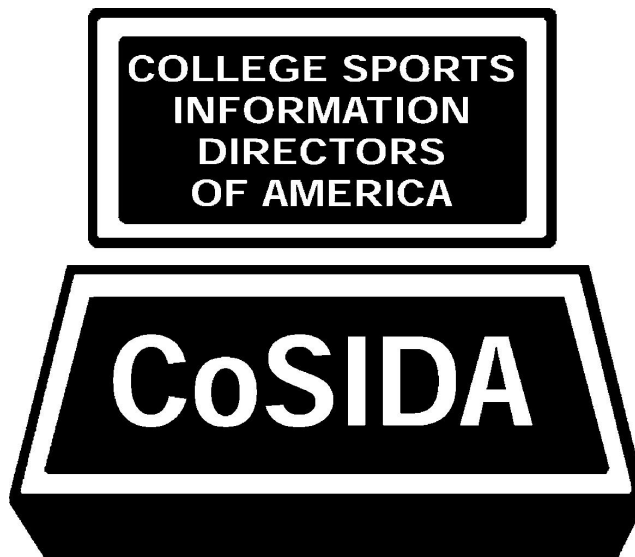


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Final farewell to a beloved coach

Family, friends honor Walker's memory

By Terry Bannon
Tribune staff reporter

July 7, 2006

For Jamie Walker the memories came fast and furious.

He was among the eulogists Thursday as a crowd of approximately 900 mourned his father, Northwestern football coach Randy Walker.

Walker died June 29, apparently of a heart attack, at 52, leaving behind a world full of remembrances at the First Presbyterian Church in Evanston.

Jamie Walker recalled going to the Miami of Ohio weight room as a child when his father was head coach at the Oxford, Ohio, school:

"He saw a couple of players giggling and laughing, and he walked over and in true coach Walker fashion, asked them, 'What's all the Chuckles the Clown over here?'

"They said, 'Whenever we think how hard we got it, we can look over at Jamie and feel lucky we don't have to go home with you.'

"I know I speak for my sister, myself and my mother when I say I'm glad I got to go home with him every night."

The Northwestern team attended the funeral, dressed in matching dark shirts and white slacks. Kicker Joel Howells represented the team.

"He was our coach, our friend, our mentor," Howells said.

Howells said Walker was more likely to talk to the players about life than about football.

"He often said, 'I want you guys to grow up to be great husbands, great fathers and good people,'" Howells remembered.

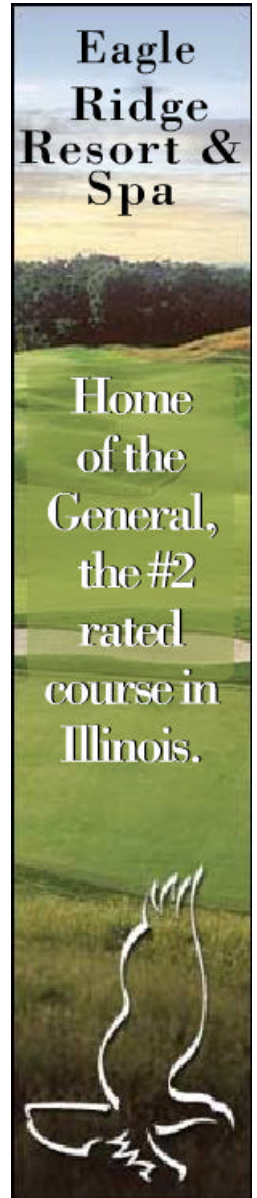
Walker's widow, Tammy, asked linebackers coach Pat Fitzgerald to represent the coaching staff.

"He taught us how to love each other and respect our players," Fitzgerald said, adding as he looked at the assembled team, "He loved you guys."

Like the Chuckles the Clown remark, Walker was known for some trademark phrases.

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"He called himself the best plagiarist in the world, but I don't buy it," Fitzgerald said. "Because everything coach said was from the heart, and everything had a purpose."

Fitzgerald was one of the stars of the school's breakthrough 1995 Rose Bowl team whose only loss before the Rose Bowl was to Walker's Miami team. Walker hired him as an NU assistant in 2001.

"As we wrapped up that day, he said, 'Your wife has to meet Tammy,' and that's when I knew I was going to be part of something special."

Walker grew up in Troy, Ohio, and played at Miami, where he was head coach for nine years before moving to Northwestern in 1999.

Northwestern President Henry Bienen told the story of an e-mail he received:

"It said, 'I didn't know coach Walker, but he stood for all the best in intercollegiate athletics. Signed, a Buckeye fan.'"

Bienen said Northwestern will endow a football scholarship in Walker's name and memorialize him in other ways.

"However, the best way to [memorialize him] is to maintain our program at the high level he expected, and to uphold his values," he said.

Rev. Sarah Sarchet Butter, Walker's pastor at the First Presbyterian Church of Wilmette, remembered inviting him to a Sunday morning service to discuss perseverance. The time conflicted with a scheduled television taping.

"He called back and said, 'The television people will have to work around it,'" she said.

The mix of family and football ran throughout the service. Three pictures on the altar showed Walker relaxing on a beach, one talking to his team, another coaching in the game.

Walker's former players turned out in force, including Zak Kustok, quarterback of Northwestern's Big Ten championship team in 2000.

Jason Wright, a former Northwestern player currently with the Cleveland Browns, sang "It is Well."

Dozens of former players attended, including Luis Castillo, Barry Cofield, Trai Essex, Matt Ulrich, Brett Basanez, Tim McGarigle, Zach Strief and Mark Philmore.

The mourners included coaches such as the Bears' Lovie Smith, Ron Zook of Illinois, a teammate of Walker's at Miami, Terry Hooppner of Indiana, Jim Tressel of Ohio State and former coach Wisconsin coach Barry Alvarez, who wore a purple tie.

Bill Mallory, who recruited Walker and coached him at Miami, always thought he would be a good coach.

"With Randy what you saw is what you get," Mallory said outside the church. "He never changed. He stayed the same. He was an unselfish individual, a caring person."

Rick Taylor, who hired Walker when he was Northwestern's athletic director, was on hand. New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton, who coached under Walker at Miami, was in the crowd.

Dick Crum, who also coached Walker at Miami and was North Carolina's head coach when Walker was an assistant in Chapel Hill, also attended.

Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delaney and his predecessor, Wayne Duke, were there to pay their respects.

A video on Walker's life was projected on the church's walls. It featured family life and many of the Wildcats' big victories during his tenure. It ended accompanied by the Beatles' "In My Life."

Hoepfner, who coached under Walker at Miami and succeeded him as coach, also went back to Walker's Ohio roots in an attempt to define him in his eulogy.

"He liked to quote (former Ohio State coach) Woody Hayes and he had a saying, 'You need to pay forward and thank the people who got you where you are,'" Hoepfner said. "Walk-man, you paid forward for all of us."

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Internet

Soccer Scores On The Web

Louis Hau, 07.10.06, 6:00 AM ET

Unlike the rest of the planet, Americans don't care about soccer.

Or do they? "The world's sport" has managed decent American television ratings during this year's FIFA World Cup. But online, U.S. Web surfers flocked to soccer sites throughout the tournament, which ended Sunday in Berlin.

During the week ended June 24, which included the U.S. team's final match versus Ghana, FIFA's World Cup Web site ranked 68th out of the 500,000 U.S. Web sites tracked by Internet market research firm Hitwise. The site, which was produced in conjunction with Yahoo!, easily drew a larger share of visitors than NBC's Web site for the 2006 Winter Olympics, which peaked at 106.

A good chunk of Yahoo!'s soccer visitors came from urban areas, and Hitwise suggests that many of them may have been immigrants and expatriates. Low-income and middle-income urban Web surfers accounted for 16.2% of visitors, even though they comprised only 9.4% of all Internet users. Meanwhile, affluent urban Internet users accounted for 16.5% of U.S. visitors to the World Cup site. The numbers illustrate the commercial pull of World Cup soccer, said Hitwise senior analyst LeeAnn Prescott, noting that urban Web surfers represent "very valuable segments to advertisers."

Yahoo! is in talks with FIFA to extend their Internet partnership, which began in 2001 and expires this year, says Yahoo! spokesman Dan Berger.

While FIFA's World Cup Web site generated slightly more than two billion page views world-wide during the 2002 tournament, it surpassed that figure in just the first two weeks of the 2006 competition, Berger said.

That may have been partly related to the fact that the 2002 matches were played in Japan and South Korea when most of the U.S. audience was asleep. But Berger pointed out that this year's Web site included far more multimedia and editorial content than before, reflecting advances in Internet technologies during the past four years. Match highlights in streaming video, which were only available for a fee in 2002, were free this time and featured better picture quality.

This year, the World Cup site also offered downloadable mobile content that wasn't available before, including text-message alerts when a team scored a goal and downloadable software to follow the progress of a game in real time.

"Mobile was a huge priority for us," Berger said. "People follow sporting events in different ways. Maybe you're at work, maybe you're out to dinner and you can't be planted in front of a TV set." Site visitors viewed 70 million video streams during the first two weeks of the tournament, he said.

The FIFA site was hardly the only Web site to benefit from interest in the World Cup. On June 22, the day of the U.S. versus Ghana match, *The New York Times'* World Cup [blog](#) was the second-most popular page on the newspaper's Web site, according to *Times* spokeswoman Diane McNulty.

A June 26 blog entry critiquing ESPN and ABC's play-by-play and color commentary was deluged by more than 230 reader comments within two days. And comment traffic at the blog remained strong on the weekends, McNulty said.

"That told us it wasn't just for people stuck at work," she said. "It was part of the overall experience."

Meanwhile, ESPN reported record-high traffic during the World Cup at ESPNSoccernet.com, its Spanish-language site ESPNdeportes.com and its premium streaming-video site ESPN360.com. ESPNRadio.com also reported record-high podcast downloads.

Most notable was the number of visitors to ESPN360, a revamped version of the former ESPN Broadband site which was launched in January 2005. Since then, the site has carried about 140 live events in streaming video, including college football, college basketball, Indy Racing League events and the Bassmaster Classic fishing tournament.

But, said ESPN spokesman Paul Melvin, "the World Cup is definitely the highest profile (event) we've had on ESPN360."

ESPN360's live streaming simulcasts recorded more than 3 million hits through the semifinals, he said, adding, "I think it's safe to say we're very happy with the traffic."

The World's Best Big Companies

Posted on Fri, Jul. 07, 2006

A big decade

Ten-year-old conference has had some joyous highs and painful lows

By Wendell Barnhouse
Star-Telegram Staff Writer

Rough start

Conceived in February 1994 and born July 1, 1996, the Big 12 Conference overcame several speed bumps in its formative stages. Among the issues that caused discontent:

Steve Hatchell, commissioner of the Southwest Conference (and, by association, an advocate of the four Texas schools) was named the first commissioner of the Big 12. North Division schools backed Kansas athletic director Bob Frederick for the job.

The Big 12 office was placed in Dallas (home of the former SWC) instead of Kansas City (home of the former Big Eight Conference). Again, North schools sensed a prejudice toward Texas.

Big Eight men's basketball coaches didn't support joining with the four SWC schools. Johnny Orr, who retired as Iowa State coach in 1994, said Big Eight coaches were 8-0 against the merger. Then-Kansas coach Roy Williams expressed his disdain for the basketball acumen of Texas, Texas Tech, Texas A&M and Baylor.

All 12 football coaches were against the championship game.

Nebraska coach **Tom Osborne** wasn't pleased when he read a newspaper report that Oklahoma athletic director Donnie Duncan had been named the Big 12's associate commissioner for football. Osborne wasn't against the appointment but believed the league office should have notified Big 12 coaches by memo before the story broke.

Before the Big 12 opened for business, there were rumors that it was falling apart. The expansion furor that resulted in the Big 12's formation reached the Pacific-10 Conference, which contacted Colorado. The school's board of regents voted 6-3 to reject the offer.

Nebraska lost its annual game with Oklahoma (the teams are in opposite divisions and meet in home-and-home series twice over a four-year cycle).

Nebraska lost a key administrative battle when the Big 12 voted to limit each school to admit two male and two female partial academic qualifiers each year. The Big Eight had no such limits. Five defensive starters on Nebraska's 1995 national championship team were partial qualifiers.

Fast facts

Baylor is the only Big 12 men's basketball team that has not posted a 20-win season.

Baylor (1999) and Texas A&M (2004) are the only men's basketball teams with 0-16 conference records.

Kansas (2002) is the only women's basketball team to go winless (0-16) in conference play.

Oklahoma (12) and Texas (10) are the two Big 12 schools with the most consensus All-American football players over the past 10 years.

Big 12 players have won the Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award five times -- Kansas State's Michael Bishop (1998), Nebraska's Eric Crouch (2001), Oklahoma's Jason White (2003 and 2004) and Texas' Vince Young (2005).

Big 12 men's basketball teams are 72-52 in NCAA Tournament play.

Big 12 women's basketball teams are 79-56 in NCAA Tournament play.

Big 12 football teams have made 69 bowl appearances, going 33-36.

The Kansas State and Baylor men and the Oklahoma State women are the only Big 12 teams that have not participated in the NCAA basketball tournaments.

Twenty-two conference football games have gone overtime. Missouri has played in nine, going 6-3. Five of those overtime games have lasted two or three overtimes; Mizzou has played in four of those.

With Texas A&M going 23-9 last season, every Big 12 women's basketball team has had at least one 20-win season.

Four schools -- Oklahoma (2006, 2002), Baylor (2005), Texas (2004) and Texas Tech (1999) -- have 30-win seasons in women's basketball.

Five schools -- Kansas (1997, 1998, 2002, 2003), Iowa State (2000), Oklahoma (2002), Oklahoma State (2004) and Texas (2006) -- have 30-win seasons in men's basketball.

Highs

Football national championships by Nebraska (1997, shared with Michigan), Oklahoma (2000) and Texas (2005).

Baylor's women's basketball national championship in 2005.

Men's Final Four appearances by Kansas (2002, 2003), Oklahoma (2002), Texas (2003) and Oklahoma State (2004).

Women's Final Four appearances by Texas (2003) and Oklahoma (2002).

Texas' national baseball championships in 2002 and 2005.

Heisman Trophy triumphs for Texas running back Ricky Williams (1998), Nebraska quarterback Eric Crouch (2001) and Oklahoma quarterback Jason White (2003).

In 2003, Texas sophomore T.J. Ford won the Naismith and Wooden awards as the national men's basketball Player of the Year.

Lows

The plane crash on Jan. 27, 2001, that killed 10 members of Oklahoma State's traveling party -- two OSU men's basketball players, five team staff members, a broadcaster and the two-person crew. The plane was returning from a game at Colorado.

The shooting death of Baylor basketball player Patrick Dennehy in June 2003 and the resulting scandal that cost coach **Dave Bliss** his job and resulted in severe NCAA sanctions.

NCAA probation for Colorado football and Missouri men's basketball.

BCS national championship game losses by Nebraska (2002) and Oklahoma (2004, 2005). The aggregate score of those three losses was 113-47.

Mo' money

For its first nine years of operation, the Big 12 increased its yearly revenue that is shared by the member schools. For the last school year, the revenue dropped from \$105.6 million to \$102.5 million -- mostly because the league placed only one team in the Bowl Championship Series.

Big 12 revenue Per school*	
Year (in millions)	(in millions)
1997 \$53.6	\$4.46
1998 \$58.0	\$4.83
1999 \$64.0	\$5.33
2000 \$72.0	\$6.00
2001 \$78.0	\$6.50

2002	\$83.5	\$6.95
2003	\$89.0	\$7.41
2004	\$101.0	\$8.41
2005	\$105.6	\$8.80
2006	\$102.5	\$8.54

*The average per school is a rough estimate. Per-school revenue sharing formulas depend on television, bowl and NCAA Tournament appearances.

Champions

A school-by-school compilation of Big 12 Conference champions for men's and women's sports. The list includes regular-season and postseason tournament titles:

School	Titles
Texas	82
Nebraska	59
Oklahoma State	24
Oklahoma	23
Colorado	22
Baylor	20
Texas A&M	20
Kansas	15
Iowa State	8
Texas Tech	8
Kansas State	6
Missouri	2

Composite standings Football

NORTH DIVISION

School	Overall	Pct.	Conf.	Pct.	Bowls	W-L
Nebraska	96-31	.756	56-24	.700	9	6-3
Kansas State	90-35	.720	53-27	.662	8	4-4
Colorado	72-51	.585	48-32	.600	7	4-3
Missouri	56-60	.483	32-48	.400	4	2-2
Iowa State	49-69	.415	25-55	.312	5	2-3
Kansas	44-71	.383	20-60	.250	2	1-1

SOUTH DIVISION

School	Overall	Pct.	Conf.	Pct.	Bowls	W-L
Texas	95-31	.754	62-18	.775	9	5-4
Oklahoma	87-38	.696	55-25	.688	7	4-3
Texas Tech	74-48	.607	46-34	.575	8	3-5
Texas A&M	71-53	.573	44-36	.550	6	1-5
Oklahoma State	58-58	.500	31-49	.388	4	1-3
Baylor	28-84	.250	8-72	.100	0	0-0

Men's basketball

School	Overall	Pct.	Conf.	Pct.	NCAA Tourn.
Kansas	277-69	.801	131-29	.819	19-10
Oklahoma	239-87	.733	111-49	.694	11-9
Texas	223-105	.680	111-49	.694	14-9

Oklahoma State	228-96	.704	101-59	.631	12-8
Missouri	141-137	.507	82-78	.513	5-5
Iowa State	190-125	.603	79-81	.494	6-4
Colorado	173-131	.569	74-86	.463	1-2
Texas Tech	171-136	.557	69-91	.431	3-3
Nebraska	158-150	.513	67-93	.419	0-1
Kansas State	139-151	.479	51-109	.319	0-0
Texas A&M	119-169	.413	43-117	.269	1-1
Baylor	120-160	.429	41-119	.256	0-0

Women's basketball

School	Overall	Pct.	Conf.	Pct.	NCAA Tourn.
Texas Tech	242-78	.756	118-42	.738	17-9
Texas	207-106	.661	104-56	.650	10-8
Iowa State	216-100	.684	100-60	.625	9-7
Oklahoma	204-113	.644	97-63	.606	12-7
Baylor	216-103	.677	92-68	.575	11-4
Kansas State	199-113	.638	87-73	.544	5-5
Colorado	170-123	.580	77-83	.481	8-5
Nebraska	170-137	.554	69-91	.431	1-3
Kansas	157-143	.523	67-93	.419	4-4
Missouri	154-143	.519	63-97	.394	2-3
Oklahoma State	123-167	.424	47-113	.294	0-0
Texas A&M	129-166	.437	39-121	.244	0-1

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July 10

Life After the A.D. (Athletics Director)

Vanderbilt University's David Williams, no stranger to collegiate sports, is by now a familiar face at the Southeastern Conference athletics directors' meeting. He attends every event, armed with Commodores gear and the latest National Collegiate Athletic Association gossip.

But Williams' name tag must be something of a surprise to the non-regulars: What's a vice chancellor for student life and university affairs doing at a sports convention?

The answer lies within the university's unconventional athletics structure. Early in the 2003-4 academic year, Vanderbilt announced its decision to dissolve the athletics director position and merge varsity sports and recreational activities into a single department within the division of student life and university affairs.

"We felt that athletics had drifted toward an isolationist view on campus," Williams says. "You had the university and then college athletics. We saw conflicting messages — and in our view, athletics is part of the university."

Said E. Gordon Gee, Vanderbilt's chancellor, at the time of the announcement: "Nothing short of a revolution will stop what has become a crisis of conscience and integrity for colleges and universities in this country.... Institutions of higher learning are in danger of being torn apart by the 'win at all costs' culture we have created for ourselves."

Nearly three years since the restructuring, it seems appropriate to look at what has changed at Vanderbilt. But how do you measure successes or failures in a university's attempt at athletic reform: in wins and losses? Donation totals? Athletes' academic performance and campus involvement?

Any data would tell part of the story. And the opinions are wide ranging. Some perceive Vanderbilt's attempt to rein in its athletic wing as a landmark move meant to be a model for other NCAA Division I members. Others see the restructuring as much ado about nothing, a classic case of style over substance.

Myles Brand, president of the NCAA, frames the discussion in less black and white terms. "It's an exaggerated position that they did away with the athletic department," Brand says. "It's a good model in terms of integration, and Gordon [Gee] gets credit for making the change systematically, and all at once."

The Structure

Vanderbilt is used to being the exception in the SEC. Eleven of the conference's 12 members are large public

institutions — Vanderbilt is not. Most of the sports programs are defined by their successes in football — Vanderbilt is not.

So it was, perhaps, not a tremendous surprise for the university to distinguish itself from the SEC membership in another way. What's interesting in this case is that the mastermind behind the restructuring worked at universities with some of the biggest and most competitive sports programs in the country. Gee had been president at West Virginia University, the University of Colorado and Ohio State University (though he came to Vanderbilt directly after a short stint as president of Brown University, which competes in the Ivy League).

Williams was vice president for student life and community affairs at Ohio State, where the nation's largest intercollegiate athletic program reported to him. Gee, by all accounts an avid sports fan, brought Williams with him to Nashville.

In the first few years of Gee's Vanderbilt tenure, the athletics department looked like other major Division I programs. There was an athletics director, Todd Turner, and an operations staff that reported to him.

With the change, the university created the Office of Student Athletics, Recreation and Wellness, which combines varsity sports, intramurals and community sports programs. Several athletics department positions were eliminated, including the athletics director, and others were consolidated with existing offices in student life.

In the newly created office, an assistant vice chancellor oversees the day-to-day internal operations. Six staff members, called directors of sports operations, report directly to Williams. Each director has jurisdiction over a number of varsity sports, with an even distribution of the "major revenue" sports.

The directors determine scheduling and budgets for their sports, and handle other operational matters. Each also has responsibilities in student life. Williams is one of six vice chancellors at the university. He is expected, like an athletics director, to provide oversight of the sports teams. But he also has a hand in day-to-day student affairs matters.

Michael Schoenfeld, a Vanderbilt spokesman, says that the university has saved money by eliminating what it felt were "duplicate expenditures." For instance, where there used to be facilities management staff in both athletics and student affairs, there is now one unit that oversees operations for all student recreation facilities.

Schoenfeld says fund raising has also changed — from a focus on raising money for facilities to a campaign to endow scholarships. And he says Vanderbilt has seen increases in annual giving generally in the past two years.

Vanderbilt's Sports Culture

Just how the university would raise money for athletics teams was one of many questions raised by those who were skeptical of the structural changes.

"When it first happened, everyone was extremely nervous," says Virginia Shepherd, co-chair of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics, a national group of faculty members that monitors sports issues, and a pathology professor at Vanderbilt's medical school. "Concerns ranged anywhere from athletes who were being recruited not knowing what would happen to them, to rumors that athletics was being eliminated and being turned into an intramural program."

Kari Boersma, incoming president of Vanderbilt's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, says her fellow athletes were most concerned about recruiting, but that many weren't worried about the changes at all.

Turner, the former athletics director who now heads the sports program at the University of Washington, says

the restructuring at Vanderbilt came as a “total surprise.”

“There was no indication that anything in athletics was broken,” Turner says. “The year I left was the best year in the history of the department. I accepted the changes and didn’t second guess anyone, but I was disappointed in the decision.”

Turner says he was told the changes were driven by the university’s desire to cut costs and operate more efficiently.

Schoenfeld, in an e-mail, said that “cost savings were never the principal goal of our restructuring.... As the cost of intercollegiate athletics increases across the country, we are just hoping to slow the rate of growth.”

Williams made clear from the beginning that the primary reason behind the changes was to integrate athletics into campus life. As he explained to administrators, professors, coaches and athletes, he believed that Vanderbilt athletes were having a “vastly different experience” than the average student and having to make too many concessions, he felt. They weren’t taking part in other extracurricular activities. They weren’t studying abroad. Many couldn’t do summer internships because their training schedules called for them to take summer school. Coaches often discouraged players from joining fraternities and other clubs, Williams said.

“We had to tell [players], you don’t have to sacrifice your other options,” he says. “We talked to coaches and said, ‘no buts here.’ ” “There’s nothing about the old structure that prohibited some of these changes, but it did tend to get in the way.”

Turner disagrees with Williams’ notion that the athletes and the general student body lived on different plains. “They were more integrated at Vanderbilt than at any place I’d been,” Turner said. “I thought our students were doing well in the classroom and engaged in community life.

“Elite student-athletes have a huge time commitment,” Turner adds. “A passion for their enterprise makes it difficult for them to be regular students. Training prevents them for study abroad. It’s the way of life.”

Boersma, who graduated in May and has a year of eligibility left on the women’s soccer team, says players are slowly becoming more integrated. “It’s happening; we have seen more involvement in student government and honor council. We still have a long way to go,” she said.

Williams said he has seen increased integration over the past three years. According to Schoenfeld, there were no athletes in student government and honor council the year before the restructuring, but seven during the last academic year.

The university is offering a class next year on South African history, culture and government, and opening the course up to 16 non-athletes and members of the men’s and women’s tennis team. At the end of the term, students will travel to the country to volunteer and teach tennis clinics. The idea, Williams said, is for the athletes and non-athletes to begin a discussion not only about the course topic but also about their experiences as Vanderbilt students.

Shepherd says the university “still has a way to go” in getting athletes more involved in leadership positions across the university. And “there needs to be a better connection between athletics advising and the academic advising areas on campuses,” she says. “If there’s a physics study session [during an athlete’s sports season], they need to know about it, too.”

Turner says progress on integrating athletics with the rest of the university is “hard to measure unless you have benchmarks and financial metrics.”

The Road Ahead

Williams knows there will always be skeptics of Vanderbilt's reorganization. "Anytime anything goes wrong or falls through the crack, it's "if you would have kept the old structure, this wouldn't have happened," he says.

And how does Williams measure success? One indicator: No coaches left during the first year under the new system, and many have signed long-term contracts, he says. Williams added that a number of college officials have privately expressed interest in learning about the university's changes — though no institutions in the SEC or in Division I have jumped to follow Vanderbilt's lead.

Shepherd says the sheer size of some of the athletics departments at some institutions makes the athletics director position necessary in a way that it may not be at Vanderbilt.

"I don't think the Vanderbilt model is appropriate for every university," Shepherd says. "The important lesson here is that those involved in athletics should have more of a say in university governance."

— [Elia Powers](#)

*The original story and user comments can be viewed online at
<http://insidehighered.com/news/2006/07/10/vanderbilt>.*

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INSIDE THE COLLEGES

School schedules by the numbers

Mike Huguenin
INSIDE THE COLLEGES

July 9, 2006

Some leftover items regarding schedules for this season:

Eight of the 119 Division I-A teams have eight home games: Alabama, Auburn, Florida State, Hawaii, Kansas State, LSU, Memphis and Virginia Tech.

Six teams have four home games: Arkansas State, Bowling Green, Florida Atlantic, Louisiana-Monroe, Middle Tennessee State and Temple.

The only BCS-league team with less than six home games is Stanford, with five.

Eight of the 65 BCS-league schools aren't playing any BCS-league opponents or Notre Dame in nonconference play: Boston College, North Carolina State, Northwestern, Oklahoma State, Oregon State, Texas A&M, Texas Tech and Wisconsin.

Five BCS-league schools are playing three nonconference games against BCS-league foes or Notre Dame: Louisville, North Carolina, Syracuse, USC and Wake Forest.

If home games help you get off to a fast start, these teams are loving it, as each opens the season with four consecutive home games: Georgia Tech, Kansas State, Purdue and Tennessee. There's also Texas A&M, with four of its first five in College Station and the fifth a "road" game against Army in San Antonio.

Conversely, FAU opens the season with five consecutive road games, with the first four against BCS-league schools. Good luck, Mr. Schnellenberger.

No go for Orlando

Orlando was shut out in its bid to host NCAA Tournament games in 2009 and '10, which shouldn't surprise anybody.

The NCAA announced on Thursday that Miami will host first- and second-round games in 2009, and Jacksonville will do the same in 2010.

The bottom line: There are nicer arenas in Jacksonville, Miami and Tampa, which negates any advantage Orlando has in fan amenities. Orlando has been a first- and second-round site four times, but it's hard to see that happening again as long as those other three cities in Florida remain interested in hosting games.

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Rivalry weekend

Overlooked by a lot of folks (we're among them, we admit) is that the Southeastern Conference voted in May to require all its football teams to play on Thanksgiving weekend starting in 2007. The games will be the league's "traditional" rivalries: Alabama-Auburn, Florida-Florida State, Georgia-Georgia Tech, Clemson-South Carolina, Ole Miss-Mississippi State, Kentucky-Tennessee and Arkansas-LSU. (We'll avoid pointing out that Arkansas-LSU isn't a rivalry; it's just the traditional season-ending foe for Arkansas since it joined the SEC in 1992.)

That covers 11 of the league's 12 teams. Vanderbilt's final game each season will be against a nonconference foe.

TV generation

Florida freshman wide receiver Jarred Fayson will be one of six players spotlighted in a new show on ESPNU, ESPNU Summer House. It's a reality show in which six touted incoming freshman live together in a house in the Lincoln Park district of Chicago.

There will be eight 30-minute episodes; the show debuts on July 25 and will air at 7:30 p.m. on the seven following Tuesdays on ESPNU.

Among the other players are Colorado quarterback Cody Hawkins and UCLA wide receiver Terrence Austin. ESPN college football analyst Chris Spielman will serve as the "house dad."

Among the high jinks that will ensue: The players are scheduled to perform a dance routine during halftime of a WNBA game.

Campus stroll

The Basketball Hall of Fame had hosted the Tip-Off Classic for the past 27 years. At one time, the game marked the start of the regular season. But with more and more preseason tournaments involving more and more top-flight teams, the Tip-Off Classic has lost a lot of luster. Last week, the Hall announced the game no longer would be played.

Some interesting news from the NCAA on Wednesday. That's the day it released its second list of high schools -- 25 of them -- from which it no longer will accept transcripts; none of the schools was noteworthy. The big news was a list of 22 schools that had been cleared only for this fall. Those schools are subject to further review by the NCAA. Included on that list were Mouth of Wilson (Va.) Oak Hill Academy, Fork Union (Va.) Military Academy, Laurinburg (N.C.) Institute and Bridgton (Maine) Academy. Each sends numerous players to Division I schools.

Around Campus

USF sophomore Carlton Hill was arrested last week on campus on a charge of misdemeanor marijuana possession. Hill was expected to be the Bulls' starting quarterback this season but has been moved to wide receiver, leaving senior Pat "I can't throw; it's that simple" Julmiste and redshirt freshman Matt Grothe to battle for the starting job.

Northwestern Athletic Director Mark Murphy had the awful task of hiring a football coach to replace Randy Walker, who died of a heart attack on June 29. We thought Murphy would hire an interim coach, then make a permanent choice after the season. Instead, he promoted linebackers coach Pat Fitzgerald to the top job. It was a gutsy move, considering Fitzgerald, 31, has been a full-time coach for just six seasons and hasn't been a

coordinator. Fitzgerald was a standout linebacker at Northwestern in the mid-1990s, and that likely played a big role in Murphy's decision.

New Oklahoma basketball coach Jeff Capel received a big oral commitment, from 6-foot-8, 240-pound Kyle Hardrick. Hardrick recently completed ninth grade.

Apopka Coach Rick Darlington said he was told by TB Alan Abrams -- who ran for 3,841 career yards at Apopka (2001-02) and Edgewater (2000) -- that Abrams is headed to Division I-AA Illinois State, where Evans alum Galen Scott is defensive coordinator. Abrams started twice as a redshirt freshman at Ole Miss in 2004 but parted ways with a new Rebels coaching staff nine games into last season.

The Big Ten Channel, set to debut next year, won't accept ads for alcohol or gambling. "It was one of the first things that we discussed when this opportunity presented itself," Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delany said.

A Final Thought: We can't wait for Minnesota-Illinois volleyball on the Big Ten Channel.

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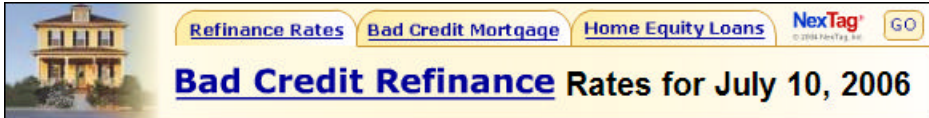
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Report miffs schools

Fort Union, Oak Hill blindsided by NCAA's claims of irregularities

BY JEFF WHITE

TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Saturday, July 8, 2006

In the tiny Southwest Virginia town of Mouth of Wilson, Oak Hill Academy has been educating students since 1878. In Fluvanna County, Fork Union Military Academy was founded 20 years later.

Neither school fits the model of a "diploma mill," where students are graduated after doing little work. Yet both were listed this week among the 22 high schools whose academic programs the NCAA is still reviewing.

"We were blindsided by it," Lt. Gen. John E. Jackson Jr., FUMA's president, said yesterday.

Officials at Oak Hill felt the same way.

Given the school's long "record of academic integrity, we are shocked and disappointed to be included on such a list," Oak Hill's president, Dr. Michael Groves, said in a release.

FUMA and Oak Hill are accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools and recognized as accredited by the state's Department of Education.

Neither school has been told exactly why the NCAA - whose official release refers to "Fork Union Military School" - put it on the list. Jennifer Strawley, the NCAA's director of membership services, said the high schools under review will be notified about potential "academic irregularities" that concern the NCAA.

Examples of such "irregularities," Strawley said, include: students who attend multiple high schools; students who do poorly at one high school and then improve dramatically at another one; students who take a disproportionate number of core courses in one academic year; and students who spend four years at one high school, withdraw before graduating and then transfer to another school.

The NCAA has identified 25 high schools from which it will no longer accept transcripts in determining the initial eligibility of prospects to compete in intercollegiate athletics. Another 22, including FUMA and Oak Hill, were cleared only for prospects entering college this summer and fall. Some of those schools might have received the NCAA's sanction had the organization had more time to examine them.

"We reached a point in the review process where we needed to make decisions for students enrolling [in college] in the fall of 2005-06," Strawley said.

Strawley declined to specify Oak Hill and Fork Union, but said questions remain about the 22 schools that were reviewed.

"There could very well be answers to those questions, but we need to work with those schools to determine that," she said.

One of Strawley's colleagues, Kevin Lennon, said in a release this week that the NCAA "will continue to be

vigilant to ferret out those schools that are providing miraculous academic recoveries for students in a short amount of time and with little-to-no instruction."

Oak Hill, which has day students and boarding students, is a co-ed school for grades 8-12.

Fork Union is a boarding school for boys in grades 6-12. In recent years, Graduates of its high schools have been accepted to such universities as Virginia, Duke and Harvard.

Fork Union also has a postgraduate program that has sent numerous football and basketball players to Division I schools.

The NCAA placed Oak Hill and Fork Union under review despite not visiting either school.

"Our record of academic achievement stands on its own," FUMA's Jackson said in a statement Thursday, "and to question the rigor, without even visiting the campus or, at the very least, telling the academy what concerns it may have, underscores the lack of sensitivity and professionalism one normally comes to expect from the NCAA."

At Oak Hill, coach Steve Smith has built a powerful boys basketball program whose alumni include Carmelo Anthony, Jerry Stackhouse, Curtis Staples and Steve Blake.

"I've been there 23 years and all of the sudden they put you on a list with some schools that aren't really credible schools," Smith said yesterday.

Groves, in his statement, said, "Oak Hill Academy is proud of our success rate with all of our students. We have always worked closely with the NCAA Clearinghouse, and no aspect of our academic program has ever been called into question ... We welcome the NCAA to our campus and we encourage them to move expeditiously to clear our fine name."

FUMA's Jackson said: "It is our strong desire to get it resolved at the speed of light, within days, and we're hopeful [the NCAA] will come to visit Fork Union ASAP so we can address whatever concerns they have. Our school is an open book. We don't have anything to hide."

Contact staff writer Jeff White at jwhite@timesdispatch.com or (804) 649-6838.

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Posted on Mon, Jul. 10, 2006

Web presence can take a player from nobody to prized recruit in a flash

By Seth Emerson

McClatchy Newspapers

(MCT)

COLUMBIA, S.C. - As stud football recruits go, Brandon King could have been the best-kept secret in South Carolina. If the Internet had not been invented, he probably would be.

Last fall, while other non-seniors were making names for themselves among recruiters, King was living with his father in Columbia, Mo., and playing sparingly. After one semester, King transferred to Ridge View in Columbia, S.C., where he had played his first two seasons.

King, a 6-foot-5 receiver, was an unknown when he attended a seminar given by Jim Baxter, who runs the Web site scvarsity.com. Baxter, who has been operating scvarsity.com since the early 1990s, needed only one look at King to see his potential.

Baxter placed a highlight film of King on scvarsity.com and called some of his contacts to get King into a Nike camp. Some colleges saw King on the Web site and paid close attention to him at the camp.

Now, before he has played a down as an upperclassmen, King has drawn the interest of South Carolina and Clemson, and he has talked to Virginia, Notre Dame, Kentucky and Ohio State. All, King said, because of the Internet.

"I attribute that to Jim Baxter," he said. "Because he got me to the Nike camp to be seen, and if I didn't go to Nike camp, I'd just be the same person as I was before the Nike camp: a student who came from Missouri to play football at Ridge View."

Those who are involved with college football recruiting say the Internet has transformed the process. They disagree over whether some of the changes are good, but they agree the best change is players such as King rarely go unnoticed anymore.

Irmo, S.C., fullback Aram Olson toiled in relative anonymity before he posted highlight footage of himself on a Web site. Afterward, he received numerous scholarship offers; he decided on Ohio State. Blythewood's Charles White committed to Georgia after getting offers that were initiated by his association with scvarsity.com.

"The days of the true sleeper are over," Baxter said.

As far back as 2000, high school players looking to get noticed by colleges had to count on two things: on-field performance and contacts between their coach and colleges. But since college coaches could scout only a few games a night, scholarship offers often came down to word-of-mouth buzz and the ability to get film in the hands of the right coach.

So a player might go unrecruited if he played at a small school that didn't report stats to the media, or if his coach did not have good college contacts, or if he played a position that didn't produce eye-popping stats.

A few years ago all that started to change because of the Web.

At first, Web sites such as Rivals.com popped up as fan sites. But the sites' creators quickly realized they could attract visitors by focusing on recruiting. Soon, recruiting analysts such as Baxter, who had been publishing a newsletter for years, started putting their content on the Web.

As readership continued to grow, recruiting sites moved beyond posting scoops on what player was going where to competing to be the first to discover prospects.

Of course, they had cooperation from players.

White had little contact with recruiters last year, when he played linebacker for Ridge View. So he contacted Baxter, looking for an "honest professional evaluation."

"I knew if my film was on an elite level, he would recognize that," White said. "But also, if my film wasn't good at all, he would recognize that too."

Baxter took one look at the film and decided White was the best linebacker in the state. He began hyping White on his site and got him into the Nike combine. Maryland was the first to offer White a scholarship, and when Georgia followed suit, White committed to the Bulldogs.

"Sending out game films, highlight tapes, profiles is expensive and difficult," said White, who will be a senior at Blythewood this fall. "And Mr. Baxter was able to get my film and information out there to people I had never heard of, let alone thought of, sending something to."

Olson's story was different. His problem was that he plays a position that garners little attention: fullback. In Irmo's offense last fall, he spent most of his time blocking for tailback Patrick Goss.

"He's a human highlight film as far as fullbacks go," Baxter said. "He just levels people. So for the school that's looking for that type of athlete at that position, he was great."

Olson's dilemma was getting his highlight film out to those schools. In the old days, Irmo coach Bob Hanna might have called colleges and lobbied on Olson's behalf. Instead, he let Olson use an editing machine at school to create a highlight tape, and Olson and his family put it on his personal Web site and later sent it to schools.

"I think Auburn and Alabama were primarily the first two that hooked up real quick," Hanna said. "And once that happened, I think word got out."

Primarily because of the Internet, schools such as Texas A&M and Ohio State saw other major football programs had offered Olson scholarships, and they followed suit. On Feb. 1, Ohio State emerged the winner of a national recruiting battle over a player who was barely known in his own state.

King is hoping the same fate awaits him next year. The process already has gone further than he thought it would, with the best moment occurring when USC recruiting coordinator David Reaves visited Ridge View.

"When he came to school and talked to me, it was like I had a chance," King said. "We always dream about playing in college, playing in the pros. To have it in front of me, it was, like, weird. Because it's like a dream."

A dream that is playing out on the Internet.

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Small Colleges, Short of Men, Embrace Football

BY BILL PENNINGTON
NEW YORK TIMES

WINCHESTER, Va. — Kevin Bosworth's football career here at Shenandoah University amounted to all of 10 plays, across four years otherwise spent watching from the sidelines. No matter. A reedy tight end, Mr. Bosworth wanted to play football, and the college was starting a team.

"As a new team, I figured they wouldn't cut anyone," he said. "I didn't know that much about Shenandoah, but I knew I wanted to go there."

Some small American colleges, eager to attract men to increasingly female campuses, have taken notice of how many students like Mr. Bosworth can be lured to attend by adding football teams. Officials at these colleges say football can bring in more tuition-paying students than any other course or activity — and not just players themselves.

"When you recruit a halfback, you get a few of his male friends, maybe his sister and his sister's boyfriend, too," said JoAnne Boyle, president of Seton Hill University. A 123-year-old former women's institution in Greensburg, Pa., Seton Hill added football last year.

"I could have started a spiffy new major of study, spent a lot of money on lab equipment and hired a few new high-powered professors," Dr. Boyle said. "I might have gotten 25 more students for that. And I couldn't have counted on that major still being popular in 15 years.

"Instead, I started a football team, brought in hundreds of paying students, added a vibrant piece to our campus life and broadened our recognition factor. And in the long history of American higher education, one thing you can count on is football's longevity. Football is here to stay."

Last year's freshman class at Seton Hill was the first with more men than women. Four years ago, when the college became fully co-ed, its undergraduate student body was 18 percent male; last fall it was 41 percent male.

At a time when the image of major college football has been sullied by academic, recruiting and sexual violence scandals — and as some prominent colleges eliminate football to cope with federal gender equity regulations for athletics — many smaller institutions have embraced the sport. Since their football players generally do not receive scholarships and are not blue-chip recruits, officials at small colleges say the players tend to exhibit less of a sense of entitlement, leading to fewer academic and discipline problems.

In the last 10 years, nearly 50 colleges and universities have instituted or re-instituted football, with more than 80 percent in the small college ranks. In the same period, about 25 institutions have dropped football, the majority being scholarship-driven teams from the National Collegiate Athletic Association's top tier, Division I.

Shenandoah, a campus of 1,500 students in Virginia's northernmost hill country, added football in 2000 when Mr. Bosworth was a senior in high school outside Washington.

That fall, he was one of 115 young men at the first day of football practice. Shenandoah was playing in Division III, in which athletic scholarships are prohibited. Six years later, Shenandoah still has a

football roster of roughly 100, most of them paying nearly full tuition of more than \$26,000 a year, including room and board. It has built three new residence halls since adding football, and campus life has been energized with the spectacle of 5,000 fans in the new, corporate-sponsored stadium.

Most important to Shenandoah officials, the team has narrowed the gender gap; the undergraduate enrollment is 41 percent male, up from 35 percent before football.

"You would be hard pressed to find five admissions officers or five professors or five marketing experts that could guarantee you 100 new, paying male students in one year," said Shenandoah's athletic director, John Hill. "But you can hire five football coaches and they can do it. In fact, they can find you 200 if you want. Those boys just want to play."

Dr. James A. Davis, now in his 25th year as Shenandoah's president, said: "I said no to football for 15 years, but I was wrong. Football is the best draw of qualified male applicants that there is anywhere. I am shocked more schools aren't adding football."

Football is popular among small colleges because the start-up costs for a nonscholarship program are less than \$1 million, and that money can usually be raised from alumni. The annual football budget is subsidized by increased tuition revenue flowing from teams of at least 100 players. Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C., routinely has 130 to 165 players. A typical Division I roster is 95 players.

Adding Diversity

Officials at small colleges say that adding football raises campus morale and alumni contributions and gives an institution exposure in local or statewide media. But the biggest attraction remains football's ability to bring in male applicants.

"When male students, even nonathletes, are making a choice on which college to attend, we've proven that having a football team will make more of them choose you," said Dr. Jerry G. Bawcom, president of the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in the central Texas city of Belton, 140 miles south of Dallas. In 1997, the year before Mary Hardin-Baylor instituted football, the student body was 32 percent male. The next year, male applications jumped 148 percent. Last year, the university was 40 percent male.

"Before 1998, we had little luck getting kids from the big high schools around Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston or San Antonio," Dr. Bawcom said. "Then we got some football players from those areas, and we won our share of football games. Now we go to those Dallas-Fort Worth schools and the kids know us. They've come in bunches. We've doubled the number of students living on campus."

Dr. Bawcom expected 65 football players during the first season; 210 showed up.

Football also attracts African-Americans, helping many colleges with diversity. Five historically black colleges have recently started football, too. What makes football such a magnet for male students?

Sheer numbers, for one thing. According to the National Federation of State High School Associations, slightly more than 1 million high school students played football in 2005. A study that Shenandoah commissioned before starting football estimated that fewer than 2 percent of the high school players in Virginia would go on to play in college even though more than half said they would like to play.

"We're keeping the dream alive for a lot of these kids," said Paul Barnes, the Shenandoah coach.

The level of play at small colleges varies broadly, in part, because there are hundreds more small college teams than major college teams. Small colleges cast a wide net, with some taking in players who were substitutes in high school and others focusing on all-conference caliber players who are a bit too small or a step too slow to attract major college recruiters. Most teams are a mix of both types of talent.

College administrators said football programs also attracted students interested in ancillary activities, like bands and cheerleading, or fields of study like athletic training and sports journalism.

Sometimes, the allure is more primal.

"Heck, guys who play football just like to hit somebody, and the guys not playing like to watch the guys who are hitting each other," said Trey Kern, who was raised in Winchester near Shenandoah and who transferred from another Virginia college to play for the new team in 2000. "It's America's game. And, who doesn't like tailgating before the game?"

At Utica College in upstate New York, which fielded its first football team in 2001, Mike Kemp, the coach, reaches out to the sons of working-class families who might not otherwise attend college.

"Hockey, lacrosse and tennis players, they all have money and 1,500 SAT scores," said Mr. Kemp, who brings about 70 players a year to Utica. "Those kids are going to college somewhere. But I come across high school football players from blue-collar backgrounds, and as seniors in high school, they're not sure what they're going to do. They're considering a college here or there. But if you give them a chance to keep playing football, then they get motivated to come."

And once they come, he said, "we kind of trick them into seeing that getting an education is the real benefit."

Being admitted to Utica College is not demonstrably easier for a football player than a nonathlete. Utica accepted 84 percent of those identified as football applicants, and its overall acceptance rate is 81 percent. Several institutions inaugurating football teams said that they had no separate admissions standards for football players and that players were not guaranteed slots in classes, as is common among the most competitive academic and athletic institutions.

College Board scores and grade-point averages for incoming students fell in a consistent range. At Utica, last year's freshman class had an average score of 1,000 on the old, two-part SAT and a B average. At Shenandoah, they were also B students with an SAT average of 1,026. Seton Hill said its mean freshman SAT range was 922 to 1,100.

Retaining players can be a challenge. Of the 78 players Mr. Kemp recruited for Utica's first season, only 6 were playing their senior year. The coach said 25 more from that first class gave up the game but graduated within five years.

Overcoming Challenges

Graduation rates for Division III athletes tend to correspond with those of the overall student body. At the largest universities, the demands of competition can turn athletes into semiprofessionals with notoriously low graduation rates, but those athletes typically represent less than 5 percent of the student body.

In Division III, whose athletes sometimes skip team practices, and entire seasons, for academic pursuits, it is not uncommon for athletes to make up 40 percent of the student body — 500 athletes playing 20 sports for an institution of 1,200 students. "The retention and graduation rate for our

football players is as good or better than the rest of the student body," said Dr. Davis of Shenandoah. "And they are involved in no more discipline or behavioral incidents than the rest of the students." Which is not to say that the introduction of 100 young men, generally large young men, to a small, predominantly female campus, is accomplished without challenge, college officials said.

"I'll never forget when I first brought 14 recruits, including some big 270-pound linemen, through the dining hall door and all conversation just stopped," Coach Barnes of Shenandoah said. "You could see the looks on the other students' faces that said, 'So this is what's it's going to be like.' And then the 14 recruits ate everything the cafeteria people had, they just emptied them out.

"The head of the dining staff walked out with this stunned look on his face. He whispered to me: 'We're going to have to start ordering a lot more food, aren't we?'"

There were bigger cultural issues than a sudden scarcity of desserts. For decades, Shenandoah had flourished because of the reputation of its conservatory of music and theater arts.

"That's a very open group of people, and we have more than a few students living alternative lifestyles and they can be flamboyant about it," said Scott Musa, a Shenandoah assistant athletic director. "I envisioned the stereotypical meathead football player and what he was going to do or say when he passes two guys walking in the quad holding hands. I was waiting for a serious dust-up. But it never happened."

Several Shenandoah football players from the first team in 2000 said they felt unwelcome most of the first semester.

"I was told the place was 70 percent female, and I thought that would be great," said Wayne Hogwood, who was the starting quarterback in the early seasons and is now an elementary school teacher in Arlington, Va. "But it was rough at first. We were kind of encouraged to stay away. I think they thought we were going to run wild — trashing the dorms and getting in fights."

The coaches quickly established some team rules with an eye on public relations.

First, they had every football player serve as an usher at two university plays and concerts. After arriving on campus early for training camp, players helped students and faculty members move into their living quarters. By team rule, football players had to take off their baseball caps in classes, sit in the front row and take notes.

"I remember being a little intimidated on campus because there were all these big guys when I had been expecting the campus full of music and theater kids that I saw during my high school visit," said Jennifer Gursky, a Shenandoah freshman in 2000 and an eventual graduate of the conservatory. "The conservatory students were a little angry, and there was a lot of talk about how those guys were taking away our scholarships. People refused to go to football games.

"But eventually," she continued, "everyone came to understand there were no football scholarships. People started going over to the football games and having fun. The groups began to merge."

At Utica College, the new football players clashed with the existing campus social order.

"The fraternities on campus ran the social calendar, but the athletes did their own thing and there were some scuffles," Mr. Kemp said. "After parties, we would have five frat guys jump a football player. I kept telling my players that they couldn't fight back.

"When it kept happening, I went before the Greek council on campus and told them I was lifting my

no-fighting ban. The next week, 12 frat boys jumped 5 football players, and the 5 football players beat them up pretty good. We haven't had a problem since."

Bryon George was a Utica College football captain and another of the original players.

"Athletes became the dominant group on campus," said Mr. George, now a history and special education teacher and assistant football coach in Rochester. "The fraternities started dying out as the athletic department expanded."

About the same time it started football, Utica added several women's and men's sports, like hockey, lacrosse, field hockey and water polo.

Creating new women's teams along with football has become a common response by institutions to help allay concerns about Title IX, the landmark federal law on gender equity. But adding 100 or more football players creates a male-female imbalance not assuaged even by three new women's teams.

Looking for Balance

One way to comply with Title IX is to have the percentage of athletes who are female match the percentage of all women on campus.

Some institutions faced with this conundrum have simply dropped football. In 1997, Boston University did away with its 91-year-old program.

But few of the institutions adopting football said they were trying to show Title IX compliance through proportionality. They were relying on other options, which allow them either to demonstrate that they are accommodating the athletic interests and abilities of women or to exhibit a consistent expansion of opportunities for women.

At the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, administrators survey female students each year and ask whether they want another sport.

Shenandoah added three women's sports to coincide with football's introduction. Mr. Hill, the athletic director, said that the school had close to a 50-50 split among male and female athletes, "if you don't count football."

"We've taken surveys and asked our students, but mostly what we hear back is male students wanting another sport for them," Mr. Hill said.

Donna Lopiano, chief executive of the Women's Sports Foundation and a former college player, coach and administrator, said the trend toward small colleges adding football teams did not raise Title IX concerns by itself.

"But it accentuates the problem," Dr. Lopiano said. "Because Division III schools are already not in compliance. That was true before they started football." She added that colleges had an obligation to do more than conduct surveys, arguing that the creation of women's teams would lead to the recruitment of women in the same way it does for men.

At Shenandoah, the bustle of construction is all over campus this summer. A new student center is being built next to the athletic complex, and work has begun on a new home for the school of business. Across Interstate 81, where the college expanded three years ago to construct the new football stadium — which brought \$750,000 for its naming rights — a \$1 million building with locker rooms and other amenities is close to completion. Alumni and community contributions paid for it.

Mr. Bosworth, who came to Shenandoah even though, at 180 pounds, he was 30 to 40 pounds underweight as a tight end, and who stuck out four years of punishing practices for very limited playing time, recently became an assistant football coach at Shenandoah.

"When I got here, we were like some lab experiment," he said one day in June, having dodged the construction vehicles on his path to the athletic center. "Hey, look at the football team, check them out."

While in college, he started dating another student, Sarah Taylor. In May, they became engaged.

"Look how great things have turned out," Mr. Bosworth said with a broad smile. "I get to pursue my passion for football. I'm going to marry a wonderful woman. She's getting her doctorate in physical therapy. I guess she'll bring home the bacon in our family."

"When I was going through all those practices," he added, "people would ask me if it was worth it. Well, none of this happens if Shenandoah doesn't start a football team. Of course it was worth it."

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Article published Jul 9, 2006
Q&A with FSU AD Dave Hart

By Steve Ellis
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Florida State is nearing completion of its master facilities plan, and finished among the top 20 schools relating to athletic success in all sports. Now FSU faces more challenges , including the need to fully endow scholarships, as well as to continue to grow on and off the athletic fields and courts.

FSU Athletic Director Dave Hart discussed the state of FSU's athletic program with the *Tallahassee Democrat* last week. The following is part of that interview.

For more on Hart's interview go to FSU Sports on Tallahassee.com, and also read Steve Ellis' Monday column.

What is the next big challenge for Florida State's athletic department?

Hart: When I have an opportunity to sit in athletics director forums and think-tank discussions with peers who I respect, finance is always the first thing we talk about. Everybody is feeling that pressure.

When you look at corporate America, we're so very different in intercollegiate athletics. I've said this tongue-in-cheek, but there are only two entities that willfully enter into deficit spending - the federal government and intercollegiate athletics.

The corporate world would look and say, "That entity doesn't generate any revenue. You have to get rid of that one." That's not what we're about. We're about student-athletes.

I'm a proponent of gender equity, but that has a cost to it. Let's talk openly about that. There is a huge financial commitment that has to be made to equity.

Finances will always be a topic of a concern. We are a train whose course jumps track.

People say, "Well, we don't want to over-commercialize." So you try to lend the proper credence to that concern and yet you have this financial burden. So where is that line?

We know what our role is within the university structure. We are going to be careful who we choose to be aligned with as sponsors.

But again, where is that line? We have these conversations with our presidents in this league every year.

Will we see more partnerships such as one the one FSU has with Nike and the new track building that will in some way incorporate that name?

Hart: Private funding has been critical to the survival of intercollegiate athletics, so we have to partner with people who can provide revenue streams through advertising and exposure they are getting.

In speaking about ways to manufacture revenue, is a playoff system one such possibility?

Hart: One of my concerns around the table when (playoffs) were being seriously discussed is college football; we need a shot in the arm. In my personal judgment, we have not been the progressive marketers out there. Look who is passing us. Look at what the NFL has done, and NASCAR and the NBA have done. We talk about the need for revenue from advertisers. Well, some of them are going off the board while we're still hesitant to move forward with a format that would be a shot in the arm to college football.

If Florida State was playing Oklahoma to move to the next game, even if the next game is the national title game, can you imagine the excitement? . . . I know we are not going to have a full-blown NFL style playoff.

I think we will get there with some kind of football playoffs. I still don't think we've had that meaningful.

We have seen several academic-related changes recently, including the introduction of the APR in which academic progress and retention are measured, and freshman student-athletes being allowed to enroll in summer school.

Hart: We got through this formal year of the APR without any of our teams falling below the threshold. As you've heard me say in athletic committee meetings, you can't ever get comfortable. It doesn't take many student-athletes to miss the mark to fall below the threshold.

I think one change that is playing into the progress being made is the ability for incoming freshman to come to summer school. We have lobbied for years and years and it was always shot down (by the NCAA) because of finances. That has helped tremendously.

Are the rising costs of scholarships and other expenses the next potential crisis for college athletics?

Hart: I think it is around the country. I think private funding has become so critical to an athletics department. It doesn't matter what your budget number is, and budgets in those 119 I-A schools still range anywhere from \$11 million to \$98 million. It's all relative in the sense that expenses are outracing the revenue, and you have to constantly look for ways to enhance or create new revenue streams.

That is an ongoing challenge.

One of the two factors that are driving the expense side of our budget is scholarship cost. When the state hits hard times, and we did like most states, that's one place for the legislature to go and raise tuition fees. And that's logical. We are impacted tremendously that because we are a fully-funded athletics program.

That and overhead costs - we don't have control over. We are a young university, and that's a common thread we lost sight of and we're competing with people with more resources.

One of the first goals you mentioned about your arrival was to achieve comprehensive success for all Florida State sports. Has that been a more difficult challenge than you anticipated?

Hart: Undoubtedly it was. I always go back to Godfrey Smith, who I miss to this day. He was a member of our athletic board, and one of the times I spoke to them after arriving at Florida State, I talked to about the goals and future of athletics at Florida State. I was hopeful that we could be a competitive, comprehensive program ideally in five years and no longer than 10 years. A few days later I was having lunch with Godfrey, and he said in his own way, "Dave, that timetable you had was way off. I'm not saying you can't get there but, as you learn more about where you are today and what you want, it will take substantially longer to get there."

And he was right.

I understand that we had some teams that had a disappointing year in terms of their goals, but collectively we had an outstanding year.

I'm looking at the big picture, a lot of people are focusing on where we finish in the Directors' Cup. And I am proud of that. We had phenomenal year academically. And then you look at what our student-athletes gave to the community. I was very proud and touched by the *Tallahassee Democrat* naming our student-athletes one of their volunteers of the year.

You've said numerous times that you believe that the men's basketball program is close.

Hart: You don't want to say you're one of the perennial bubble teams. But the fact of the matter is that two of the last three years we were within an eyelash of making the NCAA tournament. Three years ago, Tim Pickett's senior year, we knew going down the stretch we had to win one more game and we couldn't quite do it. We didn't get there . . . and fell a little short. I thought we did enough this season, and that's well-documented.

So we're that close. Had we been in the tournament two of the last three years, perception would be totally different.

Leonard (Hamilton) has put together back-to-back-to-back recruiting classes that have been pretty good classes. We're beginning to build some momentum there. Every program needs that break, and it looks like next year was certainly setting itself where we might be a preseason top 20 team. We had everybody coming back, and then Alexander (Johnson) made a decision which we respect that, largely because of his age, he wanted to go pro. Then we had an unfortunate situation with a top-level recruit. So you think you have two really post outstanding post players, and then you don't have any.

But Leonard will make those adjustments, and I remain optimistic going into the year. We have athletes. We just may look a little different than we would have looked.

Do you feel good about the commitment the athletic department has made to the coaches?

Hart: When you say you are going to pursue comprehensive excellence, that means you are going to make the commitment throughout the program to budgets, to facilities and coaches salaries. You can only do that within your existing means. I can think to nearly 12 years ago sitting down with our head coaches and saying, "This is my commitment as athletic director to you, and in turn I will tell you what I expect from you."

"My commitment is, and I can't snap my fingers and do it today, we will give you enough resources in terms of hiring coaches, building a facilities master plans and make certain and travel and stay within best of our financial abilities." At that time we were doing a lot of van traveling. In a reasonable amount of time, "You will have enough resources to be successful."

And then what I will say, "I will expect progress. And if progress is not made, than we'll have to assess the leadership. It's nothing about what type of person you are. We want to make progress toward our goal of comprehensive excellence. You'll have to be certain you are hiring the right assistants and your programs are making reasonable progress to that goal."

I think we have been true to the statement, we will not be trigger-happy.

When you look at the national scene, there are a lot of situations where athletic directors seem to be quick to make changes.

Hart: What is tough is finding the reasonable balance. In order to do that, you have to be able to see the big picture. I am very competitive and, believe me, there are times after a game where I don't want to talk to a coach, and he doesn't want to talk to me. But I have to take the emotion out of it, and look at the big picture.

I've never been offended by fans who are passionate. I would rather have that than fans who are indifferent.

Florida State fans have high expectations for all their sports programs. And they are vocal and not afraid to express their opinions.

Hart: The parallel to the two (athletic director) jobs I have held - at East Carolina and Florida - is that the fans are so passionate. And a lot of the passion is driven by their history where they weren't getting anything. As matter of fact, quite the opposite. Their sister institutions were treating them like stepchildren. And from that grew a tremendous sense of pride in what they did accomplish.

It has to be gratifying to be in the final stages of completing the master facilities plan for Florida State's athletic program.

Hart: I think in terms of where we are - particularly as related to our master facilities plan - it's very satisfying to see it come to life. We will break ground within the year, hopefully, for our last two remaining projects of the master facilities plan, and those are our aquatics facility and our track building.

They've been part of the master facilities plan all along, and now we've identified the revenue and funding through some generous gifts to make those a reality. I think for our student-athletes - both present and past - for our coaching staff, for all our alumni and fans, I don't think they are ostentatious. I think they are classy. I think they are functional and they are student-athlete-centered and that certainly was by design.

We wanted two common threads. We wanted to showcase our history and tradition and that of the Seminole Tribe. And we wanted to make every building student-athlete-driven, and I think we established both of those.

We budget money for showcasing our heritage and tradition. And early on, to be honest, some people fought that. Why are we spending money on that? Well, it's because it is critically important for people to understand that in such a short period of time much has been accomplished at Florida State University in its athletic department program. We should showcase of that.

Is there already a plan for the time when these facilities will need renovation?

Hart: I think we've built these facilities to go well into the millennium. But as we planned these facilities and kicked off in conjunction with Seminole Boosters our first-ever major capital campaign, that a big component of the discussions was care and maintenance. When we were a dependent all those years, we didn't have a fixed stream of revenue like we do as a member of our conference now. When you got a windfall, you attempted to address a need but you didn't have the luxury of master-planning because it was uncertain where those monies were coming from. Maintenance deteriorated, because what you could defer every year was maintenance . . . and pretty soon your existing facilities began to deteriorate. That happened to many programs around the country, and we didn't want it to happen to us. So yes, we did plan and project in our budgets for maintaining these building. We also built these facilities for growth. We didn't want to complete our master facilities plan and, as the last prong went into place, say, "Gee, we need more space." That has proven to be a wise focus.

Our coaches and student-athletes have followed through with the commitment to keep them neat and clean. I meet with all the freshmen from all of the teams collectively each year, and part of my message to them the last two years has been, "You need to do a little history homework - not only on Florida State as a university, but you need to understand that those who proceeded you as student-athletes didn't have what you have now. They are the reason largely that you have what you have.

"We've developed a video that we show them - that shows them what the facilities looked like before."

The master plan has undergone some changes from what you first envisioned.

Hart: If you go back 11 years ago, we thought the growth in athletic facilities would occur across from (the) soccer-softball (complex). That was prior, of course, to the inception of the school of medicine. When the swimming pool was closed, our intent was to build it back in the same place but in a bigger footprint. But

because of the needs which are so real for space for academic buildings, we could not pursue that. That's why we moved out by the golf course with the swimming project. We do think tennis and track will stay where they are in the foreseeable future. And there was talk at one time about moving them.

What about plans for stadium expansion, especially in regards to luxury boxes?

Hart: We continue to work with Andy Miller and the boosters and look at where can we generate new revenue streams. We will always look at when the time is right, but we'll always be assessing whether we need to expand what we have.

What about the possibility of having a hotel built near Doak Campbell Stadium. Is that still on the drawing board?

Hart: It's on the drawing board, but this is a very complex project. There is a lot of road to be traveled in terms of conversation and otherwise. We have looked at a multiple potential sites . . . within a reasonable proximity (of the stadium).

FSU is going through the NCAA recertification process. What are you learning though the self-study stage of that process?

Hart: The peer review team will come in October, and I feel very good about what they will find. The last time going in, and this was verified, we had a need to shore up the financial-aid component of what we were doing. And we did that.

We hired another person in follow-up of that. It's important for the registrar and his staff to understand NCAA rules relating to eligibility. We would be getting ready to go to the airport or getting on a plane, and we would get a call from Mark Meleney (who heads the athletic department's academic-support program) who just got a call saying so-and-so just dropped a course and he or she now has just nine hours. They are under the 12-hour rule, and we didn't even know about it.

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Hazing disregards gender lines

Colleges see rise in outlawed activity among female athletes

By **PETE IORIZZO**, Staff writer

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Chuck Stenzel, a blond, blue-eyed 20-year-old, attended Alfred University to become a teacher. His mother figured he'd make a good one. Stenzel was an honor-roll student who still found time to play basketball, baseball and hockey.

To save money for a Ford pick-up truck, he delivered newspapers before school and caught clams in Long Island's Great South Bay, using a boat he refurbished himself. He offered to shovel snow for neighbors and, without telling his mother, sometimes slipped them free clams.

Soon after arriving at Alfred, Stenzel joined the Alpine Klan athletic fraternity, a collection of 35 students with interests similar to his own. Or so he thought.

In February, 1978, participated in an initiation party for new members. He was locked in the trunk of a car with a bottle of wine, pint of whiskey and six pack of beer. The trunk was to be opened when he finished all of the alcohol. The car was parked outside, where the temperature was 9 degrees.

Forty minutes later, when friends opened the trunk, Stenzel was unconscious. He died that day.

A year after Stenzel's death, his mother, Eileen Stevens of Sayville, founded CHUCK, which stands for the Committee to Halt Useless College Killings. She lobbied for hazing laws in almost every state and helped push New York to become the first of 44 states to make hazing illegal. She also gave more than 700 speeches at colleges and universities across the country, including the University at Albany and Union College.

In the past two months, athletic teams at both of the Capital Region schools were the subject of internal investigations for hazing after pictures of team parties surfaced on the Internet. Union ruled that hazing occurred on its women's soccer team during the 2003-04 school year and said it planned to punish those involved, though it declined to say how. UAlbany, while acknowledging possible violations of the school's alcohol policy, decided the activities at a women's lacrosse team party this past winter did not constitute hazing.

"It's very distressing to know that this still goes on and that these young men and women are still subjected to it," said the 66-year-old Stevens, who retired from speaking and running CHUCK in 1999. "There are regulations, but they don't seem to be enforced. The schools and organizations are very averse to negative publicity."

Around the time Stenzel died, Stevens, like many others, believed hazing was a fraternity and male sports-based phenomenon. But the women's sports teams at UAlbany and Union were two of more than 25 being investigated since this spring. The investigations suggest to experts that, despite new laws and strict school policies, hazing not only still occurs, but it's also hardly unique to frat parties and football teams.

Studies back-up the anecdotal evidence.

A study conducted by Alfred in 1998 found that 80 percent of NCAA athletes were subjected to "unacceptable" or "questionable" behavior as part of their initiation. One in five athletes endured potentially illegal hazing, the study found.

Colleen McGlone, an assistant professor of sport management at Coastal Carolina, headed a study that found 48.5 percent of female athletes reported being hazed. About one-third of the 1,500 athletes surveyed reported hazing another student.

"I was very surprised, not that hazing was happening but at what types were happening," McGlone said. "The women had really high rates of drinking and alcohol-related hazing. There was some embarrassment, like singing and dancing and dress up, as well. But what

really got to me was the sexual hazing, imitating sexual acts and talking about sex."

The photographs of the Union and UAlbany teams depict several of the activities reported in McGlone's study. Pictures show women blindfolded, wearing silly costumes and singing. In some photos, captions reference drinking. One picture, allegedly of a Union player, shows a young woman with her head in a garbage pail; the caption reads, "1st rook that couldn't hang!!"

Those pictures are similar to the hundreds that have appeared on the Internet in recent months. One of the most infamous photos shows a young woman straddling the face of a male stripper. Another photo shows two young women lifting their skirts and bending over.

None of the pictures depict extreme hazing, like what occurred at Long Island's Mepham High School in 2003, when several football players were sodomized with broomsticks, pine cones and golf balls. But experts say the recent photos are no less alarming, because they suggest hazing, especially among women, continues to be a traditional rite of passage in sports.

A study by Elizabeth Allan, an assistant professor of higher education leadership at the University of Maine, found that about 60 percent of athletes who reported hazing said alcohol consumption was involved. More than 20 percent of athletes reported drinking until vomiting as part of a hazing ritual. Though Allan has yet to sort her data by gender, she said anecdotal evidence suggests hazing is as prevalent among women as men.

"Often people have this image in their head of hazing that it's a masculine thing," Allan said. "My read on it at this point is that women are probably participating in hazing to the same extent that men are, though it probably takes a different form."

Hazing first caught the national media's attention in May, when photos of the Northwestern women's soccer team engaging in hazing caused the school to suspend the team. The suspension later was lifted, though players were punished and the coach resigned in the fallout.

Those photos, along with pictures from 11 other schools, including Union, were posted on <http://www.badjocks.com>, a Web site that chronicles the misdeeds of athletes. The site's founder, 46-year-old Bob Reno of East Lansing, Mich., said some of the photos were e-mailed to him by readers. Others, he said, he found by trolling <http://www.webshots.com>, a site that allows users to post photographs on the Internet.

Of the 12 teams with pictures on BadJocks, eight were women's teams.

"We didn't consciously say, 'Let's go after women's teams,'" said Reno, who acknowledged the name "Bob Reno" is an alias. "There just happened to be more out there. What the experts think is there's more of a sense among women that they want to document these things, whereas the guys are like, 'Let's take a few pictures and get back to drinking.'"

Susan Lipkins, a Long Island-based psychologist who studies hazing, compared posting pictures on the Internet to keeping a diary. She said diaries always have been more common to women than men.

Lipkins also speculated that the type of hazing in which men typically engage may be more severe, making men less likely to show the pictures to the public. She also said posting pictures can be a social competition among young women -- those who post the most pictures and whose sites generate the most hits have the most intricate social lives.

"Boys in general are just less likely to put up the pictures," said Lipkins, whose Web site, <http://www.insidehazing.com>, links to BadJocks. "It takes energy and effort. Boys are more laid back. They don't need to show it off. They don't care how many hits their site gets. And the real extreme stuff, the boys know it shouldn't be put up. They do seem to recognize it's hazing."

William Schut, a former UAlbany assistant athletic director who now runs the Web site <http://thencaaaisweakonhazing.blogspot.com>, suggested men's players, who tend to be more high-profile, are more conscious of their public image and less likely to post compromising photos of themselves.

Schut's Web site, which posted links to the photos of the UAlbany women's lacrosse team, includes links to Webshots albums of 30 teams that he alleges are engaging in hazing. Of the 30 teams, 21 are women's teams, though not all are Division I.

"Women are less likely to be caught," Schut said. "The reason is because obviously everyone focuses all their time and attention on the

revenue-generating sports, which are the men's sports. You'll never see a picture of a Duke basketball player. You're not going to find USC football players, though trust me, we look."

Hank Nuwer, a professor at Franklin (Ind.) College who has written four books on hazing, agreed, saying, "If (men) belong to fraternities, they've heard the hazing rap a lot more. They've had a lot more education, probably, than some others, like the women's teams."

Experts and administrators at local schools hope to change that.

UAlbany athletic director Lee McElroy, who also serves as president of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics, said he plans to bring hazing experts to the NACDA's next national meeting and make the topic a priority. At UAlbany, he said administrators plan to review the hazing policy and push for new initiatives to educate students about the dangers not only of hazing but also of posting pictures online.

Kermit Hall, UAlbany's president, said the school also plans to more clearly define hazing.

"Part of what comes out of all this is we are going to have a much better definition of what constitutes a 'rookie night,' " Hall said.

UAlbany women's lacrosse coach Lindsey Hart did not respond to a request for an interview, nor did any of her players.

Unlike UAlbany, where school officials quickly wrapped up their investigation and were forthcoming in discussing the issue, Union has maintained a wall of silence almost from the time its investigation started. The athletic department refused to specify what its investigation revealed and has not commented since. Union athletic director Jim McLaughlin declined to be interviewed for this story. Union women's soccer coach Brian Speck did not return phone calls or e-mails. Several past and present Union players did not return phone messages.

At Siena, athletic director John D'Argenio said he brought people from Siena's career center to a recent coaches' meeting. The career center made a presentation about the hazards of posting pictures on sites like Webshots and <http://www.myspace.com>.

"The people at the career center tell us employers are now looking at these sites when they're making hires," D'Argenio said. "You think nobody's looking at these sites, or it's just your friends, and all of a sudden it costs you a job at a big financial institution."

But those crusading for stricter hazing policies say cautioning students about the dangers of posting photos addresses only a symptom, not the root problem.

Stevens, the mother of Chuck Stenzel, said after a speech at one college, two women approached her with a story of their team initiation -- they were asked to parade across a table in their underwear while their friends critiqued their bodies. At another school, women told Stevens they were made to climb a water tower, consume a six pack of beer at the top, then climb down.

"It still goes on," Stevens said. "It seems to be an important rite of passage. Kids want it or expect it. I've spoken to thousands of kids who feel like it's an integral part of being in the group. I remember kids from a high school team, they were wrapped in duct tape when they came out of the shower, then it was peeled off of them. It was supposedly a lot of fun. They don't perceive it as dangerous."

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Growing problem

Though experts say conclusive data about hazing remains scarce, a number of national surveys have offered some insight into how widespread hazing has become.

In a study by Colleen McGlone, a professor at Coastal Carolina University, 48.5 percent of females reported being hazed. Another 31 percent witnessed hazing on their teams, and 33 percent admitted to hazing another student.

A survey of 2,027 NCAA athletes by Alfred University found that 80 percent had been hazed. About 50 percent were forced to participate in alcohol-related hazing or drinking contests.

A survey led by a University of Maine professor found the following: "Only 28 percent of respondents said they were told about anti-hazing policies when joining a team or student organization, and only 22 percent say they were given a written copy of campus policies."

-- Pete Iorizzo

On the Internet

Recent incidents have brought national media attention to Web sites devoted to everything from showing hazing pictures to hazing resources. Here's a quick guide to a few of the sites out there:

Hazing photos

<http://thencaaisweakonhazing.blogspot.com> Run by William Schut, a former University at Albany assistant director of athletics, the site posted photos from team parties at 30 schools, including UAlbany. Many of the photos have been removed, but the site continues to track the investigations. Schut's ultimate hope is that the NCAA passes hazing legislation.

<http://www.badjocks.com> Operated by a man using the name Bob Reno in East Lansing, Mich., BadJocks documents the misdeeds of athletes. All of the hazing photos have been removed for now, though Reno said there may be more in the future. The photos of Union's women's soccer team were posted here.

Hazing resources

<http://www.stophazing.org> The site, operated by Hank Nuwer, an author of four hazing books, includes links to a variety of hazing resources. His site includes one of the most detailed histories of hazing incidents. It also links to Nuwer's blog, where he offers commentary on hazing investigations. On the blog, he offers sharp criticism of UAlbany's ruling.

<http://www.insidehazing.com> Susan Lipkins, a psychologist who studies hazing, runs this site, which includes definitions of hazing and links to media coverage. She also includes some of her hazing theories. Her contact information is included.

Timelines

A look at how hazing stories developed at the University at Albany and Union College:

May 18: Union launches an investigation after photos purportedly of its women's soccer team were posted on <http://www.badjocks.com>. The school cannot immediately confirm whether the photos show past or present Union players but removes photos of soccer players from the school Web site.

May 31: A Web site (<http://thencaaisweakonhazing.blogspot.com>) operated by a former University at Albany assistant athletic director posts links to photographs from a UAlbany women's lacrosse team party. The site alleges the photos show hazing. UAlbany says it plans to investigate. Meanwhile, Union's probe continues.

June 1: UAlbany president Kermit Hall says he is taking the hazing allegations "very seriously."

June 13: Union wraps up its probe but declines to release the results. The Schenectady County district attorney's office says it won't get involved, because no student pressed charges.

June 15: Union announces that hazing occurred on its women's soccer team during the 2003-04 academic year. The school does not elaborate on what, if any, punishment would be given to those involved. Union says only, "Appropriate action will be taken."

June 21: UAlbany announces it found no evidence of hazing on its women's lacrosse team, though it did plan to investigate possible violations of the school's alcohol policy.

-- Pete Iorizzo