LN Seniors Sign to Play College Sports

Crisler Arena is the location for Michigan Athletic events and has been since 1973.

Coach Kevin Borseth has been named the eighth head coach of the University of Michigan Women's Basketball program.

Borseth has been coaching for 20 years.

CHRISTINA PILLSBURY / KNIGHT LIFE

Senior Janell Smith has verbally committed to play for the University of Michigan this upcoming season. Smith plans to study Criminal Justice at U of M. Smith has been playing basketball since the age of 6.

CHRISTINA PILLSBURY / KNIGHT LIFE

Coach Mark Hankins is in his first year as the head men's golf coach at the University of Iowa.

Kelpin was among four other top student-atletes that signed National Letters of Intent to attend the University of Iowa

Finkbine Golf Course is the practice and competition site for Iowa Men's Golf team.

IOWA HAWKEYES

Senior Barrett Kelpin will be attending the University of Iowa to play golf. Kelpin finished second in the 2007 Michigan Junior Amateur Stroke Play.

Women's Varsity Basketball Adjusting to Changes

Anilash Panikulangara
Sports Editor

The Loy Norrix Women's Varsity Basketball has gone through a lot of changes this year. First of all, they have lost several seniors from last year, including their MVP Cetera Washington.

Now they must look to everyone else to step up and work more as a team. Secondly, this year is the change in sports seasons. Last year the women's basketball team played in the fall but now they have to play in the same season as the men's basketball team. Also, varsity coach Damian Smith has reinforced the level of discipline for the women's basketball team.

Many thought the Lady Knights would not be as good this year because they lost Cetera Washington. Anytime you lose a player of Cetera's caliber with her leadership and playing abilities, it's going to be an adjustment.

"We lost a vocal leader but it's basically the same team. And everyone else just stepped up. Everyone puts in the time and effort and does their role," said center Elexis Buchanan.

Even though the team does not have Cetera they still seem to be doing really well. Their record this year is 18-3, losing only to Mattawan, Lavonia Ladywood and Niles.

"We are still good. Our intensity is still up there and we play nice basketball as a team," said point guard Nelly Smith.

"It makes everyone play more and we don't have to depend on one person to do everything," said small forward Barbara Johnson.

"The team is still good. Everybody just does their part and the team is successful," said shooting guard Lashana Johnson.

The Lady Knights, with a record of 18-3, are doing good this season because they work very well as a team and understand each other.

"This team is very unselfish and cares for one another. We are a complete unit on the court," said coach Smith.

The idea of changing the girls' season from fall to winter did not seem to make any sense. The men's basketball team would have to share the gym with the women's basketball team. They would have to split the main gym into three sections so that freshman and JV teams could also practice.

"With the season's changing, it's definitely been a challenge for everyone. Scheduling has been tough, but it's like that for all the schools in Michigan. No one's schedule was perfect," said coach Smith.

At first the new change caused some conflict with scheduling and transportation, but now the team seems to have adjusted to the change. The practices are basically the same; same place, same amount of time, and same drills.

However not everything is similar to last year. The level of discipline has definitely increased. For example, they have to do push ups for missed lay ups, sprints (one end to the other in the gym) for missed free throws, and they also have to do sprints for every minute they are late to practice.

ANNE BROWN / KNIGHT LIFE

The LN Women's Basketball team listens to Coach Damian Smith during a time-out in a game aganist GR Creston on February 4th. The Ladies won with a score of 67-16.

This might seem a bit intense, but many players believe that coach Smith is actually helping them out by stepping up the intensity.

"He [coach Damian Smith] just pushes us to be better, so when it comes down to when it counts, we are ready," said shooting guard Ondrea Hughes.

Coach Smith has really reinforced the level of discipline this year.

"To continue to be a successful program everyone must be held accountable on and off the court," said coach Smith.

Even though the Lady Knights have gone through so many changes in just one season, they are still the same team.

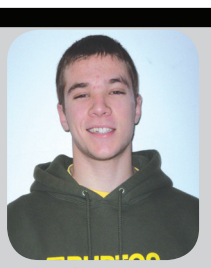
"Same formula, same goals, same expectations. We want to continue to develop student athletes and help not only get them to college but help prepare them for life after high school!" said coach Smith.

They are also playing very good team basketball and have once again managed to maintain a winning record of 18-3.

Meet the Loy Norrix Wrestling Team

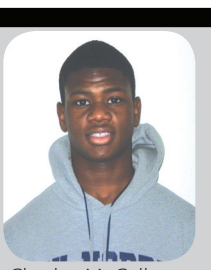
Amy Halpern
Staff Writer

Name: Howard Tobochnik
Grade: 11
Years Wrestling: 5
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 3
Favorite Memory: "The match to make it to State. I got my opponent in a headlock and held him on his back for over a minute to win."
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "The sense of accomplishment."
Injuries: Sprained fingers, wrist
Favorite Wrestling Move: Fireman's Carry

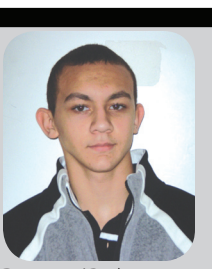


Name: Richard Bissonnette
Grade: 12
Years Wrestling: 2
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 1
Favorite Memory: "I pinned a guy from Battle Creek Central."
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "It's hard and it's fun to wrestle people."
Injuries: None
Favorite Wrestling Move: Duck Under

Name: Chris Craft
Grade: 11
Years Wrestling: 1
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 1
Favorite Memory: "My first take down."
Injuries: None
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "It's a fast sport. It's aggressive."
Favorite Wrestling Move: Double Leg Sweep



Name: Charles McCall
Grade: 10
Years Wrestling: 2
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 1
Favorite Memory: "I pinned a kid in 10 seconds."
Injuries: Hurt shoulder and back
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "I like takedowns. I like to slam people to the mat."
Favorite Wrestling Move: Double Leg



Name: Devante' Bailey
Grade: 10
Years Wrestling: 2
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 1
Favorite Memory: "Winning."
Injuries: None
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "The competitive edge."
Favorite Wrestling Move: Single Leg

Name: Baltazar Montes
Grade: 12
Years Wrestling: 4
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 2
Favorite Memory: "My first pin."
Injuries: Hurt lower back and ankle
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "Beating up people."
Favorite Wrestling Move: Cradle

Name: Tracy Gum
Grade: 12
Years Wrestling: 4
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 3
Favorite Memory: Knocking a senior out of districts as a freshman
Injuries: Cauliflower ear, staph infection, dislocated shoulder, pulled calf muscle.
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "The adrenaline rush."
Favorite Wrestling Move: Fireman's Carry

Name: Joe Turner
Grade: 9
Years Wrestling: 6
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 1
Favorite Memory: "I was at state one year and I was the only one wrestling and I won my match and the place just started roaring."
Injuries: Hurt knee and shoulder
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "It helps me try to keep my grades up."
Favorite Wrestling Move: Prescott

Name: Tim Merritte
Grade: 10
Years Wrestling: 1
Years Wrestling at Norrix: 1
Favorite Memory: "Pinning someone."
Injuries: None
Favorite Thing About Wrestling: "Learning new moves."
Favorite Wrestling Move: Cradle