

Laxers Have Mixed Season But Beat Penn 13-11

by John Terrell

Since that first disappointing game against Coor's Lite the PSU-Delco Lacrosse Club has played six more games; of those six games two were won and four were lost. Rather than describe each of those games I am going to describe two games that help to reveal the character of this team and the quality of the games which we played. The two games I am going to describe were both against the Penn Lacrosse Club. The first game was on March 27 and the second game, April 17.

The first game against Penn was lost by a score of 11 to 3. A major reason for losing was that we did not have two midfield units, which is something we have suffered from all season. That meant that our midfielders were tired and slow in getting back on defense, giving Penn some fast-break goals. In addition we could not quite find the key to scoring; we just didn't move the ball well.

In sharp contrast there was the second game three weeks later. We won 13 to 11. The two teams were very evenly matched and the contest was a very physical one. For the first time we had all of our experienced players present, thus giving us the opportunity to play with two midfield units. With two midfields we did not get caught short on defense and our offensive game was much stronger. It should also be noted that Penn was a considerably improved team since three weeks earlier. Two or three of their players had either played on their intercollegiate Division I team or could have, but didn't have the time. This game was played at a level that was very much above any other game that we had played that season. Everything went well: defense, the transition game, ball movement, ground balls, shots. Everything. It was an exciting game to watch and it was a fun game for the players. I'm sure that Penn played one of its best games also.

These two games represent the two extremes at which our team played. The biggest handicap was that, except for the second Penn game, we never had all of our experienced players at one game and therefore, could not run two experienced midfield units. A less important factor which weakened us was that our experienced players never regularly practiced together. Regular practice would have made for better teamwork. These comments are meant as observations and not as criticism. After all, this is a club and not a varsity team. As a club the players decide what they will and will not do.

On an upbeat note I would like to mention the players who have made the season a success even if it wasn't a winning season. Defense has been anchored by our three very capable starters Don Forcey, Joe Pettineo, and "Woody." In goal has been John Messina, who is our most improved player. In reserve on defense have been Rich McCarron and Andrew Stimmler, both of whom have provided experienced backup. At midfield and attack we have had the following experienced players: Tom Gatch, Joe Irwin, Jim Keough, Jim Kirk, Bob Liberato, Tim O'Hara, Jim Schorn, and Bernie Stromberg. Their experience and skill have contributed greatly to our offensive potential. Jim Schorn deserves special mention because he has such tremendous skills in all phases of the

game and a special mention to Jim Kirk who had six goals in the second Penn game. Mike Ackenbruck, though not as experienced and skilled as the midfield and attack players mentioned above, has played with our best players on midfield and thus given us depth. Finally, there are three players who were just learning the game and stayed with us through all of the games. They were Joe Hoffacker, Jim Kurriger, and Joe Veneto.

Special thanks go to our managers, Gina and Rae, who organized our supplies, ran the game clock, and kept the game statistics.



Delco's Laxers defend their goal against an attack by the University of Pennsylvania.

Photo by: David Rhoades

Sports Banquet Honors Campus Athletes

One hundred and thirty people attended Delco's Third Annual All-Sports Banquet April 28 at the Log Cabin Inn. A special presentation to the campus was made by Tiz Griffith, Athletic Director, who showed the four huge blue and white banners which will soon be hung in the gym to honor the campus' championship teams: men's tennis ('72 and '90), lacrosse ('90),

soccer ('76, '83, and '89), and swimming ('74 and '79).

Honored with Delco's oldest sports award for Outstanding Achievement in Intercollegiate Athletics were Joe Hoffacker, tennis; John Constantine, soccer; Charles Bannon and Keith Berry, baseball; Rich Malloy, men's volleyball; Mary Varano, women's basketball; Joe Giuna and Scott Smith, men's basketball; and Anne Marie Stanley and Kassy Gliem, women's volleyball.

Students who maintained over a 3.0 GPA while playing as varsity sport were presented with the Student-Athlete Award by Dr. Madlyn Hanes, Academic Dean.

They included Joe Giunta (3.15), basketball; Brian Rasiul (3.01), basketball; Daniel Inemer (3.26), basketball; Mary Varano (3.47), volleyball and basketball; Gioia Gaudiuso (3.85), basketball; Kelly Blair (3.51), volleyball; Sherry Richards (3.48), volleyball; Gretchen Gatchel (3.03), volleyball; Joe Hoffacker (3.08), tennis/basketball/lacrosse; Rob Lahrman (3.28), baseball; Eric Hatton (3.07), volleyball; Sean Sutton (3.53), volleyball; Ted Frain (3.63), tennis; Dennis Brennan (3.87), tennis; Ben Slater (3.60), tennis; Charles Compton (3.17), soccer; John Constantine (3.20), soccer; James

Kirk (3.31) soccer and lacrosse; Paul McLaughlin (3.16), soccer; Donald O'Hara (3.31), soccer; Evangelos Pastris (3.21) soccer; Joe Veneto (3.29), lacrosse.

Delco had a number of championship teams this year, and they were also recognized. The men's tennis team won the Commonwealth Campus Athletic Conference (CCAC) championship, while team members Michael Grace (4th singles) and Dennis Brennan (2nd singles) were individual champions. Coach Tiz Griffith was named conference Coach of the Year. Named to the all-conference team was Dennis Brennan.

Named to all-conference volleyball teams in both the CCAC and the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference (EPCC) was Kassy Gliem.

The men's basketball team was honored for being Eastern Division Conference Champions and runners-up in the CCAC championship. Joe Giuna was named to the CCAC 1st Team, and Craig Killenen was named to the 2nd team. Also honored was the men's volleyball team for being runners-up in the CCAC Open Tournament Championship.

Also named to conference teams were basketball players Mary Varano and Ginny McDowell (EPCC). Ginny was also named to the EPCC All-State team. Named to the EPCC all-conference baseball team were Keith Barry and Brain Marshall. Brain was also named to the EPCC All-State team.

Delco Baseball Team Posts 6-7-1 Season

Delco's baseball team finished their spring non-league season with a 6-7-1 record. By the end of the first half of the season at the end of March the team's record was 4-2-1, but in early April the team lost five in row. Co-Captain Rob Lahrman said that has been the pattern for the last few seasons: a strong start and then a weak close.

However, the team finished April with two stunning victories, a 15-3 romp over Neumann College and an 11-8 win over Delaware County Community College. The latter victory was especially sweet. "It was a standout game with Joe Hoffacker pitching," said Lahrman. "Beating DCCC was a high point of the season."

The Neumann win was a team effort, with Churck Bannan's pitching and hitting (4 for 4), Barry King's homerun, Keith Barry's six stolen bases, and Rob Lahrman's bases loaded double. And the score could have been even higher, but the game was called after five innings under the "10-run rule," which lets a team call the game if the other team is ahead by ten or more runs.

Contributing throughout the season were sophomore team members Keith Barry (co-captain, OF,SS), Barry King (RF,3B), Rob Russell (CF), Bill Monish (SS, P), Scott Smith (P), Joe Hoffacker (P), Rob Lahrman (1B, 3B), Chuck Bannon (C), Kevin Conny (2B), and Mike Gunther (OF).

Freshman team members expected to be the backbone of next year's team include Dan Bellapede (1B, RF, DH), Joe Corrigan (OF), and Mike Paccione (OF).

Coach Jim Diskin has been looking over the high school seniors and hopes to have a lot of new freshmen out for next fall's practice season. The team will return to a league season in the spring.

"I had a lot of fun this season," said Lahrman. "I've been playing baseball since I was five, and this is my last year of organized school playing. I'll miss it."

Intramural Season Ends Successfully

Intramural sports are alive and well at Delco thanks to student involvement and athletic trainer Barbara Rostick's organizational abilities. "It was a successful season, and there were many good games," she commented. "All the teams, especially the faculty/staff teams, did a really nice job."

In volleyball, the intramural play came down to a play-off between two teams. The champion team consisted of Bob Cunningham, Jim Kirk, Craig Sweeney, Marty Meenan, Steve Curry, Mark Bidoli, and Rich Bauman. In a closely contested match they beat their rivals, Dave Fisher, Scott Smith, Joe Giunta, Anne Marie Stanley, Drew Davis, Bob Bowden, and Bill Raymond.

In 3 on 3 basketball, the final game saw champions Andy Stritzinger, Mike Diorio, Lou Bayne, Ryan Kuss, and Jim Kirk defeat the first place team and last year's champions: Walter Lawrence, Terry Durham, and Walter Bullock. The champions also defeated the second place team in the finals.

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