

Eye on Sports

The Icemen Cometh

Delco's Ice Hockey Team has a Defining Weekend in Albany

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On Jan. 21, the Penn State Delaware County ice hockey team traveled to Albany, New York for a two-game weekend with Hofstra and SUNY (State University of New York)-Albany. These games would prove to be a deciding factor in whether or not Delco makes a run at Nationals.

PSU-Delco's opponent in the first game was Hofstra, which suffered a painful loss to Albany on Jan. 20.

Hofstra lead most of the way, but fell apart in the third period giving up four goals, and eventually losing 6-3.

Delco came out in their game against Hofstra firing on all cylinders, scoring two goals in the first period. The first goal was scored by left-winger Nick Gallo, and the second by line-mate Si Swing. Delco carried the 2-0 lead into the second period.

In the middle of the second period, Ian Windle tallied a goal by firing a shot from the right face-off circle which beat Hofstra's goalie's high stick side.

Late in the second period, Delco suffered a defensive lapse giving up a breakaway goal and bringing Hofstra back within two. The period ended with the score at 3-1.

The third period saw much of the same from Delco, putting one more goal on the board by freshman Kirk Llewellyn.

Late in the third period Hofstra made one last push by cutting the lead back to two, with a goal from low in the slot.

When the game finally ended, Delco had come out victorious 4-2 over Hofstra.

The team hoped to take the momentum from the win



against Hofstra into their next game the following night, against SUNY-Albany, ranked fourth ranked in the Atlantic region.

SUNY-Albany earlier in the year had embarrassed Delco with an 11-1 win, in Delco's own tournament.

With the memory of what happened the last time they played in the back of their minds, the PSU stickmen stepped back on the ice with Albany.

This time Delco had a lot at stake. With a win, Delco would most likely get a bid for the national championship tournament in Fort Meyers, FL. If they lost, they could kiss nationals goodbye.

The PSU team was anxious for a return bid to the nationals, last year placing eighth of 18 teams.

This game would come to define the season for Delco. They hit the ice ready for the challenge.

Delco jumped to an early 2-0 lead with goals by Mike Kelly, and his linemate Ian Windle. Albany answered back in middle of the second period with two power play goals within three minutes of each other.

Delco quickly countered though, with a power goal by Ryan Cell, who scored while being pulled to the ice from behind giving Delco a 3-2 lead. Albany answered back

yet again, putting one in the net five minutes later and tying the game. The 3-3 deadlock would stay that way to the end of the second period.

The third period was disappointing for Delco.

Early in the period they received two power plays, on which they were unable to capitalize. They couldn't get an offensive pressure and most of the players were in their defensive zone.

Albany really turned it on late in the third, scoring in the final three minutes to take the lead, 4-3. They would add an empty net goal, after Delco pulled goalie, Jeff Wild, for an extra attacker in hopes of tying it up.

When the buzzer finally sounded, Albany came out on top 5-3, and put to bed all hopes Delco had of attending Nationals.

"We left it all on the ice, and sometimes the bounces just don't go your way," said Ryan Cell, a center for the team.

Left-winger Brian McCoy added, "We lost as team, and everyone played their game."

Most members of the team were more disappointed with the score than with the way they played.

Team members felt they couldn't have done more, in the words of Cell, "sometimes the bounces just don't go your way."

Delco's Ice Hockey Upcoming Games

Feb. 8 at 3:30 p.m. at IceLine in West Chester against Johns Hopkins. The team faces off against Lehigh at 10:15 p.m. Feb. 10 at Steel Ice in Bethlehem. The team's last scheduled game of the 2006 season is at 3:45 p.m. Feb. 12 against Monmouth at IceLine.

High Hoops



Dana Johnson, (left) leading scorer on the PSU-Delco women's basketball team, teammate Megan Russo, and young Nittany Lions fan, take a break at a recent game.

This week, Delco's men's basketball team (bottom) will play: PSU Mont Alto on Feb. 7, Williamson Trade School on Feb. 9, and PSU Scranton on Feb. 11. The Lady Lions will also take the court against the women hoopsters of PSU Mont Alto and Scranton on Feb. 7 and 11.



The Coach's Corner

By JOE DIANTONIO

PSU-Delco Athletic Director

One of the major benefits in attending a smaller campus is the opportunity to play a major role in the groups, teams, and organizations offered at a particular campus.

Penn State Delaware County's athletic program is no different.

Our campus offers athletic opportunities in baseball, men's basketball, soccer, team tennis, women's volleyball, and women's basketball.

The benefits from being involved with a sports team goes beyond the desire for competition. The interaction with teammates creates an immediate social group that will last long after the season has been completed.

Having teammates as classmates lends itself to the formation of study groups, sharing of class notes, and a familiar face to help in the completion of group projects.

Penn State Delaware County competes in the PSUAC Athletic Conference which consists of fourteen other Penn State campuses throughout the state. Non-league games are also played against local two, and four year schools. The combination of the two provides our athletic teams with a high level of competition.

At this point in the year, men's and women's basketball are still battling for league wins and baseball will start up their spring season at the end of February.

It is never too early to contact one of our six coaches about the upcoming season. Visit our sports and fitness section at www.de.psu.edu to view all schedules, coaching contact information, rosters, and game results.

