

West Chester Booters Topple Lions; Berzkalns Scores Lone Nittany Goal

By IRA MILLER

Inability to take advantage of scoring opportunities cost Penn State's soccer team dearly in its opening game Saturday at West Chester.

Staving off a 10-minute State offensive siege at the very outset of the game, the Rams scored the first time they had possession and went on from there for a 3-1 triumph. It was the 16th straight win for the defending national champions.

Dale Melrath, the smallest man on the field, became the day's biggest hero for coach Mel Lor-back's Rams.

Melrath, a 5-7, 140-pound junior left wing, scored two goals for West Chester. His second score came moments after the start of the third quarter, putting the Rams ahead, 3-0, and dampening the Lions' hopes of a second-half comeback.

PAUL HEINE opened the scoring for West Chester, taking a pass from John Harnish during a scramble in front of State's goal and putting it in from about five yards out at 10:45 of the first quarter.

The Lions had done all the attacking — without success — up to that point, but had done little shooting. For the game, Ram goalie George Jungels had to make just nine saves compared to 25 for State's Al Shuss. Both teams received 11 corner kicks during the game. (For the uninitiated, the offensive team receives a corner kick when the ball goes over the goal line, last touched by a defensive player.)

When George Berzkalns finally broke the ice for the Lions, converting a pass from Al Schattschneider at 17:05 of the third, it was simply a case of too little and too late.

State coach Ken Hosterman blamed the loss on his players' defensive-mindedness.

"When the offense failed after that initial thrust and West Chester put through that quick score, they became more and more defensive-minded," he said. "In-



GEORGE BERZKALNS



TOM FLANAGAN

stead of going right in and attacking, when we had the ball we'd just wait around and see what they'd do."

"WE MISSED some good opportunities. We had as many, if not more scoring chances then they had. But they made theirs count."

"Dieter Heinz looked good at center half with some nice head work," Hosterman continued. "He came through very nicely for us. Tom Flanagan and Schattschneider also looked real good at times. It was Al's (Schattschneider) first game and he didn't appear as relaxed as he had in practice."

Typical of State's defensive emphasis was a remark by Flanagan when asked by Hosterman after the game why he hadn't shot more.

"I was playing defensive," he said.

Melrath got his first goal at 10:30 of the second quarter after Shuss had made an initial save on a 20-yard shot by All-America center forward Don Williams. Shuss dropped the ball, though, and Melrath was on the spot to kick it in.

West Chester scored again at 1:15 of the third when Melrath, all alone on the left side, took a pass from Chuck Hays and rammed in a short shot.

STATE'S GOAL was the result of a three-man thrust with Val Djurdjevic passing to Schattschneider, who in turn got the ball to Berzkalns. Two minutes later, the Lions had the same setup, but Berzkalns slipped as he shot and Jungels saved it.

With two minutes left in the game, Jungels saved an almost-certain score with a desperation reach to flick away Flanagan's shot.

Shuss, too, had a busy afternoon in his varsity debut, being forced to stop almost three times as many shots as Jungels. One of the Rams' goals, though, scored when Shuss dropped the ball.

"We have got to get both those boys (Shuss and Stu Ross, State's other goalie) out of the habit of dropping the ball after they stop a shot," Hosterman said.

"They (West Chester) picked that right up and when they sent in a long shot, they'd rush right through after the ball. That's how they got the second goal when Melrath kicked it in after Williams' shot."

State goes against Colgate in its home opener Saturday at 1:30.

West Chester	1	1	1	0-3
Penn State	0	0	1	0-1

Goals: West Chester—Heine, Melrath 2
Penn State—Berzkalns. Saves: Jungels (WC) 9, Shuss (PS) 25.



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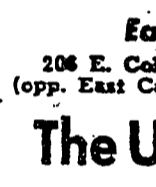
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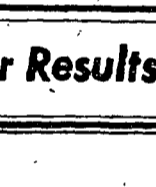
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