



# The Way I See It

by Timothy Egan  
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*And there went out a man baseborn from the camp of the Philistines named Goliath, of Gerth, whose height was six cubits and a span . . . and Saul said to David: thou art but a boy, but he is a warrior from his youth.*

*He put his hand into his scrip, and took a stone, and cast it with a sling, and fetching it about struck the Philistine in the forehead: and the stone was fixed in his forehead, and he fell on his face upon the earth.*

*And David prevailed over the Philistine, with a sling and a stone, and he struck, and slew the Philistine.*

—1 Samuel, Chapter 17

Please keep this story in mind as you continue to read.

On the night of Dec. 5, 1989, a game was to be played in Gates Gymnasium. The game was to feature the UWS women's basketball team taking on their cross port rival, UMD. The game was listed on schedules posted around campus and submitted to UWS authorities.

A Promethean reporter and photographer were assigned to cover the game. The only problem: there was no game.

A college game was scheduled but not played. A bitter rivalry between two teams, two cities, two colleges was to be played according to printed schedules. But it wasn't and many people were wondering for what reason.

The reason: the competition. A Goliath against a David. The difference this time was that Saul didn't let David compete.

All the Division II teams have been eliminated from the UWS women's basketball season because it is thought that they are unable to compete against the bigger schools. No quarrel

can be found in this if it were done in the future and not after these games have been already scheduled. These games have been slated and the season has already started, I would say it's just a little to late to cancel.

These actions do not bespeak courage and intestinal fortitude. These actions will not lead anyone down the path of glory or the road to victory. A game cannot be won if it is not played. In that case, a game cannot be lost if not played. Maybe that is the attitude that is being taken and if that is the case, I do not agree.

I believe there is more pride to be found in a lost but gallant effort. It is better to have played and lost than never to have played at all.

Where would the pitcher in "Casey at the Bat" have been if he wasn't allowed to pitch to muscle-bound slugger when he stepped into the box. Do you remember what happened?

*"Oh! Somewhere in this favored land the sun was shining bright;*

*The band was playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts were light.*

*And somewhere men where laughing, and somewhere children did shout;*

*But there was no joy in Mudville - mighty Casey had struck out."*

If that pitcher had not been able to pitch to the mighty Casey, we would never have been pleased with one of the greatest poems ever written.

And if Saul would have stopped David who knows where the hell we would be.

In order to taste the sweetness of victory and in order to beat a "Goliath" you have to put your pride on the line. You have to be willing to risk losing. A victory over a "Casey" is worth the risk.

And that's the way I see it.