



Photo by H.R. Begley II

Chris Bahr downed the Hawks with three goals last year

In start of 'The Real Season' tonight Booters, St. Joe's clash

By RAY McALLISTER
Assistant Sports Editor

"The Real Season" starts at 7 p.m. tonight for a pair of soccer teams out on Jeffrey Field as they open the NCAA playoffs. For one, it will also end tonight.

Penn State's gone through 10 games and St. Joseph's through 13 just, in effect, to reach tonight's game. Almost incidental are the facts that Penn State went 8-0-2, its first undefeated season since 1955, and that St. Joe's went 11-2, winning the Middle Atlantic Conference title.

Last year the same two teams met out in Beaver Stadium for the opener of "The Real Season." St. Joe's led 1-0 at halftime, a lead which appeared pretty secure at the time with the tough defense the Hawks were employing. But Chris Bahr boomed home three goals and assisted on another as the Lions won 4-1.

This year both teams considered themselves stronger. St. Joe's came in here 8-0-4 last year but, despite two losses, does in-

deed look to be tougher. After dropping two of their first four games, the Hawks seem to have straightened themselves out. They've scored 21 goals in their past nine outings, while allowing only two. Not surprisingly, they've won nine straight.

Goalie Tom Pippet is, as much as anyone, the key to St. Joe's defense this year. He's allowed eight goals for an 0.62 per game average and he's come up with eight shutouts to run his career total to 24. "Actually they've got several men you might call 'key,'" Lion coach Herb Schmidt said. "(Halfback Ed) Blaney is an excellent ballplayer at midfield. He really does control it."

"(Forward Mike) Finegan's also an excellent ballplayer. There's no question about that." Blaney's pulled down a truckload of honors during his career, including an Honorable Mention All-American last year, and shared the team's MVP award with Pippet last season.

"Blaney really is an outstanding ballplayer," St. Joe's coach Jack Dunn said.

"He and (Penn State's) Chris Bahr are comparable in their abilities and in what they mean to a team."

"And where as you have your Andy Rymarczuk, we have (Duke) Swieconek, who is a comparable player, though maybe on just a slightly lower level."

Freshman Paul Lubbe has the Hawk scoring lead with seven goals and an assist. Swieconek (3-5), Ralph Cirino (4-3), Pat McGaw (5-1), Joe Powell (4-1), Blaney (4-0) and Finegan (2-2) follow.

Bahr, by way of comparison, has netted nine goals and has seven assists. Rymarczuk (7-6), John Marsden (6-2), Rick Allen (5-3), Ciro Baldino (2-3) and Jimmy Startzell (2-1) follow him on the Lions' scoring list.

But State's problem of late has been putting the ball in the net and Schmidt's been drilling his team in that area this week. This is, after all, not the ideal game for a team to go scoreless.

"We've been working on certain areas of the game we've not recently played well," Schmidt said. "We're working in the offensive phase of the game because we

haven't been doing the things we should have been doing. "It's a multitude of little, incidental things going on that shouldn't have been going on."

Schmidt never did get around to revealing much in the way of his offensive strategy but it's evident he's not been satisfied with the Lions' performance of late. Last time out, for instance, they were held scoreless in a tie with Pitt.

"That's part of the game," Schmidt said. "On a given day, one goal's difficult to get; the next, nine or 10 may be easy."

Though St. Joe's is thought of as primarily as a defensive team, it's offense, Schmidt feels, could well be the surprise of the game.

"St. Joe's can score," he said. "They've proven that all year. They're basically the

same team they were last year with the exception of a few new freshmen.

"They've got a good forward line which can score when needed. Maybe they haven't scored a lot but they've scored what they've had to."

CORNER KICKS — St. Joe's nine-game winning streak is a school record, the Hawks' mark set in 1970. This could well be the final

breaking the mark of seven set in 1962 and equaled in 1970. The eleven wins overall ties home appearance of seniors Rymarczuk, Rick Allen, Gary Kline and goalie Gary MacMath. Rymarczuk is in line for All-American honors, which would make him Penn State's first since Per Torgerson in 1957.

Half an hour after the game begins, Penn will host Drexel

'Skins rip Falcons 24-13

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite Atlanta's quick 10-0 lead, the Washington Redskins, behind Larry Brown's running and Bill Kilmier's passing, roared back to a 24-13 National Football League victory over the Falcons last night.

Brown scored Washington's first two touchdowns and became only the third running back in NFL history to gain 4,000 yards rushing in his first four seasons.

The upstart young Falcons took advantage of Washington mistakes to build

their early lead. Three plays after cornerback Ken Reeves picked off a Kilmier aerial, quarterback Bob Berry and tight end Jim Mitchell combined on a 36-yard pass play to open the scoring.

Atlanta boosted its lead to 10-0 just 12 seconds into the

second period when Bill Bell split the uprights on a 33-yard field goal.

Then the Redskins, who maintained their one-game lead over the Dallas Cowboys in the National Conference's Eastern Division, settled down and moved to their ninth victory in 10 games, their best record in 30 years. Linebacker Chris Hanburger's fumble recovery led to Washington's first TD, a one-yard dash by Brown, which left the Skins down 10-7 at the half.

Washington took the lead for good midway through the third quarter

Sugar Bowl tickets

Student Sugar Bowl ticket applications are being taken at the ticket office in Rec Hall at a price of \$7.50 apiece. However, ticket manager Bud Meredith encourages students to wait until after the Thanksgiving break to order. At that time, probably Monday or Tuesday, Penn State will receive its ticket allotment. Meredith said students would most likely be arranged in a block for cheering purposes.

Lions Lambert winner

NEW YORK (AP) — Sugar Bowl-bound Penn State was voted a unanimous winner yesterday of the Lambert Trophy, awarded annually for outstanding performance by a major Eastern college football team.

The Nittany Lions, who won nine games in a row following an opening loss to Tennessee, received all eight first-place votes and a perfect 80 points from the selection committee. They wind up the regular season Saturday against Pitt before meeting Oklahoma in the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Eve.

West Virginia, 8-3, finished second with 72 points, followed by Dartmouth, Penn, Yale, Army, Massachusetts, Cornell, Rutgers and Holy Cross.

Owners to study playoffs

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball would expand rather than cut its extensive post-season playoffs under proposals to be brought before the owners at their winter meetings, scheduled to open next Monday in Honolulu.

Under a plan for restructuring the playoffs, the first two teams in each division of the two major leagues would qualify. The second-place team in each division would meet the winner of the other division in a best-two-of-three series, the winners to meet in best-three-of-five for the league championship.

The current format calls for best-of-five series between divisional winners to determine participants in the World Series.

Two other proposals for changing the playoff structure are on the agenda:

—Two teams, irrespective of division, with the highest percentage outside the divisional champions play a best-of-five series for the right to meet the winner of the divisional playoffs.

—The present division of six teams in each league be carved up into three divisions of four teams in each league. The winners of each division would be joined by the team with the best percentage among the three second-place finishers for best-of-five game series, the survivors to meet best-of-five for the league title.

Other items on the agenda include:

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—Report on player negotiations. Efforts will be made to prevent a player strike such as the one which delayed the season opening this year.

—Coordination of spring exhibition schedules.

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Penn State vs. St. Joseph's

GAME TIME — 7 p.m. at Jeffrey Field (far side of University Drive near Beaver Stadium)
ADMISSION — \$1 students, \$2 general admission (by NCAA playoff rules)
PARKING — Free in football "red" area; entrance by baseball backstop. Cars parked along University Drive will be ticketed.
EXPECTED ATTENDANCE — 2,000 (4,000 approximate capacity)
TV COVERAGE — Taped by Penn State Television (WPSX Channel 3) for delayed broadcast Thursday at 7 p.m.; Fran Fisher and Ken Hosterman commentators
COACHES — Jack Dunn in 15th year at St. Joseph's (105-45-15 record); Herb Schmidt in 5th year at Penn State (29-18-6)
1972 RECORDS — St. Joseph's: 11-2 (defeated Villanova 6-0, lost to East Stroudsburg 2-0, defeated Elizabethtown 3-2, lost to Drexel 2-1, defeated Fairleigh Dickinson 3-0, West Chester 2-0, Hofstra 2-0, La Salle 1-0, Glassboro State 4-1, American 3-0, Temple 2-0, Rider 2-1, Rider 2-0)
Penn State: 8-0-2 (defeated George Washington 8-1, West Chester 4-0, West Virginia 6-4, Bucknell 2-0, Army 3-0, tied Maryland 0-0, defeated Navy 2-0, Snippetsburg 2-1, Temple 5-3, tied Pitt 0-0)
SPEED — Slight advantage to State's Rymarczuk, Allen, Marsden, Reice, etc. Swieconek, Blaney, Lubbe, Cirino speediest for Hawks.
DEFENSE — Edge to St. Joseph's. Hawks have allowed eight goals, just two in their current nine-game win streak. Goalie Tom Pippet has 24 career shutouts, eight this year. State has been tough but doesn't place emphasis on defense that St. Joe's does.
OFFENSE — Edge to Penn State's Bahr, Rymarczuk, Marsden, Allen, Startzell, Lubbe top threat for Hawks, Swieconek, Cirino, McGaw, Powell, Blaney others.
PREDICTION — State has played sporadically, peaking for big ones. This is a big one and Lions should penetrate tough defense infrequently but enough.
ESTIMATED SCORE — Penn State 2, St. Joseph's 1 — RMc

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