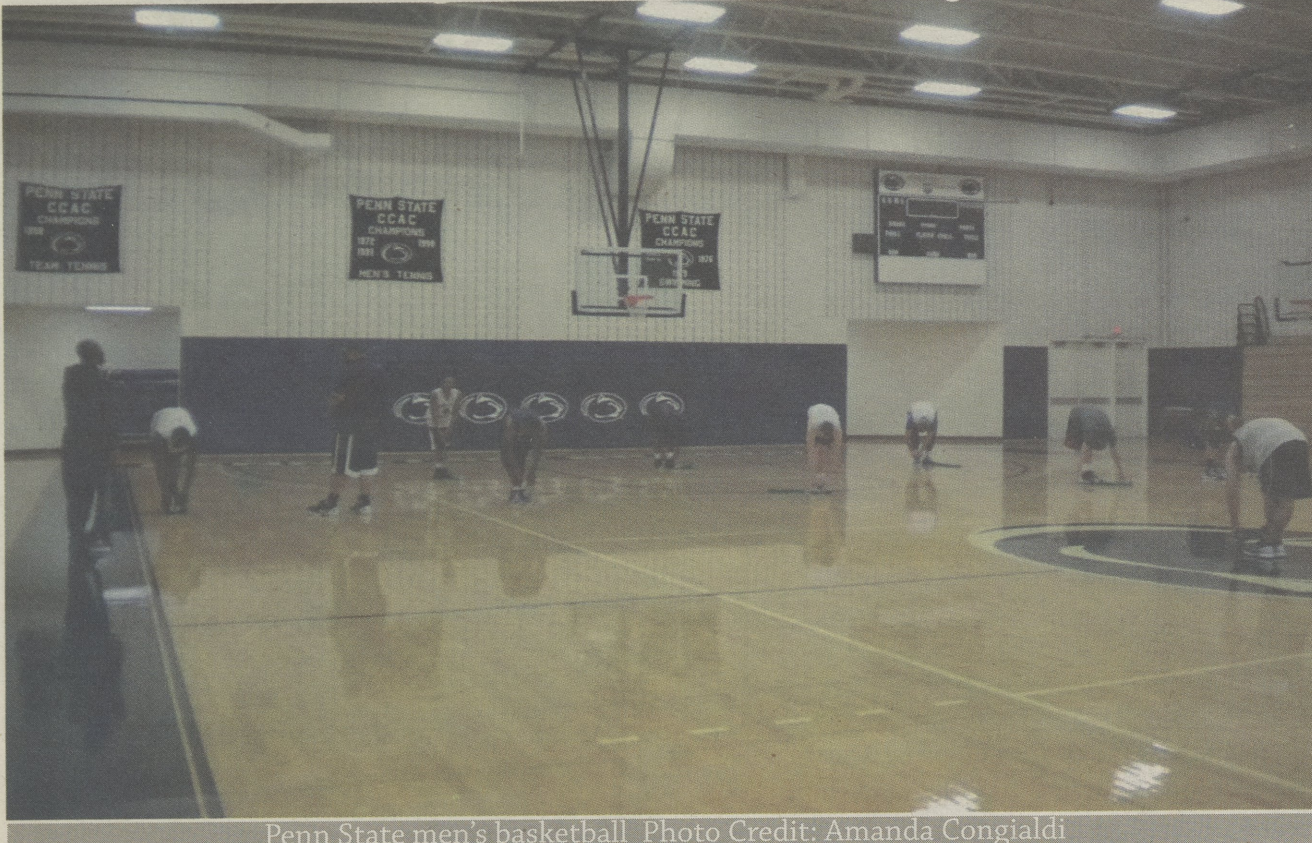


Brandywine Sports

Out With Old, In With New

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Penn State men's basketball Photo Credit: Amanda Congialdi

The 2013 Penn State Brandywine men's basketball team boasted two All-American athletes, a 17-10 record and a Final Four appearance.

This season, the team suffered big losses before the season started. Their two leading scorers from last season, Rasheed Wilkins and Dan Robinson, are no longer student-athletes at Brandywine. Wilkins, a 3-time All-American, former Player of the Year and a 1,000-point scorer, transferred to West Chester University in the summer to play for the Golden Rams his senior season. Robinson, a transfer from East Stroudsburg last season and a recent 1st team All-American, left the team for personal reasons.

The duo made big splash plays for the Nittany

Lions last season, as the team's top two scoring leaders averaged 17.2 (Wilkins) and 17.8 (Robinson) points per contest, respectfully. Assistant coach Elie Daniel realizes how tough it is to lose a duo as efficient as Wilkins and Robinson.

"A duo like that happens once in a blue moon," Daniel said. "It is really hard to find a guard and a big man that good. We worked hard to get them."

Daniel admitted their absence leaves multiple holes for the returning players and new recruits to fill. "We lost rebounding and scoring. We lost leadership. They were able to run the court and control the team," Daniel said. "We lost pure talent."

Despite the loss of two of the league's best play

ers, Daniel's expectations of the team, which consists of just three upper-classman (one senior), is nothing shy of a league title.

"Our goal every year is to win the Championship. We want to win as many games as possible," Daniel said.

With every loss, though, there is something gained. In this case, the gain is young, eager players willing to learn and craft their basketball skills.

"Experience might kill us," Daniel boldly stated. "But our defense is way better than last year. We are able to pressure the ball at will. The young players are quicker and more aggressive."

"It doesn't happen often where guys want to play defense," Daniel added.

The Brandywine men's basketball is currently ranked 3rd in the conference. With the season fast approaching, Head Coach Stewart Ross, who was last season's Coach of the Year, and Daniel have a lot of work to do to improve on last season's heartbreaking loss to rival Penn State Beaver in the Final Four.

Who will emerge as the team's new leader? The first true test will come November 15, as the team will compete in a Tip-Off Tournament at Lycoming College to start the season.

To see the complete men's basketball schedule, go to: psubrandywineathletics.com.



Photo courtesy of Penn State Brandywine Athletics

The Penn State Brandywine Volleyball team finishes 2nd in the PSUAC Championship. (18-11, 17-4 PSUAC)



Photo courtesy of Penn State Brandywine Athletics

Brandywine Freshman Cross Country runner Jen Petrella will compete in the USCAA Cross Country National Championships. The Championships will be held in Syracuse on November 7 & 8.



Congratulations to the Penn State Brandywine Men's Soccer team. The team won the Penn State University Athletic Conference Championship (PSUAC) for the first time since 1989 defeating Penn State Beaver 5-1.



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