

# Eye on Sports

## Still hooping for some help

### Inexperienced women's team plays tough, looks for depth

By SARAH GALLATIG  
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Get on the ball and join in the game: Penn State Delco's women's basketball team is on the prowl, looking for more players.

"It's not too late to come out for the team," said Athletic Director Tiz Griffith. "You even get 1.5 credits for playing, which counts toward satisfying your gym requirements."

Griffith also pointed out that playing basketball is more than just having fun.

"Playing a sport enhances your education," Griffith said. "Statistics show that people who participate in sports do better in school."

And, says team member Florence Akuffo, it's fun, too.

"We have so much fun at practice," she said. "We learn a lot, but we always make sure we have a good time."

Griffith added that one of the best things about the whole thing is that you don't have to have basketball skills to

try out for the team.

"We have a lot of inexperienced girls on the team," said coach Joe DiAntonio. "It's a building year, with only one returning player; we have a new group of girls and a new coaching staff. The talent level is going to improve as the season goes on."

Although the Lions lost their first game to Community College of Philadelphia, 78-51, Thursday, they played well, and gained much-needed experience against another team at a high level of competition.

"They put in 100 percent effort," said DiAntonio. "They battled the whole time and demonstrated a lot of teamwork."

Assistant coach Larry Johnson agreed.

"For the first game, they played really well together,"

said Johnson. "They worked really hard."

Griffith was there, and was equally impressed.

"I was very pleased with the way they played," said Griffith, "and they are only going to improve."

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

Stacie Mann	G	So.	5-3	Chichester
Amy McGregor	F	So.	5-9	Haverford
Brooke Edwards	G	Fr.	5-7	Prep Charter
Dana Johnson	G	Fr.	5-4	Interboro
Molly Hoffman	F	Fr.	5-6	Chichester
Florence Akuffo	F	Fr.	5-6	Upper Darby
Sanu Yohannan	F	So.	5-6	Washington
Jillian Reilly	G	Jr.	5-0	Card. O'Hara

#### UPCOMING WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

Tonight	at DCCC	6 p.m.
Nov. 22	PSU Mont Alto	1 p.m.
Nov. 24	at PSU Abington	6 p.m.
Dec. 2	PSU York	6 p.m.
Dec. 4	at Harrisburg	6 p.m.
Dec. 9	at PSU Berks	6 p.m.
Dec. 11	at Northampton	6 p.m.
Dec. 13	Manor	1 p.m.

#### UPCOMING MEN'S SCHEDULE

Tonight	at DCCC	8 p.m.
Nov. 19	Wilmington	7 p.m.
Nov. 24	at PSU Abington	8 p.m.
Dec. 2	PSU Scranton	8 p.m.
Dec. 5	at PSU McKeesport	8 p.m.
Dec. 6	at PSU Beaver	3 p.m.
Dec. 9	at PSU Berks	8 p.m.
Dec. 11	PSU Wilkes-Barre	7 p.m.

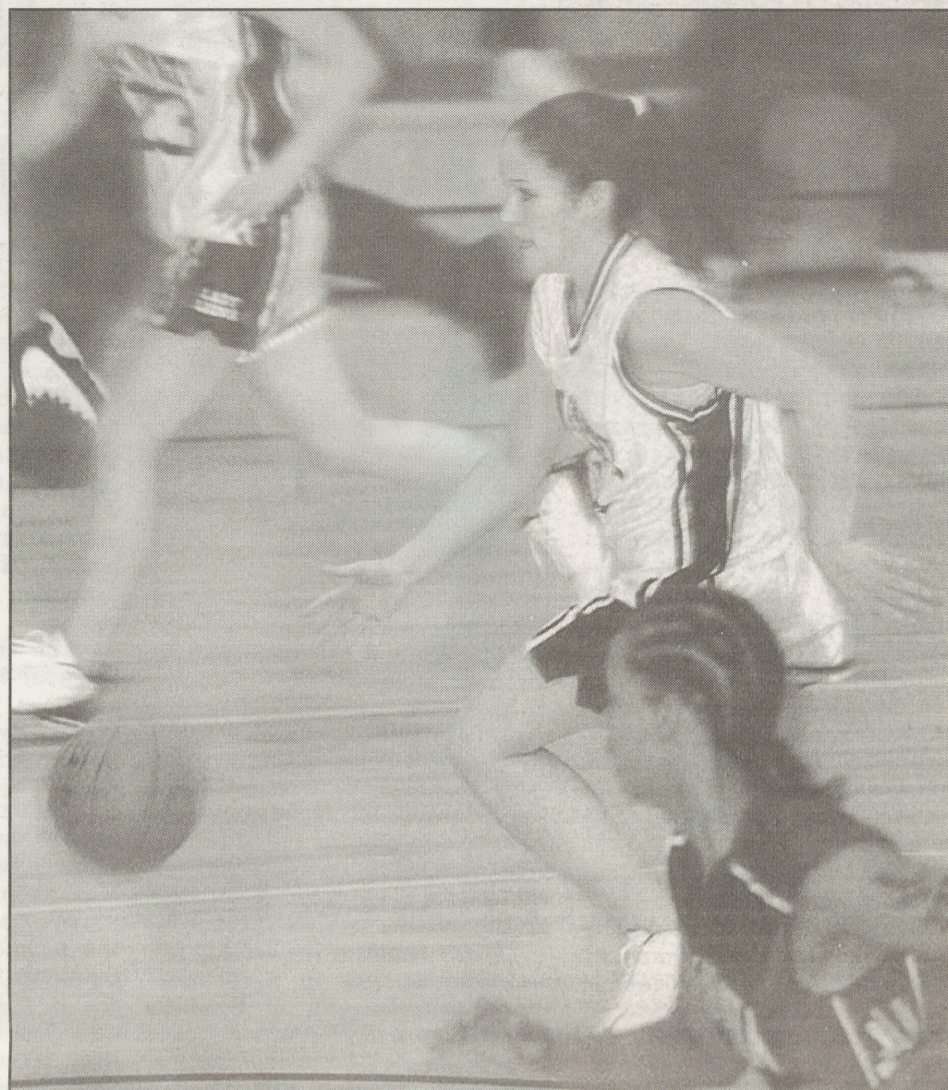


Photo by Antea Consorto  
Dana Johnson, a freshman from Interboro, hustles the ball up the court during Penn State Delco's loss to Philadelphia Thursday on campus.

During the first half Thursday, the Lions trailed by only four points, but during the second half, despite the offense's best efforts, the shots kept falling short.

"The shots kept rolling off the rim," said DiAntonio.

In the second half, Philadelphia managed to score numerous field goals in a row, and despite the Lions' best defensive efforts, emerged victorious.

DiAntonio also thought the team lost steam in the second half.

"It looked like we lost our legs in the second half," DiAntonio said. "We're going to work on conditioning."

The coach also said size was a factor. "The other team was a lot bigger," said DiAntonio. "We need to work on overcoming height with other things, like speed and agility."

The players were also satisfied with their effort.

"We played awesome!" said Brooke Edwards. "We lost, but we played a great and amazing game."

Molly Hoffman played her first basketball game ever, and was thrilled by the experience.

"We played really well for our season opener," she said. "It was really good considering many players haven't played basketball before."

## Feisty soccer team gave obstacles the boot

By JOHN HICKEY  
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After what appeared to be a long, difficult season from the beginning, the PSU Delco soccer team changed quite a few opinions when the playoff hunt came within reach. Held back with early injuries, the Lions had to manipulate their lineup and adapt to the new positions very quickly.

Coach Ryan Burke mentioned several key players that recognized a team problem and reacted quickly.

"We had players that fought through their injuries all season long, like Raul Amador," said Burke. "People feed off that and it showed on the field."

"Frank Schwiester also had a strong season as a striker."

Amador was the team's top scorer.

"We started kind of slow," he said. "We didn't know each other yet. We progressed as a team which helped us make it to the playoffs."

When asked about his nagging injuries, Amador simply replied, "Whatever I have to do for the team ..."

Burke said Critter Wrigley, the starting sweeper, also was injured early and struggled to continue. With that important position vacant, Burke found Eric Richardson a capable replacement.

"I didn't want to play sweeper," said Richardson. "It isn't my strong position, but the coach said he needed me to step up. In the end I was glad I made the sacrifice."

According to Burke, Richardson "took over back there."

Hisham Rahmi came out for the squad last season having never seen a soccer game in his life. This year he was asked play goalie, rose to the occasion and is now considered an essential part of the team.

Overcoming obstacles seems to be second nature to the Lions.

"They're a great group of guys," replied Burke. "Everyone plays at 110 percent."

Despite a first round loss to PSU Hazleton, the team had a lot to say about where they came from to end up in the playoffs.

PSU Delco's soccer team is proof that hard work, sacrifice, and having fun can bring you a long way in sports.

*Editor's note: A photo caption in the last issue of the Lion's Eye was incorrect regarding the soccer team's playoff accomplishments. We apologize for the error.*