

Eye on Sports

Volleyball team wants a net gain

By KAREN KARASZKIEWICZ
Lion's Eye staff writer

The Penn State Delco volleyball team has begun a new and apparently season.

The Lions made the conference playoffs last year, and coach Tom Pflieger expects this year to be just as successful. With much needed practice, that is.

Many of the members of the team are returners.

Among them is Lauren Longbottom, "the best setter in the league," according to Pflieger.

The team's best hitters include Carolyn Hilden, Joanna Cosans, and Uy Sovanchorvy, all returning from last year.

"The volleyball team is a lot of fun [and] I'm looking forward to a great season," says Hilden.

The team features perseverant players, Pflieger said, but like all teams, there is always room for improvement. Pflieger said the team needs to work on its defense.

"We hit hard, but we need to be more consistent," he said. He also said that he wants a backup player for every starting position in order to push the starting players.

The members of the team have personal goals as well.

"I need to improve my passing and swinging skills," said Sonali Patel.

The team members say they're united in being a very devoted squad.

"We play as one, and stay positive to meet our goals," said Stephanie Dolhancey. "We show what dedication is."

Teamwork is important to the members of the volleyball team, according to Cosans.

"Each day, practice, and game, we become closer," she said. "A team is what we are, and what we will always be."

The most important matches of the season are those at the two CCAC South tournaments, which account for one-third of the total matches for the year. The first tournament took place on Sept. 14 and the second will be on Sept. 28.

What do you think of new Lion's Eye?

The staff of the Lion's Eye has been hard at work this semester creating a new and perkier newspaper.

Our goals have been to change the look, the content and the quality of the newspaper.

We hope we've done that.

Now, we want to know what you think. Please tell us what you think. Have we accomplished the goals we set out to meet? Is there something missing? Is there something that needs to go?

Here at the Eye, we're all ears.

Leave your comments in the Lion's Eye mailbox, first floor Main, or e-mail aac136@psu.edu.

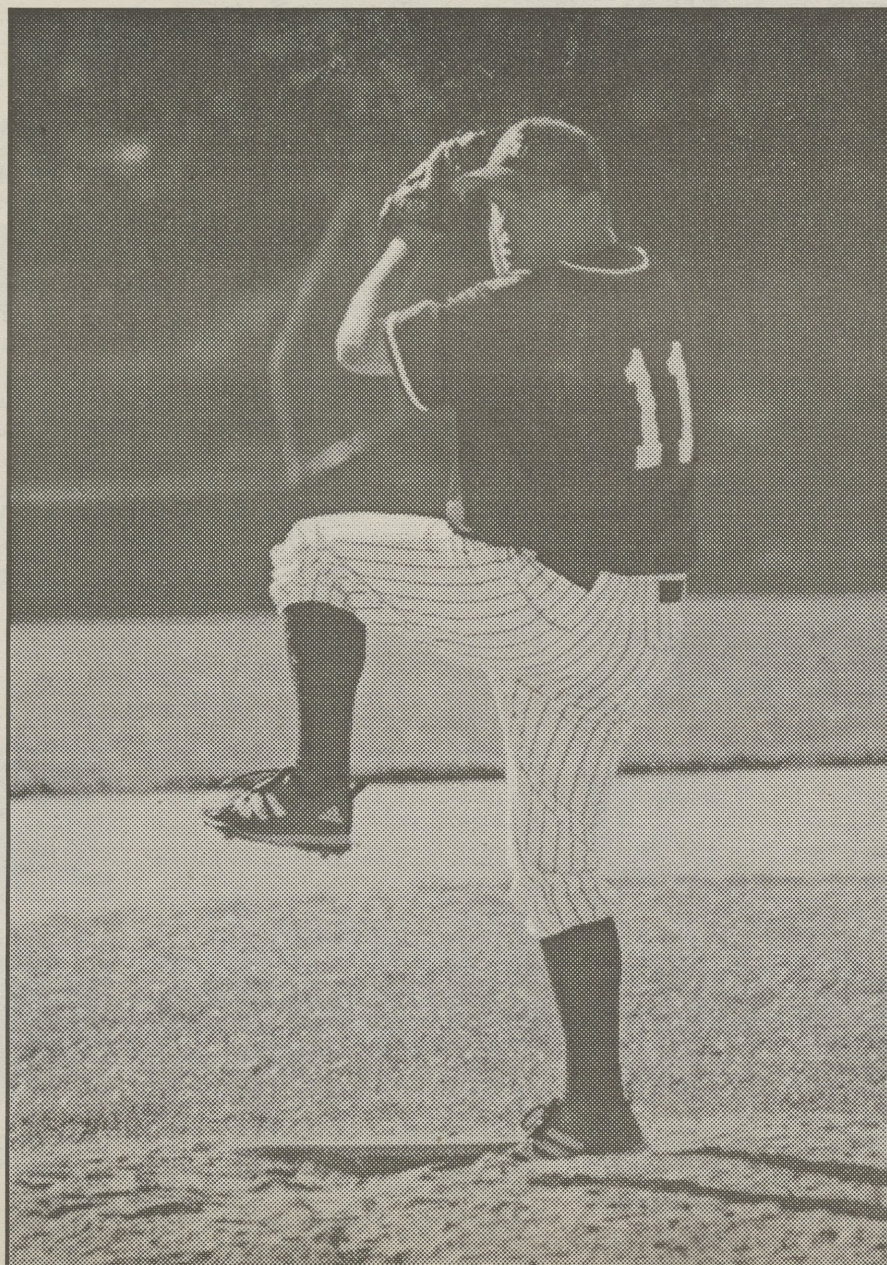


Photo by Antea Consorto
Tom DePrince winds up for the pitch during PSU Delco's game against Philadelphia Community College. The team hopes to make a run at the CCAC championship.

Baseball making run at a title?

By DAN ZACHER
Lion's Eye staff writer

The 2002 Penn State Delco baseball team is looking toward its returning players and some new faces to lift it to the CCAC championship.

As of Sept. 15, the team was 9-3, 2-0 in conference play.

"I'm pretty optimistic we can make a good run at [the championship] this year," said Joe Dean, a utility infielder who played with the Lions two years ago. "We have a very solid group of pitchers and infielders. We [also] have a very solid chemistry and people taking leadership rolls."

The students are led by second-year head coach Jeff Vickers and assistant coach Joe DiAntonio; both coaches are also physical education instructors at Garnet Valley High School. Together they hope to improve on last year's record.

"We played well, but we took our lumps," Vickers said of his first year. "We only had 4 players returning [from the previous year]. It is a world of difference between this year and last."

This year's club has more returnees than last year's, and the coaching staff hopes they will help them to a better start. Among them are Dean; third baseman Matt Click; short-stop Chris Renzi; outfielder Bob Boucher; outfielder/pitcher Tom DePrince, and staff ace Larry Waterfield. Added to the mix are players of various levels. Two players that Vickers is "looking for good things from" are freshmen, Frankie Flaim, and, Ed Dolecki.

This year, participation is not a problem. "For the first time we had to cut players," said Tiz Griffith, athletics director. "I still have kids coming in [wanting to play in mid September]." Six others have been turned away solely because there isn't enough room on the roster to hold them.

Baseball is a member of the two leagues that play in the fall: the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference (EPCC) and the Commonwealth College Athletic Conference (CCAC). The EPCC is made up of the community colleges, junior colleges and Penn State campuses in the area. The CCAC is solely composed of Penn State campuses.

The CCAC is split into two conferences which divide the Penn State campuses into the western and eastern conference. The winners play for the title in University Park.

The CCAC is the one that Vickers hopes his team will be able to do well in and Sunday, the Lions face off in a doubleheader against regional rival Penn State Abington.

"[Abington] has turned into a heated rivalry it should be a good one," said Dean. Abington won both games last year, by 4-2 in Game 1 and by the mercy rule in game two. Because of that year the club is looking to exact some revenge. This game can be seen Sunday on Penn State Delco's baseball field at noon.

International roster is story of soccer season

By DAN ZACHER
Lion's Eye staff writer

As the nation mourned on the one-year anniversary of Sept. 11, the Penn State Delco soccer team, featuring players from around the globe, played its scheduled game against Delaware County Community College.

More than 10 countries are represented on the Lions team, including Turkey, Korea, and Egypt. The lions are the personification of the American Melting Pot.

"I think it is great," said freshman Raul Amador. "It is the most mixed it can be. You get to learn [about] different cultures."

Amador, the center midfielder, is a native of Nicaragua and played for the American Nicaraguan School where, according to his teammates, he played on national teams.

"Raul is amazing," said sophomore Daniel Chou. Amador is thought of by

his teammates as the best player on the team.

The international flavor of the team, however, is played down by the players. They are more interested in seeing individuals and their achievements over the styles of play.

"It isn't easier or harder [coaching international students]," said head coach Ryan Burke. "I don't think [international players] are better or worse. It all matters on what high school you come from."

Not only is Burke teaching the players, but other team members are stepping up and trying to teach their back-ground.

"Where I come from, we play a harder soccer," said Amador. "I have been trying to teach them what I can."

Amador was the only player to score during their first game.

The Lions' next game will take place tomorrow, when they will play at Penn State Hazleton at 1 p.m.

| Volleyball Schedule | | | | | Soccer Schedule | | | | | Baseball Schedule | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----|------------------|----------|---------|-------------------|-----|-----------------|----------|---------|
| Date | Day | Opponent | Location | Time | Date | Day | Opponent | Location | Time | Date | Day | Opponent | Location | Time |
| Sept. 20 | R | Phila./Bucks | A | 6 p.m. | Sept. 22 | S | PSU Berks | A | 11 a.m. | Sept. 22 | S | Luzerne CCC | A | 1 p.m. |
| Sept. 22 | S | CCAC N & S | A | 11 a.m. | Sept. 26 | W | PSU Abington | H | 4 p.m. | Sept. 23 | SN | Northampton | A | 1 p.m. |
| Sept. 26 | W | Bucks/Stevens | H | 6 p.m. | Sept. 29 | S | PSU Wilkes Barre | A | 1 p.m. | Sept. 29 | S | Abington | A | 12 p.m. |
| Sept. 29 | S | CCAC South | A | 11 a.m. | Oct. 2 | T | PSU York | A | 4 p.m. | Oct. 6 | S | EPCC Tournament | | |
| Oct. 2 | T | Delaware/Stevens | A | 6 p.m. | Oct. 6 | S | PSU Mont Alto | A | 1 p.m. | | | | | |
| Oct. 3 | W | Central Penn/Harrisburg | | 6 p.m. | Oct. 8 | M | Williamson | A | 4 p.m. | | | | | |
| Oct. 6 | S | Harrisburg | | 12 p.m. | Oct. 11 | R | Manor | A | 4p.m. | | | | | |
| Oct. 11 | R | EPCC Playoffs | | | Oct. 13 | S | PSU Scranton | H | 1 p.m. | | | | | |
| Oct. 13 | S | EPCC Championship | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oct. 21 | SN | PCAA Championship (West) | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Coach: Tom Pflieger

Coach: Bill Munger

ALL EVENTS ARE DOUBLE HEADERS
Coach: Jeff Vickers
Asst. Coach: Joe DiAntonio