

Support your Spartans on their trip to Detroit at two rallies scheduled for this week

INSIDE, PAGE 2A



GABRIELLE MOORE/THE STATE NEWS

Human biology junior Patrick Atisha, left, and finance freshman Ogeen Kada cheer for the men's basketball team Sunday at Breslin Center. Thousands of Spartans fans showed up to welcome the team home after it beat Louisville to advance to the Final Four.

# The State News

## TICKETS

## IZZONE FANS FRUSTRATED WITH TICKET TROUBLES

By Brittany Shammus and Pat Evans  
THE STATE NEWS

In his four years at MSU, communication senior Mike Haslett never missed a chance to watch a game with the Izzone. This weekend, he'll miss the two most important games of the year.

Haslett is one of thousands of disappointed Izzone members who were denied a ticket to Final Four games on Saturday and Monday in Detroit because of a faulty link provided by the Student Alumni Foundation to student section members for purchasing tickets.

"It sucks — I can't put it in better words than that," he said. "It's hard to know who to be upset with."

Izzone adviser Dan DiMaggio said he fielded phone calls Tuesday from disgruntled Izzone members upset with the ticketing procedure.

"It could be best summed up as a lot of phone calls," DiMaggio said. "The majority of the calls are on the mix-up, so we're just explaining to them what happened."

DiMaggio said the error was caused by a link provided by Veritix, a third-party company made responsible by the NCAA to handle ticketing. The 400 students who successfully purchased tickets will keep them.

Veritix spokeswoman Susan Kirkpatrick said the company sent an initial e-mail to Izzone members Monday containing the broken link. A second e-mail sent about six hours after the first — and about an hour after tickets were supposed to go on sale — gave a working link, Kirkpatrick said.

No mass explanation or apology had been issued as of Tuesday by the Student Alumni Foundation, the Izzone or Veritix, leaving some students still wondering what happened.

"We're really confused and don't know what to do," general management senior Sean Petersen said. "We need to know as soon as possible if we need

See TICKETS on page 2A

## Georgia on his mind

MSU golfer Newman beat the odds to earn an invite to golf's biggest tournament



MATTHEW MITCHELL/MSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

MSU junior Jack Newman will become the first Spartan golfer to play in the Masters Tournament when he tees off April 9 in Augusta, Ga. Newman is one of five amateur golfers who will compete for the Green Jacket.

By Jacob Carpenter  
THE STATE NEWS

Next week, MSU junior Jack Newman will venture to Augusta, Ga., for the premiere golf event in the world: the Masters Tournament.

Newman will walk in the footsteps of Jack, Arnie, Tiger and Lefty — men who made their names at the famed Augusta National Golf Club.

He will try to tame golf's most fabled course, where the holes have flowery names — Azalea, Yellow Jasmine and Carolina Cherry — but a fiery habit of destroying the most finely tuned games.

And he will have his green-and-white Spartan golf bag at his side from the first tee to the 18th green.

Newman will become the first MSU golfer to compete in the opening major of the golf year, fulfilling a lifelong dream to play Augusta National in April at the ripe age of 21.

"Playing the Masters as an amateur, I didn't really expect it," Newman said. "But I always wanted to play in the Masters because I think that's the pinnacle of golf as a professional or an amateur."

### Earning his keep

He was a horse as dark as Black Beauty, yet

See MASTERS on page 2A

### Jack Newman's recent tournament schedule



1 U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship  
Murphy Creek Golf Course  
Aurora, Colo.  
July 14-19

4 The Prestige  
The Club at PISA WEST  
La Quinta, Calif.  
Oct. 13-14

7 Pinehurst Intercollegiate  
The Centennial  
Pinehurst No. 8  
Pinehurst, N.C.  
March 15-17

2 U.S. Amateur Championship  
Pinehurst Resort and Country Club  
Village of Pinehurst, N.C.  
Aug. 30-19

5 UNCC Bridgestone Golf Collegiate  
Forest Oaks Country Club  
Greensboro, N.C.  
Oct. 22-28

6 Western Intercollegiate  
Paseo del Golf Club  
Santa Cruz, Calif.  
March 29-31

3 Spartan Classic  
Kingsley Golf Club  
Kingsley, Mich.  
Sept. 14

8 Big Ten Match Play Championship  
Huron Bay Golf Club  
Coral Springs, Fla.  
Feb. 13-14

8 The Masters Tournament  
Augusta National Golf Club  
Augusta, Ga.  
April 9-12

HAILEY SCHALEDACH AND JACOB CARPENTER/IN

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## IZZO: EMOTIONS, DEPTH COULD BE MSU'S ADVANTAGE

By Cash Kruth  
THE STATE NEWS

The MSU men's basketball team has all the storylines.

The season is the 30th anniversary of the basketball program's first national championship. The team is playing the Final Four 91 miles away from its home arena.

This trip is a chance to help out Detroit's stumbling economy. "We got all those goofy things on our side," MSU head coach Tom Izzo said. "I don't think (UConn center Hasheem Thabeet) gives a damn about any

of them, but I do."

When the Spartans play Connecticut at 6:07 p.m. Saturday at Ford Field in Detroit, they will once again be the heavy underdog against the Huskies (31-4).

Not only does UConn have Thabeet, a 7-foot-0-inch center who averages 13.5 points, 10.9 rebounds and 4.3 blocks a game, but the Huskies have a host of other very skilled players to make

### More online...

For video from Izzo's Tuesday press conference, visit [stateneews.com](http://stateneews.com)

them the consensus second-best team in the Final Four.

Guard A.J. Price is leading the Huskies with 14.7 points a game, while Jeff Adrien is also averaging a double-double, scoring 13.5 points and pulling down 10 boards per game.

"Looking at UConn, they are very, very talented," Izzo said. "I think the difference in their team is that Price has gone from a very

good player to a great player.

"Inside, Adrien is tough, strong, competitive and skilled. He can block shots, he can hit 15-foot shots and he's a tremendous offensive rebounder."

Izzo admitted UConn had strengths on the inside, outside and at the point guard positions, but also said a weakness could be that UConn is "maybe not a great shooting team."

The Huskies are shooting 34 percent from beyond the 3-point arc.

As for his team, Izzo said the exhilarating trip to the Final Four will hopefully continue to be a

boost for the Spartans.

"Our pluses are we're on a little bit of an emotional high now, and if we can continue that, we have that to our advantage," Izzo said.

"We do have some depth, so we can run and try to wear them down some and make Thabeet get up and down some — I think that could be an advantage for us. We know where the restaurants are. That's the only other thing we've got on them."

### STAYING FOR SUMMER?

Check out our summer sublease listings, page 2B



Weather  
Windy  
High 54° | Low 36°  
Three-day forecast, Page 2A

See HOOPS on page 2A