

# LOCAL SPORTS

## FC's Burns earns bid to track championship

Franklin College's Robyn Burns broke the track record and qualified on a provisional basis for the NCAA Division III indoor track and field national championship meet in the 5-kilometer run Saturday in the Fred Wilt Memorial Invitational at Anderson University.

Burns, a Roncalli graduate, won the event with a fieldhouse record time of 17:16.66, breaking the old mark of 17:21.24 set by Anderson's Lisa Nicholson in 2003.

Her time is the sixth best provisional time in the nation posted this season. Three others bested the automatic qualifying time of 17:10).

Franklin freshman Lauren Patterson, a Center Grove graduate, was fourth in the 1-kilometer run with a time of 3:23.91, and sophomore Marci White was third in the 3-kilometer event at 11:43.39 in the meet.

## BASEBALL

### TUCSON, Ariz. **Angry White Sox GM lashes back at Thomas**

Angry and disgusted with the latest comments from former slugger Frank Thomas, Chicago White Sox general manager Kenny Williams fired back Sunday, calling the two-time MVP an idiot.

"He's an idiot. He's selfish. That's why we don't miss him," Williams said, responding to a Thomas interview that appeared in The Daily Southtown, a newspaper in the Chicago suburb of Tinley Park, Ill.

Since signing with the Oakland A's last month, Thomas has made it clear that he didn't appreciate the way his 16-year run with the White Sox ended, saying that chairman Jerry Reinsdorf didn't call him to tell him he wasn't coming back.

The greatest hitter in White

Sox history reiterated that point in his latest interview, touching on several subjects and adding that he and Williams didn't see eye-to-eye after Williams became GM following the 2000 season.

At the time, Thomas was unhappy that his next-to-last deal with the White Sox contained a diminished skills clause. He said the White Sox should have traded him after the playoffs that season.

He also repeated that had he known last fall the team wasn't going to bring him back — they later gave him a \$3.5 million buyout — he wouldn't have participated in a couple of ceremonial functions during the postseason. Unable to play because of an injury, he threw out a first pitch during the playoffs.

Later he was given the opportunity to address the crowd at the end of the White Sox's victory parade.

## GOLF

### CARLSBAD, Calif. **Ogilvy gets easy win in Match Play tourney**

Ten times during the Match Play Championship, Geoff Ogilvy watched his opponent stand over a putt that would have sent him home. There was no such stress Sunday when he made short work of Davis Love III.

Ogilvy pulled away with an eagle-birdie knockout punch and won 3 and 2 in the final tournament at La Costa Resort to join Craig Parry as the only Australians to capture a World Golf Championship event.

Ogilvy played 129 holes, the most by anyone in the eight-year history of the tournament, which included four consecutive overtime matches at the start of the week.

### TUCSON, Ariz. **Triplet wins in Arizona for third PGA victory**

Kirk Triplett started the final round with five straight birdies and had four in a row on the back nine, shooting a 9-under 63 to win the Chrysler Classic of Tucson for his third career PGA Tour victory.

Triplett, who turns 44 next month, was close to missing the cut after opening rounds of 68 and 71 left him at 5 under. But he sizzled on the weekend, shooting a 64 on Saturday en route to a 22-under 266 total.

He made the turn at 18 under and raced into the lead with birdies at the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th, holing a 51-foot chip from the left fringe on No. 17.

## Driving

But for Smith and other players, the game is more about developing relationships with people in a similar situation.

"It's a nice network for people with disabilities from all over," said Smith, who at age 35 is the team's president, coach and one of its 10 players. "It gives me an athletic and competitive outlet. There's not many things I do anymore. It's nice to have something where you get to be out there and be ultra competitive for a few hours a week."

But being the team's president and coach isn't even his full-time job. Smith runs a marine business, Indianapolis Marine, with his uncle, Rick Smith, and his brother, Steve Smith.

Besides running the business, he's also trying to organize events for the RHI Pacers.



STAFF PHOTO BY MATT GOOLEY/mooley@thejournal.net.com

The RHI Pacers' Kenneth Patterson goes for a layup during practice Thursday in Zionsville.

its name to the RHI Pacers.

Kemp, an Indianapolis resident, participated in this year's Feb. 16 NBA/NWBA All-Star Wheelchair Classic. He was the Pacers representative on the NWBA East All-Star team.

Kemp has played wheelchair basketball since the 1960s and started with a local team called the Indiana Olympians.

"I was the youngest kid on the team. Everybody else was an adult. I was taught how to play by some of the best players in the country who had Indiana ties.

"The most challenging thing is that you've got to concentrate since you can't jump and shoot (together). It's a game of positioning as much as anything. It's about getting an advantage."

Besides having one of the NWBA's most veteran players, the Pacers also have the league's youngest.

Kyle Killworth, 14, has played for the Pacers for just six months. But the Carmel resident is one of the team's primary players. And he didn't start playing wheelchair basketball until last year.

Killworth, who lost his left leg

to a birth defect, played traditional basketball in church leagues in elementary school with the aid of a prosthesis. But he couldn't move very well and quit using it.

Last summer he got involved in wheelchair basketball.

His mom was searching the Internet for summer camps and found a wheelchair basketball camp at the University of Illinois.

"I wanted to try it out and see how I liked it," said Killworth, an eighth-grader at Clay Middle School. "But I was also afraid of how I would feel when all the other guys were veterans and were a lot better than I was."

But he didn't have any playing experience. And he didn't even have a chair.

The camp provided him a chair, and Killworth got experience. The campers played games for nine hours each day and even during their free time.

"I liked the experience," he said. "It was tough. It's a little bit more fast-paced, and there are more little things you have to remember, like the position of your chair and leaning back in your chair."

Although he was intimidated by the other players' size at first, he loves playing now.

"I'm more physically able to sit higher than other players. I have more balance," Killworth said. "The closest I've gotten to someone my age is someone being 18."

"But I'm fine with it. It just means I can last longer than they can."

Killworth was selected to represent the U.S. Paralympic Academy and RHI at the 2006 Paralympic Games in Turin, Italy, from March 8 to 13.

And he plans on playing with the Pacers Juniors team when it forms later this year.

"I've always liked playing basketball and liked watching it," Killworth said. "I think it is a challenge."

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Center Grove senior Chris Oleksiak swims in the 200-yard freestyle during Saturday's IHSAA boys swimming and diving finals. He was eighth in the event.

# Trojan falls short of repeat

## CG senior third in 500 free; Cub dives into record books

BY GREG DODDRIDGE  
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

INDIANAPOLIS

Center Grove High School senior Chris Oleksiak didn't mind that North Central's Drew Sease beat him in the 500-yard freestyle at the state finals.

That's because the two will be teammates and roommates next year at Indiana University.

Sease swam a 4:30.47 to take the state championship in the 500 free at Saturday's IHSAA boys swimming and diving championships at IUPUI. Oleksiak finished in third with a time of 4:35.01.

At last year's state finals, Oleksiak beat Sease in the 500 free to become the first boys swimming individual state champion in Center Grove history.

"He's the guy that took my title," Oleksiak said. "I'm happy it was him."

They both took their recruiting trips to IU at the same time and became quick friends. Rooming together seemed like a natural fit.

"It's good to know who your



Franklin senior Josh Blackwell performs during Saturday's diving event.

roommate is going to be and how he swims," Sease said. "We're very good friends, very close. He's a great guy."

Sease was even acting as a future teammate on Saturday.

"Drew has been helping me out mentally, saying, 'Chris, don't worry about it,'" Oleksiak said.

Considering that he battled pneumonia last week and still was feeling sick on Saturday, Oleksiak was pleased with his performance, which also included an eighth-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle.

"To still get third place (in the 500 free), I couldn't be happier," Oleksiak said. "Deep inside, I tried to convince myself I had a chance, but I knew."

His illness left him with little energy.

"I could go fast, but I just couldn't go fast for a long period of time," Oleksiak said. "During the 500 (free) especially, I felt like I was almost suffocating."

North Central dominated the meet, winning its second straight state championship with 295 points. Center Grove finished 11th with 57 points.

Center Grove senior Paul Brogan earned a medal in the 100-yard breaststroke, finishing in eighth place.

Franklin senior Josh Blackwell

posted a 452.35 in the 1-meter diving event to place sixth, the highest finish ever for a boys diver at Franklin.

Blackwell had been to the state meet all four years, but he hadn't won a medal until Saturday.

"I worked all through the season to try to get on the podium," Blackwell said. "That was my goal for the season."

Franklin coach Kurt Hass, who is retiring as the Grizzly Cubs coach after 33 seasons, led his final meet Saturday.

"You don't miss the administrative part and the long hours, but you're going to miss the kids," Hass said. "They kept me pretty young for a long time."

Blackwell added, "He teaches a lot of things about life, like how to cooperate with the team and how to strive for success and be a good sportsman. I'm going to miss him."

Center Grove's 200-yard medley relay team tied for 14th, and its 400-yard freestyle relay team took 16th. Brogan took 12th in the 200-yard individual medley.

Center Grove senior Nick Swift placed 10th in diving.

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