



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



TRACK & FIELD / CROSS COUNTRY



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



Former MSU Track and Cross Country Coach

Schlademan Named to Coaches Hall of Fame



Karl Schlademan, the coach who guided MSU to five NCAA cross country titles in the 1940s and 50s, will be inducted into the US Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) Hall of Fame in a ceremony to be held on December 18 at the USTFCCCA convention in Phoenix, AZ.

Karl Schlademan

Schlademan coached men's track and field and cross country for nearly 40 years at Kansas (1919-1926), Washington State (1927-1940) and MSU (1940-1958). During his tenure at MSU, the Spartans hosted the NCAA Cross Country Championships 17 times.

A native of Seaford, IN, Schlademan graduated from DePauw University. On arriving at Washington State in 1927, he steadily guided the Cougars into a national contender on the track, with four top-10 finishes at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

Schlademan's cross country teams at MSU won six Big Ten Championships after joining the conference in 1952, and five NCAA titles (1948-49-52-55-56). The Spartans also finished second in 1950 and 1957.

Schlademan is a member of the Drake Relays Hall of Fame and the MSU Hall of Fame. He was also instrumental in the founding of the Kansas Relays. After retiring from coaching in 1958, Schlademan sold Adidas sports shoes in Lansing. He died in 1980 at age 90.

- From the USTFCCCA website

What's inside:

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3 Former Track/XC Athletes Named to MSU Athletics Hall of Fame

Three former MSU track and cross country team members were inducted into the MSU Athletics Hall of Fame on September 8. The inductees were Richard Frey (Track/Cross Country 1936-40), Shirley Cook (Field Hockey, Basketball, Track and Field 1955-58), and Marshall Dill (Track 1972-75).

Frey was a four time All-American (two track and two cross country) and was captain of the 1939 cross country team that won MSU's first NCAA team title in any sport. He passed away in 2001.

Cook was one of MSU's pioneer female student-athletes, and the founder of the MSU Women's Varsity Alumni Club. She passed away in 1988.

Dill was a three time All-American and 11 time Big Ten champion in the sprints, and was the 1973 NCAA outdoor champion in the 220. He also held the indoor world record in the 300 yard dash. *(Pictures inside)*

The MSU Finish Line Club

FLC Board Elections Under Way

An election for three members of the Board of Directors for the MSU Finish Line Club will be held in January. Ballots will be mailed to all current members of the new booster group. This board oversees the operations of the MSU Finish Line Club and the MSU Track and Cross Country Alumni group. Nominations for the three-year positions are now open, and may be sent to Sue Addison, chair of the Nominations Committee. Her contact information is found elsewhere in this issue. The incumbents are Jim Bibbs (former coach and Honorary Member), Dr. Mel Buschman (TF 1940-43) and Jamie Krzyminski (TR 2001-04, XC 2000-03).



Message from Head Coach Walt Drenth

To Track & Field Alumni and Friends of Spartan Track & Field / Cross Country:

It is my pleasure to again write a brief summary of the goings on within the Track and Field program as we transition into another year. As the program grows there will be a number of ups and downs (a great deal like a Track and Field meet). The 06/07 campaign gave us an exciting glimpse of the future and a real picture of how far we have to go in order to become competitive.

For both teams the indoor season concluded with sobering results at the Big Ten Championship with the women finishing 10th and the Men 9th. The Men had an opportunity to be 2 – 4 places higher but never gained the necessary momentum on the second day. Their final day seeding gave us legitimate hope to score an additional 20 to 25 points. [One of our points of emphasis has been to bring up our expectations on the second day, and while (as you will read later in this letter) some stepped up in a big way, others have room for growth.] The women's team learned a great deal and had a couple of standouts, but the reality is 14 of our 18 scholarships did not score at the championships; and of the points scored, 85% of those points came from two seniors. The men showed better balance but again, more than 50% of the men's scholarships did not score at the Big 10 Championships.

As we address our needs and manage the program, there will need to be a reversal of these figures in order for the program to make progress. The staff is exceeding expectation as they work the recruiting trail. It will take time to bring in athletes necessary for progress. The staff's diligent work will eventually lead the program in a competitive direction.

There were some very bright spots along the way this winter. Six indoor school records fell and another record challenged. More importantly, a couple of athletes really stood out at the Big Ten Championships.

First the records: John Childress showed great progress throughout the winter, running to a school record over 60m HH 7.95. Jon Allen broke the school record in the TJ and earned a trip to the NCAA Championship meet with a mark of 15.52 (52' 2"). The Men's Distance Medley Relay comprised of Jim Pancoast, Phil Marlatt, Jeremy Orr, and Bobby Sherman narrowly missed the school record and a trip to the NCAA Championships with a run of 9:40.02. Anna Coster had a break out winter with a school record and

an NCAA provisional mark in the Pentathlon with a score of 3806, placing 6th at the Big Ten Championships.

The standouts at the Big Ten Championships were Mark Langlois, Erica Bailey and Jeremy Orr. Our lone Big Ten Champion was Mark Langlois in the Pole Vault; Mark also narrowly missed the NCAA meet. Erica Bailey made tremendous progress this winter with the Shot Put and 20-lb Weight Throw. Erica was at her best in the championship environment, placing 3rd in both throws while breaking the indoor weight mark with a throw of 18.76 meters (61'6"). Jeremy was clearly the men's standout this winter, breaking two school records. His first meet saw him run 6.71 for the school record over 60m. A couple of weeks later he followed up the 60m record with a school record of 46.79 over 400m. Jeremy was tremendous at the Big Ten championships, finishing 2nd at 200 meters and 400 meters. Jeremy missed qualifying for the national championship meet by less than .20 cumulative in three events.

The outdoor season saw mixed results with some outstanding individual performances. Again the conference results revealed the length both programs have to go to become competitive. The Men finished 10th and the Women 9th. The men had a number of Big Ten finalists, with highlights coming from Jon Allen (2nd TJ), first year thrower Scott Beals (4th Javelin), John Childress (4th HH) and Mark Langlois (4th PV).

The women made significant gains from indoor to outdoor, and the results showed with eleven athletes scoring in ten events. The highlights came from the 4 x 100m (Charelise Davis, Jackie Walton, Paris Mandy and Marquita Allen), Anna Coster (Heptathlon), Melinda Buckmaster (Javelin), and Charlise Davis (100 & 200). Nicole Bush was in All-American form, running 2nd in the Steeplechase and also scoring at 5,000m.

The signs of growth were evident at the NCAA Regional meet, where we brought eighteen athletes who competed in a total of 12 events. Highlights here came from Jon Allen (TJ), Nicole Bush (Steeplechase), Sarah Price (Steeplechase) and Alissa McKaig (5,000), each qualifying for the NCAA Finals in Sacramento, CA.

The NCAA Finals brought out the best in everyone. Personal bests were gained by Alissa, Sarah, and Nicole, while Jon, seeded 15th, qualified to the final (top12) and narrowly missed claiming All-American status. As with the conference meet, Nicole Bush stood out as she broke her own school record running 9:56.68 to claim 6th place, earning her second All-American award.

As we wrap up recruiting we have made great strides in reestablishing Michigan State in the minds of the state's coaches and athletes. We have an exciting group of new student athletes who we believe will not only help our program immediately, they will most importantly help a great deal in building a solid competitive foundation for the future. - Walt Drenth

Proposed MSU XC History Project

Editor's Note: The following is a message from former MSU cross country athlete Dr. Mark Havitz, who is developing an exciting project to compile a detailed history of MSU cross country teams from the beginning of the sport on campus 100 years ago. Dr. Havitz has the support of the MSU Finish Line Club board of directors, and we urge you to take part in this worthwhile effort if you ran cross country at MSU. When this project is completed, Mark plans to extend his efforts to the MSU track and field teams.

You may not be aware that the first cross country competition on campus was staged in April 1907 on a course that started and finished near the present Music Building! A whole lot of running has taken place since that time. This spring I approached Coach Walt Drenth, Alumni Association President Eric Zemper, and graduate student Andy Marsh about developing a comprehensive history of the MSU Cross Country program. This will be a multi-year project that will involve archival research, mail back surveys of all teammates (female and male, past and present), and some focus groups and individual interviews. In addition to focusing on great teams, individuals, and academic All-Americans, I hope to produce a history filled with human interest stories and some sense of the role that running played prior to our college careers, during our time at MSU and (if any) after we left campus.

This is clearly a work in its infancy, but to this point seven objectives have been developed:

1. To produce a complete and accurate history of Michigan State Cross Country.
2. To raise awareness of our shared history.
3. To strengthen bonds between generations of Michigan State Cross Country runners.
4. To understand the social world(s) of Michigan State Cross Country runners (pre-college, during-college and post-college).
5. To understand the role that running plays/played (or not) after graduation.
6. To understand the benefits and pitfalls associated with running.
7. To produce a document or series of documents that may assist with recruiting.

Some of the library research has begun, and I look forward to establishing contact with as many of you as possible beginning in 2008. I should also add that this project will likely carry through to include track and field as well, but I'm starting out with the cross country

aspect so as not to get totally overwhelmed right from the start! I'll admit to not being the swiftest of foot athlete while on campus, but these are topics that I am passionate about and well-prepared to study and I believe that this project has the potential to produce some nice benefits for all of us.

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Big Ten and National All-Academic Teams

Spartan Harriers and Thinclads Garner Honors

After 21 Spartan harriers gained Academic All-Big Ten honors last fall, 22 members of the Track and Field team were awarded this distinction this spring. This was the highest number of any MSU sports team. This past spring, Taren James, women's track and field horizontal jumper, was awarded MSU's Chester Brewer Leadership Award for excellence on the playing field and in the classroom.

Over the summer it was announced by the US Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association that both the MSU men's and women's cross country teams had been named national All-Academic Teams. The men had a cumulative GPA of 3.080, while the women's GPA was 3.281. The women's cross country team has consistently carried the top cumulative GPA of any MSU teams for several years. In addition to the team honors, three Spartan harriers were named to the national All-Academic Team. Matt Bartlebaugh was one of 50 men's cross country runners from across the country so honored, while Alissa McKaig and Michelle Rafferty were among 76 women honored.

In addition, it was announced that the MSU women's track and field team was named a national All-Academic Team, with a cumulative GPA of 3.090, and six Spartan women garnered individual All-Academic honors. They were Melinda Buckmaster, Anna Coster, Taren James, Alissa McKaig, Sarah Price and Lisa Senakeiwich.

The MSU Academic All-Big Ten student-athletes:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| ❖ Chaquerra Allen | Portsmouth, VA |
| ❖ Matt Bartlebaugh | Napoleon, MI |
| ❖ David Bills | Williamston, MI |
| ❖ Melinda Buckmaster | Mayville, MI |
| ❖ Allison Bzdok | Beverly Hills, MI |
| ❖ David Childress | Flint, MI |
| ❖ Anna Coster | Heathpool, Australia |

(Academic All-Big Ten list *continued from page 3*)

- ❖ Diane Hamilton Battle Creek, MI
- ❖ Elizabeth Huber Dimondale, MI
- ❖ Taren James Long Beach, CA
- ❖ Paris Mandy St. Louis, MO
- ❖ Phil Marlatt Williamston, MI
- ❖ Sarah McCormack Canton, MI
- ❖ Michelle Mercer Muskegon, MI
- ❖ Jim Pancoast Stevensville, MI
- ❖ Dana Pitcock Highland, MI
- ❖ Sarah Price Mankato, MN
- ❖ Lisa Senakiewich Davison, MI
- ❖ Adam Sprangel Jackson, MI
- ❖ Sarah Stornant Portland, MI
- ❖ Kyle Sweeney Portage, IN
- ❖ Justin Zanotti Chesterfield, MI

Congratulations to all these fine MSU student-athletes!

New MSU Assistant Coaches

Over the summer MSU throws coach Chris Campbell received an offer he couldn't refuse, to return to his *alma mater*, the US Naval Academy, as an assistant coach with an excellent opportunity to become the head coach in the near future. Also over the summer, Kathy Rounds, assistant coach for sprints, resigned to work closer to her home near Detroit.

Therefore, the Michigan State track and field program has added two new assistant coaches to its staff. John Newell will specialize in throws for the Spartans, while Melanie Rhoden focuses on sprints for the team.

"What excited me about Melanie and John joining our staff is that they are committed to being coaches," said Director of Track and Field Walt Drenth. "They bring great passion for success and teaching. Most importantly for our student athletes, they are both students of their event areas and students of the sport of track and field."



John Newell Newell arrives in East Lansing from Ashland University in Ohio, where he spent last year serving as a volunteer assistant coach for the Eagles. While at Ashland, he coached the hammer, shot and discus for his collegiate throwers, as well as coaching at winter and summer all-star clinics. From 2002 to 2004, Newell worked with throwers at the University of Georgia's seasonal track and field camps.

Newell is a record holder in hammer, shot and weight events at Sacramento City College, where he earned an Associates Degree in 2002. He then moved on to Georgia, where he served as a Bulldogs' team captain and became an All-American in the hammer, shot put and discus. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in

Sociology from the university in 2005. Newell has been competing at the national level in the US and at the international level in Europe over the past couple of years. He is also an ISSA certified personal trainer and spent the summer of 2006 training in throwing events with Hungary's national hammer coaches.

"John brings the benefit of having been coached and mentored by two of the country's best throwing coaches," stated Drenth. "He became an elite athlete with an incredible work ethic and constant pursuit of technical knowledge. His athletic experience gives him a true understanding of the developmental process throwers must go through in order to be great. The throwers he has had an opportunity to work with have improved and grown tremendously."



Melanie Rhoden Rhoden has spent the past three seasons at the College of New Jersey. She served as an assistant coach last year, directing team practices and weight training for 25 student athletes. She also worked in home meet management and assisted in scheduling, recruiting, fundraising and making travel arrangements. She served the team as a graduate assistant from 2004 to 2006 while earning her Master of Arts degree in counseling. Rhoden was a scholarship runner on the track and field team at Villanova University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in human services in May 2004.

"Melanie will work with Randy Gillon (sprints coach) and Chris Bostwick (jumps coach)," explained Drenth. "She brings experience as hurdler/sprinter and a coach. Most importantly she brings a genuine enthusiasm to her coaching and the sport of track and field. During the job search, Melanie's name came up with a number of coaches I respect. She brings with her a reputation as a highly talented and motivated young coach, and we are very fortunate to have her join our staff."

- adapted from MSU Track and Field website

Alumni Window Stickers



Many of you received the MSU Track and Cross Country Alumni window sticker when we sent out the first mailing over a year ago. But many of you have joined the alumni group since then and have not yet received one. If you have not received yours, please request one by dropping us a note with your current address to P.O. Box 189, East Lansing, MI 48826, or to zemper@msu.edu.

Observations from an MSU Track and XC Alumnus

Editor's Note: This article from Ron Berby (TR 1961-64, XC 1961-63) was submitted this summer before assistant coaches Campbell and Rounds resigned.

Because I live an easy 15 minutes from Jenison Fieldhouse, and because I'm retired and enjoy the freedom to travel to away meets, I've gotten acquainted with Walt Drenth. But I've also had the pleasure of touching base with the rest of the Spartan staff. Some reflections:

Among the new assistants, throws coach Chris Campbell is the veteran here with two years, always seems to be busy, and is a graduate of Annapolis.

Kathy Rounds, a sprints and hurdles coach, as part of her broad career in competing, training and coaching, has produced fine athletes at Milford High School, my alma mater.

Jumps coach Chris Bostwick may just be the Energizer bunny, and looks young enough to recruit as a triple jumper.

Because he's so often pounding the recruiting trail, it's hard to find sprints and hurdles coach Randy Gillon. Though he competed at Illinois, he'll tell you he's from Toronto.

Grad assistant Andy Marsh seems delighted with his job, and will inform you any time of the program's progress and latest accomplishments.

In her first three years at MSU, Associate Head Coach Rita Arndt-Molis guided the women harriers to the NCAA Championships, taking 12th in 2006, and earning honors with her distance runners in track. In 2006, she was named Great Lakes Women's Regional Cross Country Coach of the Year. Rita is a positive-minded dynamo. She's everywhere and does everything.

Two things most impress me about this group:

1) They seem to be intent on getting the very best out of every Spartan athlete, from the most talented to the least. They have high hopes for everyone.

2) They don't have time for me. At first I was miffed when Walt or his staff members wouldn't drop everything and talk track and cross country with me. But soon it dawned on me that these are very busy people who do their jobs thoroughly.

Yes, it's going to take some time, particularly in track and field where we have such thin rosters. And I recognize this will be additionally difficult because the Big Ten is becoming a track as well as a cross country power. But I believe that if we are patient and let our coaches do their jobs, MSU will once again take its rightful place at the top.

- Ron Berby

2007 Graduates

Congratulations to MSU TR/XC Seniors

The Board of Directors of the MSU Finish Line Club would like to congratulate the graduating seniors of the 2006-2007 MSU Track and Field and Cross Country Teams. We applaud your effort and dedication in successfully maintaining progress toward your academic degree while at the same time training and competing throughout the year in your sport. This year's graduating seniors were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Major</u>
Marquita Allen	Sprinter	Kinesology
Erica Bailey	Throws	Recr./Tourism
Matt Bartlebaugh	Distance/XC	History
Melinda Buckmaster	Javelin	Biology
John Childress	Hurdles	Criminal Justice
Anna Coster	Pentathlon	Advertising
Taren James	Horiz. Jumps	Pub. Relations
Mark Langlois	Pole Vault	Kinesology
Ryan McMillian	Sprinter	Journalism
Phil Marlatt	Middle dist.	Journalism
Michelle Rafferty	Distance/XC	English,Spanish
Bobby Sherman	Middle dist.	Advertising
Sarah Stornant	Middle dist.	Retailing
Kyle Sweeney	Hurdles	Biol./Physiol.
Justin Zanotti	Distance/XC	Criminal Justice

We invite you to maintain ties and stay involved with MSU and your team-mates by being a member of the MSU Finish Line Club.

FLC Life Members

The following individuals have become Life Members of the MSU Finish Line Club:

- Molly K. Brennan (TR 1979-82) Farmington Hills, MI
- Charles W. Buck (Mgr 1940-43) Gladwin, MI
- Mel Buschman, Ed.D. (TR 1940-43) East Lansing
- George Groff (Associate Member) Lansing, MI
- Michael L. Kleinhans (TR 1956-59) Colgate, WI
- Adolf Weinacker, D.V.M. (TR 1948-51) Detroit, MI
- Eric D. Zemper, Ph.D. (TR 1963-67, XC 1962-66) Ann Arbor, MI

In addition, Honorary Membership has been approved by the Board of Directors for Jim Bibbs, former MSU coach. The Board thanks all of these individuals for their continuing support of the MSU Track & Field and Cross Country programs, and of the MSU Finish Line Club.

New MSU Hall of Fame Inductees



Richard Frey
1936-1940



Shirley Cook
1955-1958



Marshal Dill
1972-1975



Richard Frey's daughter, Barbara, and his wife



Fellow world record holder Herb Washington (left) greets Dill at HOF ceremony



Members of the 1982 MSU Women's Track & Field Big Ten Championship Team get together at the 2007 Varsity S Alumni Club Weekend. Front row, left to right: Judi (Brown) Clark, Tesa (Anderson) Washington, Coach Jim Bibbs, Deb Froehlich, Ann Beaujean; back row: Julie (Boerman) Graham, Molly Brennan, Debbie (Ziehm) McGuire, Ann (Cwik) Mundell-Noel, Lynn (Taylor) Liddle, Cheryl Gilliam. Also attending but not pictured was Assistant Coach Karen Dennis.



The 2006-2007 MSU Track & Field / Cross Country Team Banquet in the LaSalle Bank Club at Spartan Stadium.



New NCAA Team Championship pennants have been added to the Varsity S Alumni Club room. This is the one for Cross Country (the team with the most NCAA titles at MSU).



Dr. Mike Kaines (TF 1962-65, XC 1961-64), right, talks track with Assistant Coach Randy Gillon at the team banquet.



MSU steeplechasers Nicole Bush (foreground) and Sarah Price (behind Bush) come out of the pit at the 2007 Spartan Invitational.



Jason Brown starts his spin in the shot put under the watchful eye of official Chris King (TR 1965), left.



Ron Berby (TR 1961-64, XC 1960-63), right, reads splits while Pat Stevens (TR 1961-63, XC 1960-63) acts as an umpire during the 1500M at the Spartan Invitational.



Four alumni get together at the 2007 team banquet. (from left) Dr. Eric Zemper (TR 1963-67, XC 1962-66), who came to the banquet directly from the track meet where he was a starter (thus the red jacket), Randy Kilpatrick (TR 1970-73, XC 1969-72), who donated the Dave Dieters Men's MVP Award, Ken Popejoy (TR 1970-73, XC 1969-72), who was the keynote speaker at the banquet, and John Shaw (TR 1962-64, XC 1961-62), who worked as an umpire at the meet.



MSU senior Taren James heads for the pit in the triple jump.

Membership Directory

The first edition membership directory for the MSU Finish Line Club and the MSU Track & Field and Cross Country Alumni is being assembled to be distributed this winter. It will contain each member's name, years of participation, address, phone number and email address. **If there is any of this information you do not want included in the directory**, please contact Eric Zemper at P.O. Box 189, East Lansing, MI 48826 or at zemper@msu.edu. For future editions, we are considering a request to include the business/profession of each member. If you would like this information included in future editions, please let us know.

Websites of Interest:

<http://msuspartans.cstv.com/sports/c-track/msu-c-track-body.html> (MSU combined men's/women's T&F website)

<http://msuspartans.cstv.com/sports/c-xc/msu-c-xc-body.html> (MSU combined men's/women's XC website)

<http://www.varsitymsu.edu/> (MSU Varsity Alumni Club)

<http://www.usatf.org> (USA Track & Field)

<http://www.iaaf.org> (IAAF)

<http://www.ncaa.org> (NCAA)

<http://www.nfhs.org> (NFHS)

<http://www.tflinks.com> (lots of T&F stuff)

<http://www.trackandfieldnews.com/> (*Track and Field News*)

<http://www.nationalmastersnews.com> (*National Masters News*)

Many Promising Newcomers

41 New Recruits This Year

This year's recruiting class is comprised of 41 student-athletes, most from Michigan. Among the more notable are three of the top four women distance runners in the state last spring (Carlie Green, Milford; Emily Langenberg, Grand Ledge; Rebekah Smeltzer, Monroe). Green was selected as Ms. Michigan Cross Country in 2006. Among the men distance runners is Joseph Dimembro, a 4:12 miler from Fenton, and Shane Knoll, a JC All-American from Monroe with a 3:49 1500M and a 1:51 800M. Erica Mann from Battle Creek is a state champion sprinter, as is Shane Wells. Among the vertical jumpers, Kris Amos, from Detroit, is an indoor state champion in the high jump, and Logan Lynch, from Monroe is a 16' pole vaulter and state champion. There also is a promising group of throwers, including Jay Gillespie, Aaron Ide, and transfers Zoe Pelbart from Australia, and Jessica Rutherford from West Branch

2007-08 MSU T&F / XC Newcomers

- ❖ Alexander, Anthony Sprints
- ❖ Amos, Kristopher Jumps/Sprints
- ❖ Beckman, Mikael Distance/XC
- ❖ Daniels, Catherine Throws
- ❖ Dimembro, Joseph Distance/XC
- ❖ Evans, Tiffany Middle Distance/XC
- ❖ Fisher, Matthew Pole Vault
- ❖ Gebhart, Megan Distance/XC
- ❖ Gillespie, Jay Throws
- ❖ Goodliffe, James Sprints/Hurdles
- ❖ Green, Carlie Distance/XC
- ❖ Grieve, Paul Distance/XC
- ❖ Harrington, Stacey Throws
- ❖ Ide, Aaron Throws
- ❖ Ingle, Valerie * Distance/XC
- ❖ Knoll, Shane * Middle Distance

- ❖ Langenberg, Emily Distance/XC
- ❖ Lindmen, Laura Sprints/Hurdles
- ❖ Lynch, Logan Pole Vault
- ❖ Machisak, Chris Pole Vault
- ❖ Marcum, Jon Distance/XC
- ❖ Makowski, Jon Throws
- ❖ Mann, Erica Sprints/Hurdles
- ❖ Maxwell, Peter * Throws
- ❖ McCurdy, Taylor Distance/XC
- ❖ Meyers, Kelsey Distance/XC
- ❖ Miller, Kelly Middle Distance/XC
- ❖ Pelbart, Zoe * Throws
- ❖ Peterson, William * Distance/XC
- ❖ Ratomski, Yury Sprints/Hurdles
- ❖ Rutherford, Jessica * Throws
- ❖ Simoneau, Aaron Distance/XC
- ❖ Skiles, Samantha Throws
- ❖ Smeltzer, Rebekah Distance/XC
- ❖ Stewart, John Sprints
- ❖ Tecca, Nick Distance/XC
- ❖ Watson, Elizabeth Distance/XC
- ❖ Wells, Shane Sprints/Hurdles
- ❖ Wentzel, Brad Throws
- ❖ Whalen, Robyn Throws
- ❖ Yee, Jennifer Distance/XC

All are freshmen except those marked with an asterisk (), who are transfers*

Mark Your Calendars Now

Track-XC Team Banquet to be Held April 12

The MSU coaching staff has announced that the second annual Track and Field / Cross Country Team Banquet will be held on the evening of April 12, following MSU's only home outdoor track meet this coming spring. Current team members, their parents, and all MSU track and cross country alumni are invited to attend.

The dinner will be held in the LaSalle Bank Club in the Spartan Stadium tower, next to the track. There will be award presentations and at least one guest speaker. Details are still being finalized; check the team website for further details.

Errata

The newsletter editor must apologize to Alissa McKaig for an error in the last newsletter. In the caption for a picture from the NCAA Cross Country Championships, she was identified as Melissa McKaig. My apologies to Alissa, and congratulations again on her great performances at the meet. - EDZ

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The mailing address for the MSU Track and Cross Country Alumni and the MSU Finish Line Club (and for any of the Board members) is:

**P.O. Box 189
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The website is: <http://www.msufinishlineclub.org>

2007 XC Season Under Way

The new MSU Cross Country season is under way, and Coach Drenth and Coach Arndt-Molis have generally been pleased with the teams' performances in the first couple of non-scoring meets. Coach Drenth noted that as a group the men's times are ahead of what they were a year ago at this time, when they went on to finish the season with strong performances in the NCAA regional and national meets. The men were ranked 21st in the country in this season's first coaches' poll, with Wisconsin ranked number one and Minnesota 18th. MSU's women were ranked tenth in the initial poll this season, but there were four other Big Ten teams ahead of them in the rankings (Michigan second, Wisconsin fifth, Illinois sixth and Minnesota eighth). At the moment, it appears the Big Ten is an extremely strong conference on the women's side; both the men's and women's Big Ten races should prove interesting to watch this year.



2007 Spartan Cross Country Invitational

2007 Cross Country Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
08/31/07	Jeff Drenth Memorial	Mount Pleasant, MI
09/14/07	Spartan Invitational	East Lansing, MI
09/29/07	Roy Griak Invitational	Minneapolis, MN
10/13/07	Pre-NCAA Invitational	Terre Haute, IN
10/19/07	Eastern Michigan Classic	Ypsilanti, MI
10/28/07	Big Ten Championships	Columbus, OH
11/10/07	Great Lakes Reg. Champ.	Bloomington, IN
11/19/07	NCAA Championships	Terre Haute, IN

***Support the Spartans!
Cheer them on at a meet near you***

Date for 2008 Varsity S Alumni Club Weekend coincides with Homecoming next year, October 2-4. MSU Olympians will be honored. Plan to join your team-mates for a great weekend.

The MSU Track & Field/Cross Country Alumni Newsletter is a publication of the Michigan State University Track and Cross Country Alumni and the MSU Finish Line Club. The newsletter is edited by Eric D. Zemper. Articles from MSU Track and Cross Country alumni or MSU FLC members for future issues are welcome, and may be submitted to the editor for consideration.