

Brandywine Sports

PSU Brandywine Baseball:

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The Penn State Brandywine baseball team is continuing its struggles on the field. After the spring break trip to Florida for spring training, the team has struggled to pull out wins. The team now sits at 5-11 with 17 games to go. The team must dig deep in order to make a run at a championship, something the seniors, as well as the rest of the team really want.

The team has only won two games since they came home. They swept Williamson Trade school in their double header. Things were looking up for the team. After fighting off a nail biting victory in the first game with a walk off sac-fly from Travis Crammer in game one, the team came into game two feeling good. They won the second game a little easier 8-2 behind George Nikonenko. George went six innings allowing two earned runs while walking four and striking out four. It was a team effort in every way, fielding, base running, hitting, and pitching. Brandywine stole 13 bases while only being thrown out once. Three players contributed two RBI's each including senior Bobby Harper. Freshman catcher, Carmen Scota, helped eliminate base runners by throwing out three. This was an all-around good game by the team.

The team has since had a falling out on the field. They have lost their last four games, two to Penn State Hazleton and two to Penn State Beaver. They can still make a run for the championship with about half of the season still left play. The schedule doesn't get any easier for the team as they look to form together and play baseball the way it is meant to be played.

I'm certain Coach Cal is formulating a plan for the team, so they are able to have a successful remainder of the season. He always has something up his sleeve and knows the game of baseball as well as the next guy. Being a player and coach for the majority of his life, Coach Cal has seen every situation possible and I have no doubt in my mind that he will get a fire lit under his team as they push for a winning season. He knows his players and he knows baseball. That's a winning combination in its self. As long as the team is willing to listen and work together there is no reason why they can't overcome this struggle and turn things around for the remainder of their games.

Good Luck Penn State Brandywine baseball, as you move on in your season!



Brandywine Baseball sweeps Williamson Trade in a double header last sunday!

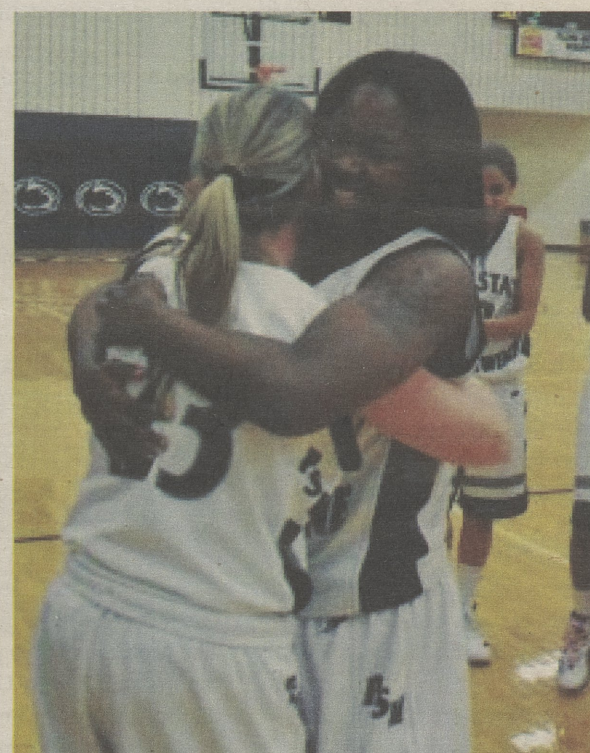
"Photo courtesy of the Penn State Athletic Department"

Men and Women's Basketball End up on Top

By Bobbi Caprice- *Lion's Eye Guest Writer* - bmc5269@psu.edu

With the conclusion of the men's and women's basketball season, on March 7, 2012 the United State Athletic Conference announced the All-American and All-Academic Award Winners. Penn State Brandywine came away with three All-American's. The Brandywine men's basketball team star player, Sophomore Rasheed Wilkins, received the highest honor. He was named for the second year in a row to the Men's D-II All-Americans. He is one of ten players in the country to receive this honor. Along with being honored as All American he also scored his 1,000 point this year in their game against New Kensington.

On the women's side, the team came away with two award winners. Senior captain and 1,000 point scorer, Shari Harper, received the Women's All-American Honorable Mentions honor. This has named Harper to be within the top 28 players in the country. Along with Harper, Junior Captain, Bobbi Caprice, also received an honor. Caprice was added to the All-Academic list. The Penn State Brandywine Athletic Department is so proud each athlete.



Photographed above (left) is Sophomore Rasheed Wilkins after shooting his 1,000 point. And (right) Junior, Bobbi Caprice and Senior, Shari Harper sharing a hug for their achievements this season.

"Photo courtesy of Penn State Athletic Department"

Ice Hockey Season Recap

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Hockey player getting back on defense.

"Photo courtesy of The Penn State Athletic Department"

The Penn State Brandywine Men's Ice Hockey team has yet another trophy to add to their collection. They recently won the Delaware Valley Collegiate Hockey Conference (DVCHC) championship for the third year in a row.

This was done after having a shaky start to their season winning just three of their first eleven games. Knowing they had to turn things around if they wanted a shot at winning a championship, they worked hard and it paid off. They won five games in a row and continued to win twelve of their last seventeen games including playoffs. They finished the season 15-13 overall and 14-13 in their conference.

The team really had to work hard if they wanted to continue their season into the playoffs. Long and hard practices, working on every part of the game was a must for the team that struggled in the beginning of the season.

Going into the championship game, the Lion's hockey team knew what to expect, having been here the last two years. They knew who they were facing, Alvernia, who they played twice during the season. They split the season meetings, with each team winning one game. So each team was sort of familiar with the other. The Lion's took a lot of heart into the first game. Winning game one was a huge step, knowing they were up and only had to win one more game. They won the first game by shut-out 2-0. Game two had a different outcome unfortunately. The Lion's lost the game 3-4. But this did not put them down, if anything it sparked them to take the ice the following night with fury. They played their hearts out and were able to pull out a victory by three goals 7-4. In hockey this is a decent lead to have.

Looking forward to next year, the team is only losing four players to graduation. This means that the majority of the team is coming back to play for another trophy. This is always a good thing for any team, not losing a lot of players for the next year. The team should be able to maintain a connection between each other. This also allows for the welcoming of new faces and new talent to the team.

Hopefully next year the team is able to get off to a better start than this year, with the same result as the last three years. There is nothing wrong with bringing home more trophies, we can always build a bigger case. All that matters is that every athlete performs to the best of their ability and that the team works together on and off the ice. It is very important for the players to be able to communicate between each other off the ice, to make it easier on the ice. We look forward to seeing another great season!