

SPORTS EVENTS

FOOTBALL

Sophomore quarterbacks Kirk Cousins and Keith Nichol each threw a pair of touchdown passes, as the offense defeated the defense 68-46 in the MSU football team's second scrimmage of the spring season Saturday. Senior receiver Blair White also was a standout for the Spartans, hauling in eight passes for 105 yards and two touchdowns. MSU will conclude spring camp Saturday with the annual Green-White intrasquad game at 1:30 p.m. at Spartan Stadium. Admission to the event is free.

RESULTS:

Sunday:

Baseball 2, Michigan 9
Women's tennis 2, Indiana 5
Men's tennis 1, Illinois 6

Saturday:

Baseball 3, U-M 1
Softball 0, Iowa 8
Softball 3, Iowa 4
Men's golf: 9th of 18 at Boiler-maker Invitational
Women's tennis 0, Illinois 7
Men's tennis 2, Indiana 5

Friday:

Baseball 8, U-M 7

Thursday:

Baseball 12, Lansing Lugnuts 2

Wednesday:

Baseball 6, Western Michigan 0
Softball 7, Central Michigan 6

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday:

Softball vs. Bowling Green, 4 p.m.

Wednesday:

Baseball vs. Central Michigan, 6:35 p.m. in Midland
Softball vs. Oakland, 4 p.m.
Softball vs. Oakland, 6 p.m.

Friday:

Baseball at Iowa, 7 p.m.

Saturday:

Football in Spring Game, 1:30 p.m. at Spartan Stadium
Baseball vs. Iowa at 3:30 p.m.
Softball vs. Minnesota at 2 p.m.

Sunday:

Baseball at Iowa, 2:30 p.m.
Softball at Minnesota, 2 p.m.

MORE ONLINE ...

For video from MSU's 9-2 loss to U-M, visit statenews.com/multimedia.

SPORTS

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BASEBALL
It's been four seasons since the MSU baseball team won at Michigan, something it did Saturday with a 3-1 win.

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Monday

Spartans can't finish sweep of U-M

4-run 5th inning helps Wolverines snap MSU's 3-game win streak



Junior outfielder Chris Roberts looks to his glove as he misses a catch during the ninth inning of the game Sunday afternoon against Michigan. The Spartans lost 9-2. JEANA-DEE ALLEN/THE STATE NEWS

Spartans pick up first home loss of season

By Joseph Terry
THE STATE NEWS

The MSU baseball team had its undefeated record at home ended abruptly Sunday in its 9-2 loss to Michigan.

Between Oldsmobile Park and McLane Baseball Stadium, the Spartans were a perfect 10-0 at home before the loss, their best home start since 2004, when they won 12 straight at home before dropping an 8-7 game to Ohio State.

Much of the success has come from the excitement of playing in a new ballpark, head coach Jake Boss Jr. said.

"I think first of all, we're real proud of our new facility, and our guys get really excited to play here," Boss said. "How could you not be? It's such a beautiful facility and the people here at Michigan State have done such a tremendous job of getting it ready for us. We've had some success here and hopefully that will continue."

This season's home play is the exact opposite of the way MSU began last season, as the Spartans dropped 11 of their first 15 home games in 2008. Though the record has been impressive, senior infielder Eric Roof said a lot of it has been luck.

"I don't know if there is really a difference at home or away; we just play a lot better at home," Roof said. "I don't think there's a different mind-set at home or away, I think it's just chance. It just ended up happening."

For as good as MSU has been at home, the team has struggled to stay consistent,

"I thought we played tired today," Boss said. "That's my fault for putting those kids in this situation as far as a scheduling standpoint. We played very well four of the five days and I'm proud of our kids for that. But we were a different ball club today than we saw on Friday and Saturday."

Sunday's loss was the first time MSU was defeated at home in 10 games. The Spartans recorded seven hits and left 13 men on base in the game, compared to the Wolverines' 12 hits while leav-

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"We were a different ball club today than we saw on Friday and Saturday."

Jake Boss Jr., MSU head coach

By Alex DiFilippo
THE STATE NEWS

Entering Sunday's game against Michigan, the MSU baseball team had already captured a weekend series against the Wolverines for the first time since 2002. But the Spartans weren't satisfied taking only two of three games—they wanted to repay the Wolverines for sweeping them the past two seasons. Maybe it was because the Spartans had played five games in five days or due to the solid pitching performance by U-M's Eric Katzman, but the Spartans were unable to sweep the Wolverines—losing 9-2 Sunday at McLane Baseball Stadium to snap a three-game winning streak.

"Our main goal after we won the first two games was win one more against Michigan," senior catcher Eric Roof said. "We didn't get the job done and it was very disappointing." MSU head coach Jake Boss Jr. thought his team's defeat was a direct result of fatigue from a busy week of baseball.

MEN'S TENNIS

Loss leaves Spartans winless in Big Ten play for first time since 1991

By Alex Altman
THE STATE NEWS

In his final regular season match, MSU men's tennis senior John Allare refused to go down without a fight.

After getting "run off the court" in the first set Sunday against Illinois star Roy Kalmanovich, Allare knew he would need to reach deep to mount a comeback in the second set. "I really wanted to win," said Allare, MSU's No. 1 singles player. "I just said, 'I can't go out like this, I need to find ways to win points, I need to find ways to win games.'"

Playing with a new strategy that counteracted what Allare said was Kalmanovich's "pro-level forehand," Allare took a commanding 4-1 lead in the second set.

Pumping his first and holing after every trium-

phant point, Allare looked like he had seized control of the match.

Then, symbolic of his team's devastating finish to the regular season, Allare began to unravel, losing his next five games to fall in consecutive sets, 6-7, 6-4.

"I'm happy with the effort I gave," Allare said. "I don't have anything left; I left it all on the court so that's all you can ask." All season long, Allare and his teammates have played with that mentality. But rarely has that attitude been enough to win matches.

MSU lost 6-1 to No. 11 Illinois on Sunday, capping one of the most disappointing seasons in school history. The Spartans concluded the regular season on a 12-game losing streak, going winless in conference play

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Senior Scott Rasmussen returns the ball during singles Sunday afternoon against Illinois' Dennis Nevolo at the MSU Indoor Tennis Facility. JASON CHIU/THE STATE NEWS