., 10 - Sat., 12	NJCAA Division III Men's National Championship at Howard Community College Columbia, MD	tba
Thu., 10 - Sat., 12	NJCAA Division III Women's National Championship at Howard Community College Columbia, MD	tba

MEN'S TENNIS		
Sat., 10	at St. Joseph (IN)	10 a.m.
Tue., 27	at Lewis University	L 1-8
Thu., 29	WAUBONSEE	W 6-0
Sat., 31	DAVID WEBSTER DOUBLE CLASSIC	9 a.m.
APRIL		
Mon., 2	at Moraine Valley	L 3-6
Mon., 9	at Oakton	3 p.m.
Wed., 11	ROCK VALLEY	L 2-7
Sat., 14	at Vincennes University	9 a.m.
Mon., 16	NORTH CENTRAL	L 1-8
Thu., 19	at Joliet	W 6-3
Sat., 21	at University of Chicago	L 1-8
Wed., 25	ELGIN	3 p.m.
Sat., 28	N4C & Region IV Tournament at Joliet	9 a.m.

*denotes conference games
HOME GAMES IN CAPS

Athletes of the Week



Name: Jessica Franco
Sport: Softball
Major: Sociology
Year: Freshman
Age: 18



Name: Trisha Stock
Sport: Softball
Major: Undecided
Year: Freshman
Age: 17



Q: How long have you been playing softball?

Jessica: Since I was eight-years-old. I was little.

Trisha: Since I was eight.

Q: Why did you decide to start playing?

J: I guess I was too slow for soccer [laughs]. My dad got me into softball.

T: My dad made me.

Q: What's your most memorable game?

J: Our regional game against Joliet this season. It was a tie game in the seventh inning and I had to come in. It was fun; the adrenaline made it crazy, but it was fun.

T: None. They all blend together.

Q: What do you think about this years team?

J: I think we're pretty good. We

have a solid team and I think we're going to do well.

T: We're good. We blend together.

Q: Cubs or Sox?

J: Cubs aren't even a choice, it's Sox all the way.

T: Definitely Cubs.

Q: Who's your idol?

J: I guess my parents. They taught me the importance of hard work.

T: Jennie Finch. she's a softball pitcher.

Q: Are you excited about Nationals?

J: I'm so excited. That's a huge accomplishment. I'm looking forward to pitching against really good teams and I think we have a goo chance to win.

T: Yea, I'm stoked.

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SportsBriefs

Softball

The softball team won the Regional Championship Saturday with an 8-7 victory over Joliet Junior College.

The win earned the Chaparrals a trip to play in the National Tournament Thursday in Rochester, MN.

The 26th Annual Chaparral Golf Outing

The men's basketball program will sponsor its 26th Annual Chaparral Golf Outing June 22 at Hughes Creek Golf Club.

The event is a way to help raise money for the College of DuPage basketball program and to allow people to enjoy a day's worth of golf.

The cost of the event is \$80 per four-member team. The event includes a day of golf, dinner and the chance to win prizes.

Tea times are between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., with dinner capping of the day at 5:30 p.m. Deadline to register

is June 8. For information on how to register or for more details, contact Don Klaas at 942-2466.

Don Klaas Basketball Camp

The 30th Annual Don Klaas Basketball Camp will continue this summer at the College of DuPage. The camp is open to boys and girls ages seven to 14 and runs in two different sessions.

Session 1 -- subtitled Shooting and Game Camp -- runs from June 18 through the 21.

Session 2 -- subtitled Fundamentals and Games Camp -- begins June 25 and runs until the 28. Times are between 1- 4:30 p.m. in the colleges P.E. center.

The cost is \$80 per child and includes instruction, t-shirt, camp basketball and awards.

Special features include guest coaches, contests, games and videotape analysis.

Enrollment is limited and will be happen on a first-come

basis. For more information contact Don Klaas at 942-2466

Tennis club

A Club Tennis Team is being formed at the College of DuPage.

All skill levels are able to compete in this spring/summer league.

Contact Jim Bowers/COD tennis coach at 630-942-2800 ext. 53382 or email: bowers@cdnet.cod.edu.

P.E. passes available

Obtain a student ID in the P.E. building for \$5. You can obtain a pass from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. on Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

You can also get an athletic pass for \$10. The ID's are both convenient and versatile and can be used as a library card, P.E. pass, and as a student ID for local discounts.

Obtain a membership

To use the athletic facilities

students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours and have a P.E. pass.

Community members can purchase an annual or seasonal membership card that allows use of the facilities.

Gold memberships cost \$350 annually and \$100 seasonally, bronze memberships cost \$300 annually and \$80 seasonally and silver memberships cost \$250 annually and \$70 seasonally. Seasonal memberships are valid for three months.

The P.E. and Community Recreation Center includes the strength complex, P.E. arena, diving and lap pools, fitness center, and racquetball.

Contact the Athletics office for more details.

Calling all writers

If you want to write and have experience in sports, the Courier is looking for stringers to write for the sports section Contact Jon Samples at 942-2531.

'Mitchell resigns' from page 29

Oral Roberts University.

In 2002, she received her Masters of Science in counseling at National Louis University.

"We're excited about her capacity to perform both positions," said Keith.

"The positions were totally separate; we've been advertising national for the last couple months. We were fortunate to find Beth, who is qualified in both at both positions."

In a statement from College of DuPage, news bureau coordinator Bill Troller said, "The college, by policy, does not issue statements regarding hiring's, dismissals, resignations or retirements."

However, Keith expects Mitchell to begin part-time work this summer for Wheaton Academy.

In early June she will work within the guidance department and coach the schools summer women's basketball camp according to Keith.

CASH FOR BOOKS

<p>Main Campus Bookstore May 14 - May 17, 7:45am - 7pm May 18, 7:45am - 3:30pm May 19, 8:30am - 1pm</p>	<p>Westmont Center May 16, 5pm - 8pm Naperville Center May 17, 5pm - 8pm</p>	<p>At the Cafeteria May 14 - May 18, 9am - 2pm IC/SRC Foyer May 15 - May 17, 9am - 2pm Addison Center May 15, 5pm - 8pm</p>
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