

The future of sport

Phase One of the new Grinnell Athletic Center, already underway, will offer home court advantage and much, much more

by Trymore Magomana

Work on Phase One of the new Athletic Center, the facility that is going to replace both the venerable Physical Education Complex and Darby Gym commenced in October—following the approval for its construction by the Grinnell College board of trustees in early September this year.

The Athletic Center, designed by the famed architectural companies Sasaki Associates and Cesa Pelli & Associate, has been given good reviews by various members of the Grinnell College athletic community.

"The design is functional, exciting and impressive," said Director of Athletics Dee Fairchild. Fairchild's view is widely held across the campus.

"I like the design, its grandeur," said Katie Hogan '04 of the Grinnell College women's basketball team.

"It's nice and wonderful," added Erin Hurley, coach of the Grinnell College swimming and diving teams.

Phase one of the Athletic Center isn't cheap. It's projected to cost about \$20 million. However, the athletic campus community is also agreed on one aspect of the center; they think the cost is irrelevant. All they care about is the appealing amenities the center will confer upon their teams when it's

completed.

"The locker rooms and showers in Darby, among other things, are below standard," said men's basketball coach David Arseneault. "With the new facility, which is going to be incredible by the way, our gymnasium will finally conform to the NCAA specifications for hosting national events."

The Athletic Center will be located north of 10th Avenue and southeast of Rosenbloom Field, where the football team plays. The official purpose of the Athletic Center is to bring new, updated facilities to the college. Moreover, the center will also include more space, whether it's the fitness/weight center, which will be 8,000 square feet, or the basketball arena.

"Our goal is to serve the athletic, wellness and recreation needs of our students, faculty and a number of people in the local community," said President Russell K. Osgood.

Phase One of the new center will include a fitness/weight center, a locker area and a basketball gym, but one conspicuous facility it won't have is a swimming pool.

"The swim team," said Daniel Pederson '04, "is in need of a larger pool with more lanes to train efficiently." Coach Hurley concurred.

"The swimming pool in the PEC is about 30 years old, well beyond its lifespan," she said. "It has outlived its usefulness. It is the only indoor pool in Grinnell, and is small and is used by the Grinnell High School swim teams. Because of its small size, it's difficult for Grinnell's men and women swimming and diving teams to train all at the same time."

Fortunately for Hurley and the swim teams, a swimming pool will be constructed in future phases of the center.

The prospect of moving to the Athletic Center when it's complete and leaving venerable Darby Gym has some athletes waxing nostalgic for the old building, though the majority are ambivalent at most.

"Darby is a place I hold special in my heart; I have had so many wonderful experiences there. I don't want to leave it," said a passionate Amber J. Watson '06 of the Grinnell College women's basketball team.

Phase One of the Athletic Center is anticipated to be completed in early 2005. The upcoming phases of the Athletic Center are projected to include a natatorium (an indoor swimming pool), field house, offices and much more.

Arseneault, for one, is confident that the new center's sophistication will more than make up for the sentimental value of Darby.

"The new facility will be classy and intimate. I'm sure my team will absolutely love playing in it," he said.

"The new facility will be classy and intimate. I'm sure my team will absolutely love playing in it."

—Dave Arseneault, men's basketball coach

Offense explodes, football wins first MWC game

After splitting two games featuring a combined 176 points, Grinnell travels to face its toughest foe of the season in St. Norbert

by Kevin Byrne

There were 934 yards of total offense between Grinnell's and Lawrence University's football teams this past Saturday. That's 2,802 feet of offense in the four quarters and one overtime period it took the Pioneers to pull off their first conference win, 48-47, and cap off one of the most emotional comebacks that Grinnell has seen in some time.

In addition to the gaudy team stats, the game was loaded with substantial individual efforts. Lawrence's tailback Justin Barrens had a career day, rushing the ball 40 times for 310 yards and three touchdowns. Starting quarterback Trey Raney '05 was the star for the visiting Pioneers, responsible for six touchdowns, four through the air, and two on the ground.

"It felt great to come away with a win," Raney said after throwing for 215 yards and rushing for 62. "Personally I was just happy to perform well, I was just doing my small part like the rest of the team. But, you don't have six touchdowns without

the receivers catching and running great routes and the lineman making great blocks. They did their part, I just did mine."

The receivers did do their part, and they had to, as the Pioneers faced a 33-14 deficit at halftime. Four different receivers caught Raney's four touchdown passes in the game as the offense exploded in the second half. Matt Teeters '05, Jake Peterson '04, Chris Villa '05, and Dan Olsen '04 all had clutch touchdown catches, with Villa and Teeters grabbing scores in Grinnell's 21-point fourth quarter.

The defense also held strong in the second half. After giving up 33 points in the first two quarters, Coach Hollibaugh's defense held Lawrence to four punts and intercepted two passes in their final eight possessions.

"We made basic adjustments for the guys at halftime," Hollibaugh stated. "We stopped blitzing our inside backers, we started playing zone coverage, we moved Delwin Pinkins ['05] to the nose tackle to help stuff the run and we moved our de-

fensive ends to a different technique so it was harder for their offensive line to block them. Nothing special, just good old fashion base defense to allow our guys play football."

Two players these changes benefited were defensive backs Isom Winton '04 and Teddy Stafford '05, who came up with the two crucial interceptions in the Pioneers' comeback. With 11 minutes left in the game and the Pioneers down by six, Stafford returned his pick 26 yards to Lawrence's 1-yard line, resulting in Raney's scoring pass to Teeters. Winton's pick, which came with only four minutes left and the Pioneers leading, was also key in helping Grinnell force overtime.

"When I picked off the ball," Winton said, "they were trying to throw a screen pass to their number one receiver and I sniffed it out. He tried to fake outside and cut back in to receive the pass, but I stepped in front of him and picked the ball off. This gave us confidence that we were destined to win the game and took [away] their offense's and crowd's fire."

After Lawrence scored on its first overtime possession, Grinnell's defense stopped the Viking two-point conversion try. On Grinnell's possession, Raney led the way, running the ball in for the tying six points, followed by a dramatic walk-off extra point by kicker Bud Baumgartner '07 that left the

Lawrence players and fans stunned.

The win was especially sweet after a wild 42-39 loss at Knox the previous week. In that game, Grinnell had taken a 39-34 lead on a 35-yard interception return for a touchdown by Winton with 7:13 to go, but Knox answered with a game-winning 12-yard touchdown pass from Anthony McClena to Tom Neagle with only 39 seconds remaining.

Grinnell will take its dramatic first conference win and the momentum that came with it into De Pere, Wisc. this Saturday, with the tall order of knocking off the conference's number one team, the undefeated St. Norbert Green Knights. The Knights are currently ranked 17th in the America Football Coaches Foundation (AFCA) Division III Coaches' Poll.

"We will take last week's win and carry it over into St. Norbert by playing our style of aggressive ball and never-say-die attitude," Winton confidently said.

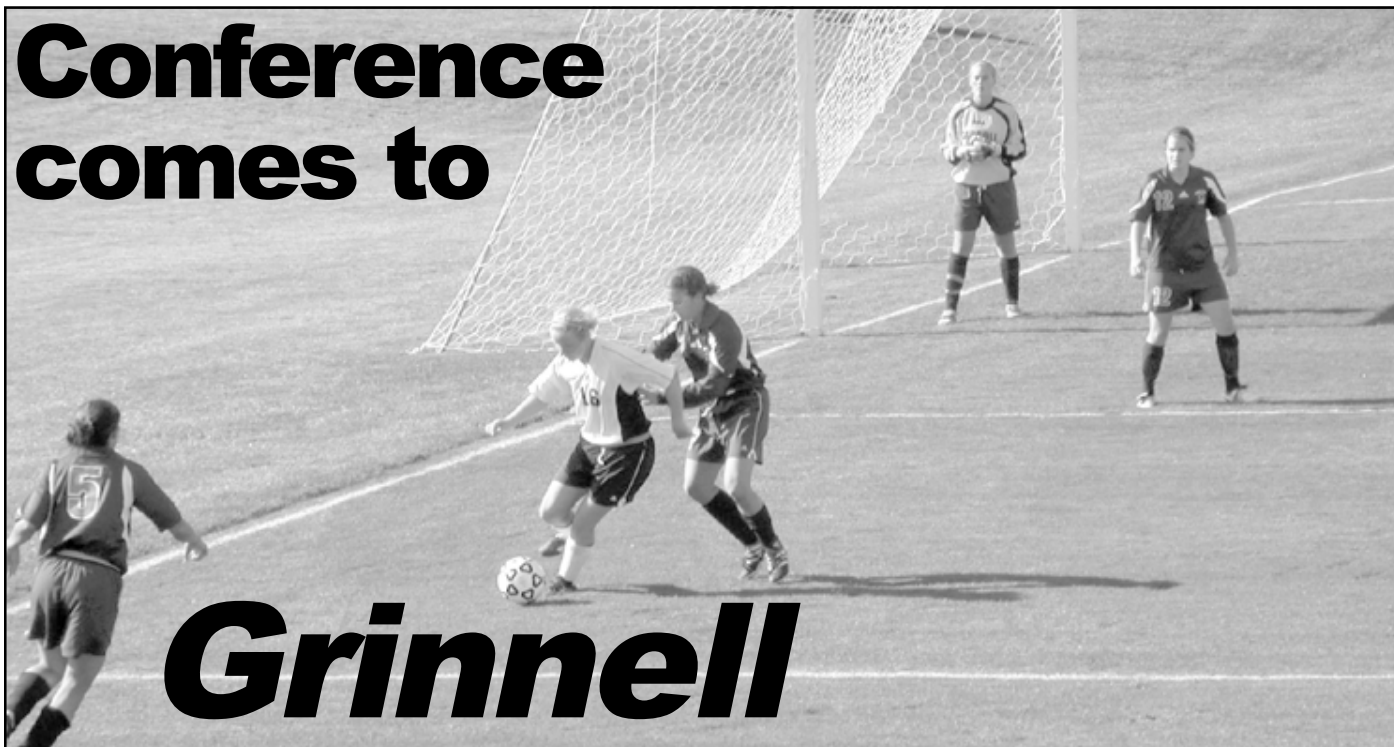
The Pioneers will have to keep up their high-powered offense and make the necessary defensive adjustments to have a good shot at upsetting the Knights. This will be the final stop on the Pioneers current three week period of road games, and they will have some positive things to build on when they play their final two games of the season at home in November.

"We will take last week's win and carry it over into St. Norbert by playing our style of aggressive ball and never-say-die attitude."

—Isom Winton '04

Conference comes to

Grinnell



Sarah Evans '05 dribbles near the goal in Grinnell's 4-1 victory over Ripon Sunday. Evans had a hat trick in the game.

photo by Jenny Wood

Unbeaten women's soccer hosts Conference this weekend for the first time since 1999

by Joe Geni

When Grinnell women's soccer hosts the conference tournament this year, any of the four competitors could walk away with the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. But the Pioneers, Conference champs for the regular season, have already proved one thing. They're clutch.

With once-beaten St. Norbert and Lake Forest breathing down their necks, the Pioneers rebounded from back-to-back non-conference losses to white-wash Carroll and Ripon and clinch the conference crown.

"The women should be commended for their performance against Carroll," said head coach Heather Benning. "There was a lot of pressure on them and they couldn't have put together a better game. It was a thrill to watch... they are so talented!"

Grinnell (10-5-1, 8-0-1 MWC) not only beat its last two conference foes, but dominated each game 4-0. Against their moniker doppelgänger, the Carroll Pioneers, on Oct. 25, Rachel Moskowit '06 had two goals and two assists, while goalie Liz Carrier '07 turned back all eight shots she faced.

The next day against Ripon, Moskowit had two more assists in the first six minutes. Both went to Sarah Evans '05, who ended up with a hat trick that raised her goal total for the year to a team-high 15, or an outstanding 0.93 goals a game. The defense clamped down as well and didn't allow the Red Hawks a shot on goal, and the Pioneers outshot Ripon 58-1 overall.

"We knew our competition was pretty strong, and so we knew that we had to go into the games with a lot of intensity," said defender Julia Bradley-Cook '06. "We were able to do that, and I think because of that we were able to win by so much. But it could have gone a completely differ-

ent way. We could have won by just a little, or there could have been an upset."

That's important for the Pioneers to remember, because their reward for defeating playoff-bound and defending conference champion Carroll is a first-round repeat date with the Pioneers tomorrow at 2 p.m.

"We beat them by a lot, so we have a lot of momentum, but I think it can really be any sort of game," said Bradley-Cook. "They're a really strong team as well. We have to go into the game with the same intensity as last week."

"The tournament field will be extremely competitive; the tournament is always a series of three hard-fought games," said Benning. "Certainly there are advantages and disadvantages to playing Carroll in the first round. We've just seen them, so we know what we need to do, but so do they. Obviously the biggest advantage will be playing at home. We are really counting on the fans to show up in mass."

Bradley-Cook concurred, "I think it's going to make a world of difference [being at home] because we're going to have tons of people out there hopefully to support us. Just having that crowd to support us is just an amazing thing."

Should Grinnell triumph again, they'll get the winner of the St. Norbert/Lake Forest game. The Pioneers, in one crucial stretch in early October, tied St. Norbert and also defeated Lawrence and Lake Forest, all on the road. It was the first time they've gone unbeaten against those three teams since 1999, which, incidentally, was the last time they won conference.

"Certainly this is the strongest Grinnell team in my nine years at Grinnell," said Benning. "I would really like to see them come through one more time and get to experience the NCAA tournament."

"The tournament field will be extremely competitive. The tournament is always a series of three hard-fought games."

—coach Heather Benning

For men's soccer, third time's not a charm

Pioneers come within a whisker of the playoffs yet again, but fall short; final game vs. Illinois College Saturday

by Joe Geni

For the third straight year, the Pioneer men's soccer team will be on the outside looking in at the playoffs.

Needing to win out to grab a playoff berth, Grinnell instead split last weekend's matches and is out of the playoff chase with one game remaining.

"I think this past weekend was rough," said defender and co-captain Sam Taylor '04, "because I felt that Carroll was going to be the tougher game. So after we beat them, there might have been a feeling like we were over the hump or something, going into the Ripon game."

Grinnell defeated Carroll 1-0 on Saturday, but fell 3-1 to Ripon the next day.

"Every year I've been here it's been close to get into conference," said outside midfielder and co-captain Joe Hansen '05. "It's come down to our last game. Every game matters and you never know who's going to beat who. This year we had it in our

hands and if we'd won our last three we would have done it. But we lost on Sunday. Even then we weren't eliminated yet. There was one slot left. That's how close it is."

But after Beloit beat Carroll this week to clinch the last playoff spot, Grinnell was eliminated. The previous weekend, St. Norbert had clinched the top spot with consecutive wins, while Lake Forest and Lawrence both snagged postseason berths.

Grinnell is 5-7-2, with a 3-3-2 conference mark, equal to Ripon's 4-4 MWC record. The Red Hawks, however, defeated the Pioneers 3-1 in Grinnell on a windy, 30-degree day last Sunday, breaking a 1-1 halftime deadlock with a pair of second-half goals. Delton Ng had the game-winner in the 65th minute for the visitors.

"In the beginning of the second half, I really thought we started playing a lot better and I was pretty sure we were going to take the lead," said Taylor. "We really dominated the first 20 minutes of the sec-

"Every year I've been here it's been close to get into conference. ... This year we had it in our hands and if we'd won our last three we would have done it."

—Joe Hansen '05

Tourney Time

Women's soccer isn't the only team entering a postseason weekend

Women's soccer is hosting the conference tournament on its home turf this weekend, but three other teams will have to go into hostile or neutral environments. Men's and women's cross country travel to Lake Forest, Ill., to run at the conference meet, while the Grinnell water polo team is on its way to Nationals this weekend.

Water polo finished second in the Heartland Division with a 10-2 record this year, behind only St. Mary's. They'll join eight other teams in Bowdoin, Maine, in a two-day tournament that will decide the Division III Champion.

"We're hella dope," said two-meter defenseman Ari Hart '04 on the team's prospects. "Nuf said."

In cross country, the men are once again heavily favored to win their 17th conference title in the last 18 seasons. Excluding a blip in 1996, Grinnell hasn't lost a conference meet since Ronald Reagan was president and the Chicago Bears were recording the "Super Bowl Shuffle." The title defense will begin at noon on Saturday.

The women's team hasn't won a conference title since '96, and finished fifth last year, and they'll be running without the services of Kaitlyn Ryan '07, who is injured. Still, they have reason for optimism after a strong showing at Loras on Oct. 18. The women race at 11 a.m.

"We're thinking that this is when everyone's peaking during the season, so that's encouraging," said Paige Wheeler '07. "A lot of people feel they're ready to break through in their races. So even though we have some injuries, a lot of peoples' training is finally peaking."

And just in case you can't get your Pioneer postseason fix, women's volleyball goes to the MWC Tournament in De Pere, Wisc., next weekend on Nov. 7-8.



Jessica Beckwith '04 looks for a centering pass in Grinnell's 4-1 victory over Ripon Sunday. The win kept Grinnell unbeaten in conference.

Down to the wire

Few conference races in recent years have been tighter than this one in the MWC. Grinnell currently ranks sixth in the conference standings, but if they'd beaten Ripon they'd be fourth and ready to clinch with a win over Illinois College. The standings through Wednesday:

#	TEAM	MWC RECORD
1.	St. Norbert	7-1-0
2.	Lake Forest	5-2-2
3.	Lawrence	5-2-1
4.	Beloit	5-3-0
5.	Ripon	4-4-0
6.	Grinnell	3-3-2
7.	Carroll	3-5-1
8.	Monmouth	3-5-0
9.	Illinois C.	1-6-1
10.	Knox	1-6-1



Tennis second at conference

Pioneers upset in the final in a rematch with Lake Forest, but rebound to dominate individual events

by Josh Cooley

The finals did not end until 10:15 p.m., but in the end Lake Forest was victorious.

Things started off smoothly for the women's tennis team at the MWC team championships. Against semifinal opponent Carroll, the Pioneers blitzed through a quick 5-0 win. The tournament site had only three courts available for the match, so the Pioneers only played the minimum five matches needed to claim victory in the best-of-nine series.

By 12:00 the players were resting on the sidelines, awaiting the winner of the other semifinal match between Lake Forest and Ripon. An hour passed, then two. The championship match was supposed to begin at 1 p.m., but at 3 p.m., Grinnell still had yet to take the court for the finals. But while Grinnell was resting, their finals opponents were becoming increasingly fatigued.

"The longer the match went on," said Coach Barbara Waite of the Lake Forest-Ripon battle, "the more confident I got."

Only when Lake Forest first-year Madeline Harris secured her match at the No. 5 singles did the Foresters edge out a 5-4 upset win over the Red Hawks in a duel that lasted over six hours.

In their previous match against Grinnell, the Foresters had lost 7-2, but in the finals against Grinnell, they had the momentum of the semifinal win. Despite the extra rest, Grinnell's team, according to Waite, was not prepared for the match.

"We felt the effects of mid-semester week," said Waite, noting that many of her players were mentally and physically tired going into the tournament.

From a scoreboard standpoint, the Pioneers looked

strong after their first four matches against Lake Forest, posting a 3-1 lead. The No. 2 doubles team of Jill Harms '05 and Jennifer Tran '06 had suffered a heartbreaking 6-1, 4-6, 5-7 loss, but at No. 1 doubles, Shweta Khajuria '07 and Sera Ozturk '07 had stormed through their match with a 6-0 6-0 win.

In singles, the team had posted straight-set victories from Khajuria at No. 1 (6-0 6-1) and Harms at No. 3 (6-1 6-1).

But the No. 3 team of Maria Stanislaw '04 and Kate Bradley '04 lost a close three-setter. After losing the first set tiebreaker 10-8, Stanislaw and Bradley battled back to capture the second set in a tiebreaker 7-5 but lost the third set 6-3. Ozturk won a point for the group at No. 2 singles, winning 6-3 7-6 (7-4), but Lake Forest's depth overpowered the Pioneers. Grinnell lost the No. 4, and No. 6 matches. With the scored

tied 4-4, all eyes turned to the match at No. 5 singles. Lake Forest's Harris had already proven that she could play well under pressure. She defeated Stanislaw in three sets to help the Foresters capture the MWC Championship with a 5-4 win. It marked the second time in the five-year history of the team tournament that a second seed had defeated both number one seeds to capture the conference title.

Grinnell was still happy to improve upon last year's fourth place finish.

"It was slightly disappointing" said Harms, "but it was a strong second place finish and you have to be proud of that. Lake Forest had a lot of young players who performed well under pressure. You have to admire that and respect that. You have to give them credit. They really stepped it up."

Grinnell took vengeance the following two days at the

Individual Championships. Out of the ten conference teams competing, Grinnell posted the highest team score with 80 points. Lake Forest was second with 66 points, followed by Ripon with 56.

Khajuria and Ozturk became the MWC doubles champions. After posting 6-0, 6-2 victories over both Lawrence and St. Norbert, they scored a 6-2, 6-0 victory over Beloit in the final. Harms and Tran reached the doubles final of their bracket for the second straight year. Playing at No. 2, they cruised through their first two matches, but lost their rematch against Lake Forest's No. 2 doubles team 6-2, 5-7, 6-3. Stanislaw and Bradley playing at No. 3 lost in the semifinals to Ripon 6-4, 6-4.

In singles, both Khajuria and Ozturk finished off their seasons with unbeaten records, as both players captured titles at No. 1 and No. 2 respectively. Harms also won a singles title at No. 3. Tran dropped a three set semifinal at the No. 4 slot, but Stanislaw, avenged her singles loss at the No. 5 slot against Lake Forest's Madeline Harris from Friday. After dropping the first set 6-2, she fought off match points to win a clutch second set tiebreaker 12-10 before cruising 6-1 through the third. At No. 6 singles, Cohen fell to Lawrence 6-3, 6-3 in the opening round of play.

Though the team will be returning its top three players next year, it will lose four key players who helped it secure a runner-up finish in Conference. The team will sorely miss Bradley, Cohen and Stanislaw, who are graduating, as well as Tran, who is transferring out of Grinnell. However, Waite believes next year's team will be strong, especially with the return of their former No. 3 Sid Khajuria '05, who missed this season while studying abroad.

"My expectations for next year are as high if not higher than they were for this year," said Waite. "However, our conference will be equally as tough; all of Lake Forest's players at conference this year except one were first-years," said Waite. Look for another Lake Forest-Grinnell duel to emerge in the finals of the MWC championship next year.

Individual finishes

Despite being upset 5-4 by Lake Forest in the conference finals, Grinnell was well represented in the individual events. Below are all singles and doubles finals featuring Grinnell tennis players.

No. 1 Doubles

Shweta Khajuria '07/Sera Ozturk '07 (GC) def. Crystal Ertman/Stephanie Gage (BC) 6-4, 6-2

No. 2 Doubles

Anne Yanda/Megan Doherty (SNC) def. Jill Harms '05/Jennifer Tran '06 (GC) 6-0, 6-1

No. 1 Singles

Khajuria def. Natalie Hahn (CC) 6-0, 6-1

No. 2 Singles

Ozturk def. Brittany Richardson (LFC) 7-5, 6-0

No. 3 Singles

Harms def. Heather Kerswill (SNC) 6-3, 6-3

No. 5 Singles

Natalie Schnick (RC) def. Maria Stanislaw '04 (GC) 2-6, 7-6 (12-10), 6-1