

Sports Shorts

CARDINAL CORNER . . . Stanford sophomore golfer **Rob Grube** was named to third team PING All-American. Grube earned his second All-American honor in as many years . . . Stanford junior **Katie Hansen** was named first team All-American by the Association of Collegiate Water Polo Coaches on Tuesday. **Christina Hewko, Meridith McColl** and **Scotti Shafer** were named to the second team, while **Lauren Silver** was honorable mention. Atherton resident **Lindsey Bacolini**, a senior at Santa Clara, was also an honorable mention . . . The Stanford women's doubles team of **Alice Barnes** and **Anne Yelsey** were named the ITA National Doubles team of the Year on Tuesday. The duo were 42-4 on the year, and won the ITA national indoor title.

SPIKE THIS . . . The Palo Alto Volleyball Club season finished on a successful note. The 16-under team, coached by Stanford senior **Katie Goldhahn**, won the Northern California Volleyball Assoc (NCVA) Area championships in Antioch and each the 12-under and 14-under teams finished fourth. The 16-under team rallied to beat Eclipse in the semifinals, and then beat the Crush VBC in two games, with the final by a score of 25-6. The members of the 16-under team are: **Abbie Havern, Aileen Smith, Allie Coleman, Allie Whitson, Eliza Stevens, Helene Zahoudanis, Irina Chirkina, Kate Jensen, Rachael Fleischmann,** and **Taylor McAdams**, all of whom play for either Gunn or Palo Alto High.

CAMPS AND CLINICS . . . The Palo Alto Knights' Pop Warner Football program will hold its first summer passing league, beginning June 25 at the new turf field at the corner of Page Mill and El Camino. The league consists of six games on Sunday, from 6-8 p.m. There will be two divisions: Lancer (ages 7-10) and Armour (ages 11-15). Games are six on six. Registration forms can be obtained at www.paknights.com. Deadline to register is June 16.

ON THE AIR

Friday

Prep sports: High School Sports Focus, 11 p.m., KICU (36), rebroadcast Sunday at 4 p.m.

Saturday

NCAA baseball: Stanford at Oregon St., 7 p.m., ESPN2; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Sunday

Prep sports: Cal-Hi Bay Area, 5:30 p.m., KRON (4) rebroadcast Monday at 7 p.m. on Fox Sports Net

NCAA baseball: Stanford at Oregon St., 7 p.m., ESPN2; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Monday

NCAA baseball: Stanford at Oregon St. (if necessary), 4 p.m., ESPN2; KZSU (90.1 FM)

SPORTS ONLINE

For expanded daily coverage of college and prep sports, please see our online edition at www.PaloAltoOnline.com



Keith Peters

Kelly Eaton helped her Menlo-Atherton swim team win the PAL Bay Division title and finish fourth at CCS in addition to helping the M-A girls' water polo team reach the CCS finals for the first time in school history.

Stanford hopes its baseball labor will be fruitful at OSU

by Rick Eyrer

Chris Minaker just kept plugging away all season and now the rest of his Stanford baseball teammates are catching up with him. For the majority of the season, Minaker was the lone Cardinal regular with an average above .300 as he enjoyed sustained success at the plate. He's since been joined by several others.

"It's just the fruits of our labors," Minaker said as Stanford (33-25) prepares for its Super Regional against Oregon State in Corvallis. "We all just kept working extra

hard, taking extra batting practice. Sometimes those things don't pay off immediately but cumulatively it pays off in the end."

Stanford hopes that work keeps paying off this weekend as it looks to return to the College World Series in Omaha for the first time since 2003.

The Cardinal's last trip to Corvallis was disastrous on the surface as Oregon State (42-14) not only swept the three-game series, but dominated the Stanford hitters.

Stanford hit .127 against Beavers' pitchers, scoring one run in 25 in-

nings. That performance spiraled the team average to a season low .260.

In wining the Austin Regional, Stanford hit .439 as a team and upped its current average to a season-high .289.

"There was never any conflict among players," Minaker said. "We never got down on ourselves or each other. In fact, we kept reminding each other that we were at Stanford because we experienced success at some level. We all knew we were good enough to win and we just stayed confident."

Minaker has been the one player in the lineup who has been producing all year. He's hit safely in 14 of his last 15 games and 48 of 58 overall. He's never gone more than two games without a hit. As a model of consistency and constant improvement, he's been a primary reason why Stanford was able to turn its season around and head into the weekend with a chance for glory.

Junior Greg Reynolds, the stalwart of the pitching staff, takes the mound for the Cardinal when the Super Regional opens Saturday at

(continued on page 33)

PREP SPORTS

Busy is just better

M-A grad Kelly Eaton excels as state's top female scholar-athlete

by Keith Peters

Kelly Eaton will look back on her four years at Menlo-Atherton High with fond memories, perhaps realizing she actually had some free time to enjoy.

This summer, however, may be the supreme test of time management and physical endurance for Eaton. Her schedule on Wednesday was just a sneak peek at how busy she may be in the coming weeks and months.

Eaton started the day at Menlo-Atherton, with graduation practice at 10 a.m. After a short interview at noon, she was off to the Riekes Center in Menlo Park to lift weights. From there, Eaton went to Stanford to help coach the Stanford Water Polo Club under-14 girls' team before joining some of her future teammates on one of three Stanford club polo teams she'll be competing with this summer.

And after that?

"I have to tutor," Eaton said. "I'll probably be eating dinner around 9:30 (p.m.)"

Eaton was hoping to get in a little surfing on Thursday morning before returning to Menlo-Atherton for graduation ceremonies at 4 p.m., followed by Grad Night.

This weekend, Eaton will play and coach in a water polo tournament at Stanford.

Next week she'll add a job as activities director at a sports camp based at Menlo Country Club before coaching the 14-unders and then doing her own water polo training in the evening.

All one can say is whew!

"I wouldn't change my schedule for anything," Eaton said. "I only wish there were more hours in the day."

Eaton has been this busy seemingly all her life. Somehow, she still has managed to compile a 4.27 GPA in high school, register a 1405 SAT score, lead the M-A water polo

(continued on page 34)

NIKE TENNIS CAMPS at STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Great Coaches. Great Camps.

RESIDENT & DAY CAMPS

Personally Directed by Lele Forood, head women's tennis coach & John Whitlinger, head men's tennis coach

Boys & Girls, Ages 9-18 • All Ability Levels Welcome

DAY ONLY CAMPS

June 17-18 Director: John Whitlinger August 19-20 Director: David Hodge,
Adults Advanced Players Clinic Assistant Men's Tennis Coach

June 19-22 Director: Dick Gould, August 19-20 Director: David Hodge,
Adults Evening Director of Tennis, Stanford Juniors Half Day & Full Day
Adults Half Day

Campers Receive Nike Tennis Shoes.

USSportsCamps.com

1-800-NIKE CAMP

(800-645-3226)



www.ArgoWin.com

CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS IN BUSINESS



Milgard Vinyl Windows and Patio Doors will not only enhance the look of your home, they will save you money

Low E-2 Glass will insulate better, keeping the warmth inside and the cold outside. That means lower energy bills. And who wouldn't love that?



CALL US FOR A FREE ESTIMATE OR
VISIT ONE OF OUR SHOWROOMS

800 .430 .7535

Cupertino
10624 S. De Anza Blvd.

Kelly Eaton

(continued from page 31)

team into the Central Coast Section championship game for the first time in school history last fall, help the Bears' swimming team finish fourth at the 2006 CCS finals and earn a water polo scholarship to Stanford.

Perhaps not too surprisingly, Eaton was selected as a 2006 CIF Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Only two student-athletes were selected from the 1,393 high schools in the state, standout runner Michael Coe of Cabrillo High in Lompoc and Eaton.

"That was just awesome," Eaton said on receiving the award. "I was really surprised to receive it."

Eaton wasn't even the main recipient for the CCS Scholar-Athlete award and thus figured she had no chance at the statewide honor that recognizes student-athletes who excel in the classroom, in athletics and who contribute to their schools and communities.

"It's obviously a great honor," she said. "It inspires me to be a role model for others. It also recognizes the hard work that I've put in."

Eaton will join Coe in a special ceremony honoring both on June 22 at the State Capitol in Sacramento. Both also will receive a \$2,000 scholarship.

The awards ceremony will present yet another challenge for the multi-talented multi-tasker. Eaton has to be in Southern California the following morning — the U.S. national water polo training center Los Alamitos, to be exact — for a training camp.

Last weekend at the same site, Eaton was one of 19 players named to the U.S. Women's Junior National Team along with Palo Alto senior Phoebe Champion and current Stanford freshman Lauren Silver. From June 23-26, the remaining 19 will compete for 14 berths on the traveling squad that will compete in two European tournaments, in Greece and Italy. The squad also will participate in the Pythia Cup on July 18-24 in Athens, Greece. The head coach of the U.S. team is former Menlo School girls' coach Kyle Utsumi.

If Eaton does not make the traveling squad, that will free her up to play for the Stanford Water Polo Club in the Women's 20-Under Na-



Menlo-Atherton grad Kelly Eaton (4) will continue her water polo career at Stanford in the fall.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Tori Anthony
Castilleja School

The junior pole vaulter and U.S. outdoor leader became the first athlete from her school and the first CCS girl to ever win a state title in her event by clearing 13-3 at the CIF State Track and Field Championships.



Chris Yu
Gunn High

The senior achieved his season-long goal of breaking the school record in the long jump with a huge effort of 23-8 3/4 to erase a 36-year-old mark on the way to finishing fifth at the CIF State Track & Field Championships.

tional Championships and the Women's National Championships (ages 21 and older), both back to back from July 18-23 at Mission Viejo.

When those are completed, Eaton will join the Stanford 18-under team for the National Junior Olympics, Aug. 3-6 in Ventura. She'll also help coach the 14-under team then, too.

"It's a lot of tournaments and a lot of practicing," Eaton said of her summer plans. "It's a really busy time around now."

Eaton took out a small, spiral calendar notebook and opened it.

Every page, it seemed, was filled. No surprise, said longtime Menlo-Atherton aquatics coach and teacher Rick Longyear.

"Kelly is an amazingly talented and hardworking athlete," Longyear said. "She works as hard as she can

to improve, to be ready to move on to the next level. Kelly always took the time to help out any of her teammates, from her varsity friends to



Kelly Eaton

the rawest freshman, to help them feel part of the team and to show them how to correctly perform a skill.

"She is also an incredible student. She was a freshman in my biology class and had one of the highest scores ever in my class. She wins awards at science fairs. Her freshman year her project was on oil-consuming microbes and how they could be used to prevent

environmental disasters. If I recall correctly, her project made it all the way to the state finals. If Kelly has any grade lower than an A on her transcript, it has escaped my attention."

Eaton also is as well-rounded as she is talented. Along with her career goals in molecular or genetic biology, Eaton has been involved in numerous community service activities; has been lead chair while playing the alto sax, flute and piccolo in advanced concert band; has earned a black belt in jujitsu; and even found time to start the school's knitting club.

"I knitted my mom a scarf for Mother's Day," Eaton said proudly.

"The depth and breadth of Kelly's interests and abilities make her the outstanding young woman she is today," said Karen Ramirez, Menlo-Atherton's head guidance counselor. "Kelly is always committed to doing her best in whatever she endeavors and I have no doubt she will succeed and make a positive contribution to her community and society as a whole."

In fact, Kelly Eaton already has. ■