

## LATEST NEWS

### COLLEGE FOOTBALL

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- > College HOF elects legends Paterno, Bowden
- > UF, UGA to end use of 'Cocktail Party' label
- > ABC to start Saturday Night College Football

### COLLEGE BASKETBALL

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- > Valparaiso leaving Mid-Continent for Horizon
- > Ex-Coastal Carolina coach joins Lowe's staff
- > Marquette parts ways with forward Mortensen



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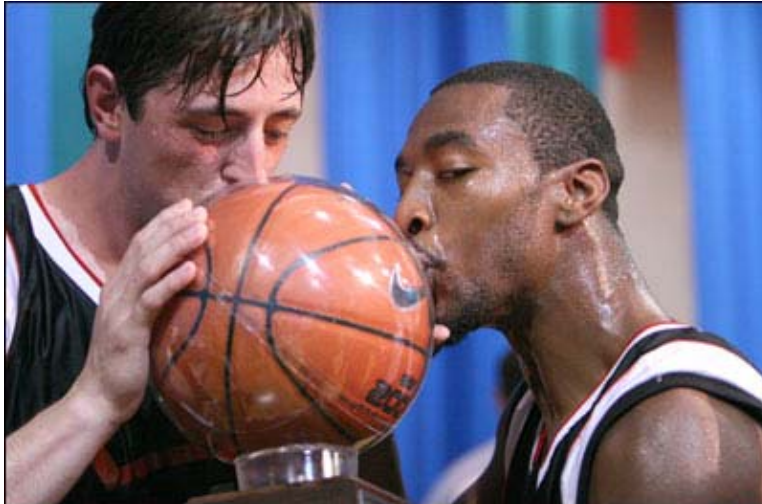


Photo by Johnny Vy

**WE'RE GOING TO DISNEYLAND:** Splash Mountain. Mr. Toad's Wild Ride. The Monkey Beast Special? When the best intramural basketball teams in the country met up at Magic Kingdom in California, they had visions of national titles dancing in their heads. But with Minnie and Mickey on the sidelines, naturally a dunk contest broke out and **a new flying legend was born.**

- > **Doom:** Hazing, strip poker and the rest of the week's weirdest stories
- > **Galleries:** Superfans | Action shots of the year | Oddball Photos

## HOT OR NOT



A member of UNC's Big Four was spied getting no love at a Chapel Hill watering hole, while a photo surfaced of an MLB pitcher tailgating with students in Happy Valley.

## THE VENT



The Northwestern women's soccer team is the latest in a long line of teams with hazing issues. Is hazing in college sports a major problem? How prevalent is it? What should schools be doing to stop it?



## MORE CAMPUS STUFF

- > **Gray:** Top 25 moments in college sports this year
- > **Isaacs:** I'm 5-6 and I declared for the NBA draft
- > **Mullen:** "Screw modeling. I wanna play football"
- > **Waxman:** SIOC's Dubious Achievements Awards

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**Trex:** Playoff guarantees have gotten out of hand

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### COLLEGE Truth & Rumors



**UCLA guards to workout for NBA.**

**Weis a wanted man by NFL teams.**

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## The Happiest Place on Earth IM hoop champs square off at Disneyland

Posted: Tuesday May 16, 2006 5:39PM; Updated: Thursday May 18, 2006 10:56AM

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By Adam Maya

It had been almost two hours since **A.J. Bryant** flew over the competition in the dunk contest. While his Georgia Southern teammates celebrated after beating Northern Kentucky to win the American Collegiate Intramural Sports (ACIS) national men's basketball championship, Bryant asked for one final assist.

"Omar, we gotta come up with a name for our dunk, where I jump over ya'll," Bryant said before his teammates quickly tabbed it, "Monkey Beast Special."

The leap, which cleared 6-foot-2 **Omar Gibson** and 6-foot **Ray Harris** while both stood up straight in the key, prompted about 150 heads to shake in amazement at the Anaheim Sports Center last weekend. "It only works if I jump over them two," beamed Bryant, who attempted the dunk after having already won the contest with a perfect score.

The Monkey Beast Special was just one of several fond recollections for all involved with ACIS. With the support of seven sponsors, ACIS gave out travel stipends to the eight intramural college basketball teams - four men's and four women's regional winners - from around the country. The students were also comped at the Disneyland Resort for four nights and were given three-day passes to Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure.

"The whole Disneyland experience, it's something I never got to do as a kid," said Northern Kentucky's **Will Adams**, one of several students visiting Southern California for the first time. "I'm a big kid, so seeing Goofy and Mickey Mouse up close and in person, it's something I can tell my kids. Maybe I can bring them one day."

That is exactly the type of response ACIS envisioned when it first launched in 1992. "This is like winning a lottery ticket," says president **Ian Leopold**, noting that ACIS works in conjunction with more than

### The Walk-On


Adam recently graduated from USC, where he wrote for the Daily Trojan for three years. He currently works for the Orange County Register.



**Bryant throws down the "Monkey Beast Special" after leaping over two teammates.**

Photo by Johnny Vy



Choose your team 



200 schools, with over 200,000 ACIS Basketball participants and reaching over 2.4 million students this semester. "ACIS is bigger than Little League. It's bigger than arena football. It's bigger than professional volleyball, and we don't really promote it a lot."


Although the ACIS brand name wasn't official until January 2005, Leopold and vice president **John Meinke** long ago began making strides in college intramural sports. Last weekend marked the 10th straight year that ACIS has provided intramural basketball teams with all-expense paid trips.

"A lot of these kids are wide-eyed and saying thank you left and right," Meinke said. "It's really rewarding for us, and it's a phenomenal experience for them."

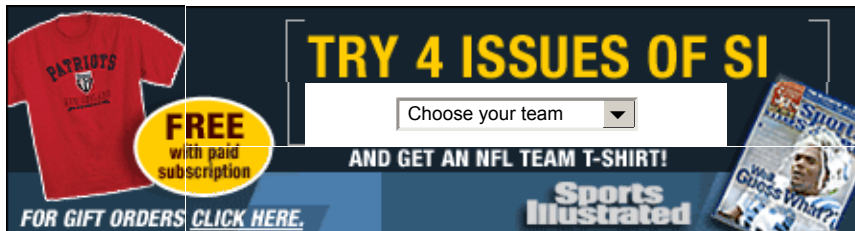
After being named tournament MVP, and claiming victories in two-ball and the dunk contest, Bryant walked away with swag that included four bags, three plaques, two basketballs, a trophy, a backpack and an MP3 player. A pair of Nike Shox will be in the mail shortly.

"It's unbelievable, being with five, six of your best friends, halfway across the world for us," he said. "It's unheard of."

Like the Monkey Beast Special.

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