

SPORTS



— Booters Struggle With Rough Season —

Early Problems Caused Slow Start

By Mike Doyle

Through the first month of the season, Penn State Delco's soccer team got off to a rough start, but show signs of improvement.

Their first win came on a forfeit by Haverford J.V. Following that, the team traveled to Penn State York for a tournament, where they lost both of their games. Their next game was at Williamson, losing by the score of 3-1. Jeremiah Eldredge kept Delco from being shut out by scoring their lone goal.

In their first league game, Delco lost to P.S.U. Mt. Alto in overtime. Tied 3-3 going into OT, Mt. Alto scored two quick goals. Delco battled back scoring another, but came up short. Traveling to Hazelton, Delco got their second win of the season by the score of 1-0 on strong defense including a spectacular game by goalie Christian Popinopulis. The game winning goal was scored by Bob Osborne. A 1-0 loss to Ursinus J.V. followed.

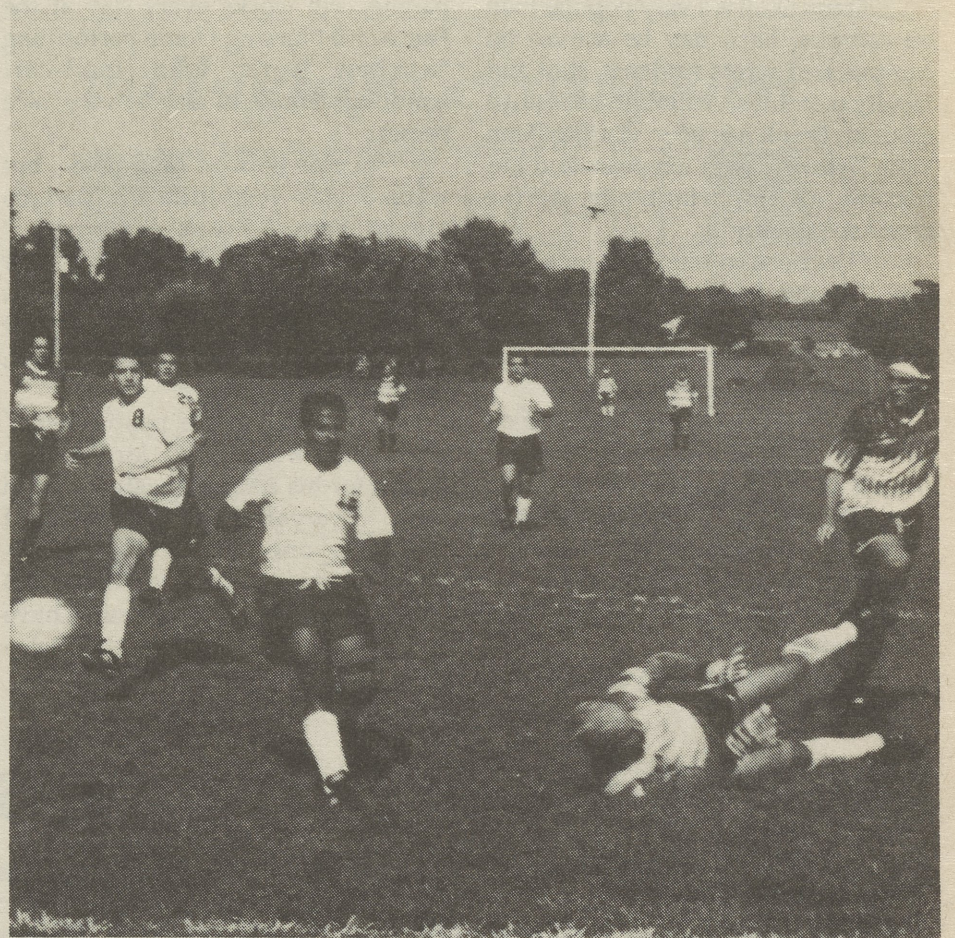
Matt Clarke, an assistant coach for the team, explained the inconsistent play early in the year saying, "It took a while for us to get used to playing with each other, but we are starting to get it down and gel together." Delco hopes to build on their successes and make a run for the playoffs.

Ogontz, Wilkes Games To Finish Off Season

By s. cohoon

The soccer team has had a busy season with sixteen games in the regular season, nine of which have already been played. And that's not even counting the two preseason scrimmages. The season, which began on September 9 with a win / forfeit to Haverford College Junior Varsity, continued with a series of tough shutout losses at the PSU York tournament. The team then also struggled with two close losses, the second a hard fought 4-5 loss in overtime to PSU Mont Alto. The first victory of the season came against PSU Hazelton in a one - zero shutout. PSU Delco's soccer team played Ursinus College's JV team and lost zero - one in a low scoring game. Games against PSU Berks and Valley Forge Junior College and PSU York followed.

Everyone is urged to go out and support Delco at their upcoming games. Thursday, October 14 the PSU Scranton team makes the long drive down the Northeast Extension of the PA Turnpike to at Delco. The following Monday the 18 the team plays Weidner JV at Weidner's beautiful Chester campus for a 4:00 pm game. Go ahead and make the ten minute drive to see some local athletes. Other upcoming games include PSU Ogontz at home on October 20 and PSU Wilkes Barre on the 23.



Delco defensive players team up to block a shot from a Berks striker at a recent game.

Photo by: WES TOMLINSON

Tennis Season Ends in Victory

By Wes Tomlinson

Tiz Griffith, Penn State Athletic Director and Tennis Coach has a favorite piece of advice for her tennis players: "Keep your eye on the ball." And that is what the tennis team has been doing this season.

The Delco tennis team finished the season with a respectable three wins and two losses. They defeated Penn State teams from York, Schuylkill, and Mt. Alto campuses; losing to strong teams from Penn State Ogontz and Hazelton campuses.

On October 3 and 4, in individual competition at University Park in the statewide Commonwealth Campus

Championship Tournament, Delco's Zang Duong and Nichol Gibbs won the Mixed Doubles and Jim Virgilio was the runner-up in Men's Second Singles.

Other outstanding Penn State Delco tennis players are Kim England, Elaine Weyana, Masha Vigdorchi, Allan McMillan, Andy Savill, George Davis, Brian Crockett, Tom Pflieger, Pan Erb, Chris Ta, and Rich Downes.

Tiz said, "Each of our tennis players have improved considerably during this season." Melissa McConnell, assistant coach and Athletic Trainer, added, "Our players really looked good on the courts this season."

College Athletes Assume Pros' Egos

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coaches is usually the result of pressure from the boosters to put out a product on the field that is competitive. These practices are almost the same as those of owners of pro establishments.

The recruiting process of a high school senior athlete resembles the same process of free agency in professional sports. When a sought after athlete is courted by a university, they are whisked away on a private jet to the school, given a grand tour, introduced to everyone famous from the university, and last, but not least promised everything under the sun if they com to play there. The process is repeated over and over again by every major school until the athlete decides who is offering the most for him or her. When that decision is made the college has just landed their prize.

The solution to this process is most difficult. One way to end this is to penalize universities more strictly for violations of the existing rules. Too many universities receive repeated probations only to break the same laws a few years later. Schools should be forced to exist on the same plane as their fellow institutions and by doing this the student-athlete will benefit.

An alternate solution would be eliminate of scholarships and just pay the players money. Often schools break NCAA rule when they pay a player, or a booster gives a student a loan, or a potential pro signs a contract with an agent. We could rid ourselves of this problem by just giving the athletes money. This way nothing illegal is taking place and everybody knows who is getting how much. The drawback to this is that the nationally renowned powerhouses with the big

A new sports season has arrived on campus. No it is not the soccer season, volleyball season, or even the tennis season that I am referring to. It is a season geared for those of us who are maybe pressed for time and can't join on of these teams. Or maybe you're not that athletically inclined, but still enjoy a good workout and like to stay competitive. The season I am referring to is fall semester intramurals.

There are two intramural sports offered this fall- Flag Football and Tennis, both of which are organized by Melissa McConnell.

Flag Football began on Monday, September 27. Eleven teams of eight players and one substitute have been competing on Mondays, Wednesdays and occasionally Fridays of every week (weather permitting) during

common hour. Six games are played in one day, three at a time. Games start at 12:35PM, then another three teams compete at 1:00PM. This game is the same as football, except that instead of tackling or driving your opponent onto the turf, you simply have to pull a flag out that is tucked into the players shorts.

Intramural Tennis began play Friday, October 1. Matches are played during common hour, but only on Fridays. The games are played to ten points a set and winner of two sets is the victor. At last check this program was in jeopardy of being wiped out, because of a lack of student support. As of October 5, only four people had signed up to compete in tennis.

Anybody who is interested in playing any intramural sport should contact Melissa in the trainers room.

television contracts such as Notre Dame, Michigan, and Penn State would never lose to a school with less media exposure and less money. But on the other hand this is the least a school could do for somebody who is sacrificing their body and possibly their future earning capacity for the betterment of the school.

In general I think the way universities behave in regard to their athletics is a disgrace. They perform their practices with no regard at all for the student that they are ruining. Many times kids get into college, play a sport, and graduate not knowing how to even read. The universities must stop and think and come to the realization that they are an institution of higher learning, not a sports vocational school. They are letting too many young people use college as simply a springboard to stardom in sports. What they are

forgetting is that only a handful of the college athletes ever set foot on a playing field after college. These are the ones that are being mistreated.

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