

# Why take it out on the refs?

If one was to stroll over to Rec Hall or the Intramural Building to watch some IM basketball this past season, he was surely guaranteed to see at least one thing every game. A good basketball game? Not necessarily. Reverse dunk shot? Never. Players, coaches and fans abusing, hassling and making life miserable for the referees? Everytime.



Neil Rudel

"When they start getting personal, then it's gone too far," Sandy Scharf, of the IM staff, said. "Our refs aren't great, but they normally do a good job."  
"There's a certain amount of verbal abuse that goes with IM basketball," IM staffer Pat Gerity offered. "The toughest thing for IM officials is to referee their own peer group."

"Players lose control in the heat of the game plus they don't have as good of an angle as the officials do," Scharf said.  
Gerity said that in the colleges and professional ranks, coaches handle most of the controversial calls that arise and, therefore, player abuse toward the official is limited. "In the college and pro ranks, officials aren't refereeing their own peers," he said.  
One player, Steve Nielsen of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, offered an explanation. "There are many rivalries and when the action heats up, everybody takes it out on the referees," he said. "I think they've done all right, though."  
"We should realize that the refs are students but when you get in a game, it's hard to hold back," Beech's tailback-turned-forward Mike Guman said.

In a quarterfinal game Monday night, one backcourt madman apparently couldn't hold back. After vehemently protesting a technical foul charged to a teammate, he shoved the referee. After being ejected from the Rec Hall confines, he later pleaded temporary insanity.  
During the playoffs, I realize that the action, tempo, and excitement intensifies. However, a stunt such as that is totally uncalled for.  
When IM games are taken that seriously it's time for the players involved to pack up and

head to the European or Eastern leagues where their aggressions can be heard by pro referees and they can be fouled by pro hatchmen.

Student referee Mike Missanelli said refs are required to attend training sessions, see films and learn the rule book prior to the IM season. So it's not like these officials are going into games cold turkey.

But after some of the abuse taking sessions that they go through, the only consolation an observer can offer them would be a bottle of Wild Turkey.

"You have to take it in stride," student ref Jeff Infram said. When does it start bugging you, Jeff? "When they keep comin' at you," he said.

Gerity and Scharf said the main thing the refs are taught is to keep control of the game. "You'd like to let them play but you've got to keep control," Scharf said.

"We have a good group; they're responsible, reliable and they work hard," Gerity praised.

So the next time your team is fighting for the IM crown of Penn State and your game winning shot falls short at the buzzer, pull your hair out, jump up and beat your head against the backboard or rush back to your abode and pout. But leave the referee alone, he's just trying to keep control.

# Booters kick off season, host indoor tournament

By PETE DOUGHERTY  
Assistant Sports Editor

Penn State soccer fans will get their first chance to look at the 1977 team Sunday as Akron, Cleveland State and Hartwick join the Lion booters in Rec Hall for an indoor tournament.

Soccer in February sounds a bit unusual, but State coach Walt Bahr says it really isn't that uncommon.  
"We're just trying to keep our program active during the winter," he said. "Most places run some type of indoor program."

Bahr's indoor program consists of two practice sessions a week. Later, when the weather breaks, the team will head outdoors for action, eventually leading up to the 14-game season in the fall. But, there are adjustments to be made when playing inside.

"You can't play an outdoors game indoors," Bahr said. "The players have to use some judgment. The purpose of indoor soccer was first to keep players active when it's bad outside, and secondly to have them use more technique, more ball control."

There will also be some rule differences, but most are minor. The dimensions, obviously, are smaller, including the goal, which is four feet high and 20 feet wide. There are five players on each side in front of the goalies, who are not permitted to throw or kick the ball past mid court.

Similar to hockey, players can be penalized and teams can play shorthanded. There are no boundaries as such, so kicking the ball up into the bleachers is a delay of game penalty and the guilty player serves one minute. If a player is put off by the referee, for say, unsportsmanlike conduct, he serves five minutes in the sin bin and his team plays a

man short.

"Rec Hall is an ideal playing situation because of the size and because of the makings of the gym," Bahr said. "We can keep most of the balls inbounds without stopping the play, similar to hockey. It makes for a faster game."

"The only drawback is from the spectator standpoint. Using the whole floor, the view is sometimes impaired to the point where you almost have to lean over the railing to see the whole floor."

Indoor soccer isn't something that only colleges have tried, as a professional league did attempt it a few years ago.

"They had a lot of injuries in the professional league," Bahr said. "It was just the high level of competition and the closeness in the abilities of the players, and they were playing in hockey rinks and I think some of the players tried to play the game too much like hockey, like knocking other players into the boards."

Sunday's action, which features the third-place finisher in the NCAA tournament last year (Hartwick), gets underway at 9:30 a.m. with round-robin action. The teams will play 20-minute halves with no time outs.

The round-robin action should terminate around noon, when a break of one hour will be taken. Bahr said he is trying to arrange a match between the University's international club and his players who won't be involved Sunday to fill the gap.

The semi-finals will start at 1 p.m., with the top round-robin team paired against the fourth squad, and the No. 2 club set to meet the third place sextet. The championship finals, for which the time is extended to 30 minutes, will get underway at approximately 2 p.m.

## Could pad lead this weekend

# Icers on road to league crown

By JERRY LUCCI  
Collegian Sports Writer

The last time the Penn State icers faced the beleaguered and belittled Rutgers hockey team, the New Jerseyites were winless in Mid-Atlantic Hockey Conference play and had to borrow the local team's away jerseys to suit up for the game since they had none of their own. It was also rumored that some of the bolder Rutgers players tried humping a few nickels and dimes from the Ice Pavilion crowd to buy a cup of coffee—probably their first meal in weeks.

Well, things have changed since then—a little. You see Rutgers went out and bought brand new jerseys for tomorrow night's game with the Lions at King of Prussia Arena. The problem is that in addition to still being winless, Rutgers also must have blown their whole wad on the jerseys because they couldn't afford the \$130 icetime fee for the game (shades of the WFL no doubt). Luckily the Penn

State club is as free spending with its money off the ice as it is free wheeling on the ice. Co-captain Bill Proudman explains

"The way we're going to do it is that we're going to pay for the icetime and then Rutgers will have to pay us back by next August or something like that," Proudman said. "And if they don't, it'll come out of league funds and they'll be suspended."

Suspension might be the best route for Rutgers to take since they are comfortably lodged in the conference cellar with an 0-5 mark. Their mid-mannered offense has averaged a meek three goals a game while their defensive counterparts have bit the bullet to the tune of six goals per game.

On the other hand, the Lions are riding high in first place with a 5-1 record. They could conceivably clinch the section crown with victories over Rutgers and West Chester, which also meets the Lions

this weekend. While Rutgers should be no test for the locals, West Chester may be another matter.

State outclassed the eastern Pa. squad in a 3-1 victory last weekend, but the visitors might be a bit more feisty in their own rink.

"I expect a pretty lot of trouble," Lion defenseman Ed Luongo said. "It should be a pretty good game, but

playing in their smaller rink, there'll probably be a lot more hitting. I think we have a pretty much better team, so I expect that if we're winning toward the end of the game, it'll probably get out of hand."

Luongo and his defensive cohorts have been keeping opponents in hand recently, enabling them to sidestep the onus of being labeled the weak link on the State squad.

"Well, I think our defense-men have been taking kind of a bad rap all year," Luongo said. "We've had a few bad games like Lehigh when we've given up six or seven goals but for the most part we've given up three or four goals a game."

Three or four goals a game. The Rutgers goalie would probably sell his jersey for that. Maybe he already has.

## Canoeists paddle to Nat for Slalom

Can you canoe? Ninety people will be answering that question at the Natatorium this Sunday. They won't be sampling cognie but competing in the 12th annual Penn State Pool Slalom.

Traditionally, this has been the largest and most competitive canoe and kayak race. For the first time in a number of years, Penn State is the underdog in their own race, according to John Sweet, advisor to the Penn State Outing Club. The Canoe Cruisers Association of Washington, D.C., are favored to take all the honors.

"The CCA has more talent than I've

ever seen before on one team," Sweet said. "Fifteen of their twenty boats are in A-division, and they have one National Champion and four who were runners-up in the Nationals."

"It looks like the only thing that could stop them is a snow storm," he said.

Sweet, who is a past National Champion and medal winner in world competition, attributes Penn State's loss of status to vast improvements by other squads rather than weakening of his team.

"We have more paddlers doing more

training than ever before, but others have passed us up," Sweet said. We will have to redouble our efforts just to stay even in the future."

The team competition consists of four boats for each side in each of the five classes for a total of 40 boats. Fifty additional boats will compete for individual honors, which include novice and intermediate divisions. Favorite is National Champion Linda Harrison of Newark, Del., who also ranks first overall in women's kayak.

—Joyce Tomana

## Swimmers to face Indiana

Following their 74-39 loss to Bucknell, the Penn State swimmers are back in their home waters to host the Indiana Indians tomorrow at 2 p.m. at the Natatorium.

Highlights of the Bucknell meet were two new pool

records, both set by Penn State. Rich Maurone dove for a total of 331.95 points on the three meter board. Steve Rode clocked a 2:13.2 in the 200-yard breast stroke.

Indiana boasts a 6-1 record, having defeated Youngstown State, Fairmont, Appalachia State, Cleveland State, Grove City and Slippery Rock. Their solitary defeat went to Clarion. The Lions are currently 3-4.

Senior Emilio Abreu is Indiana's top swimmer. He specializes in the butterfly and individual medlies, but is capable of a good race in any event. He will be the worry of Barry Kita and Bruce Greenfield in the butterfly, and Bill Hieb in the individual medley.

Abreu has been an NCAA Division II All-American the past two years. He was a

member of the Paraguay Olympic team and had the honor of acting as flag bearer in last summer's Montreal Games.

Indiana has another All-American in Bill Cane. He will be challenging Lion backstrokers Bill Hieb and Scott Roth.

Ralph Johnson, coach of the Indians, is familiar with Penn State, but in another sport. He spent two years on the Lion football squad before transferring to Youngstown State. He originated the swim team there and is now in his fifth year at Indiana.

When his squad met the Lion tankers last season, Penn State won by a narrow 58-55 margin. There was only one other loss in the Indians' 7-2 season last year, and they placed 16th in the NCAA Division II Nationals.

—Joyce Tomana

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**UNIVERSITY CALENDAR**  
Friday - Sunday, February 11-13

Friday, Feb. 11  
Valentine Candlelight Dinner, 4:45-7 p.m., HUB Terrace Room.  
Bridge Club meeting, 6:30 p.m., Room 301 HUB.  
Folk, Square, and Ballroom Dance Roundup, 7:30 p.m., White.  
Theatre performance, "Veronica's Room," 8 p.m., Room 112 Kern.  
University Theatre, "The Beggar's Opera," 8 p.m., Playhouse Theatre.  
Black History Celebration, "An Evening in Black," Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, 8 p.m., Schwab. Free. Public reception follows in Paul Robeson Cultural Center.  
G.S.A. Commonsplace Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., Room 102 Kern.  
HUB-WEHR Spotlight Disco, 9 p.m., HUB ballroom.  
Delta Sigma Theta-Kappa Alpha Psi dance, 11 p.m., Paul Robeson Cultural Center.

Saturday, Feb. 12  
Sports: Women's fencing, vs. William Patterson, Madison, Jersey City, 9 a.m.; men's fencing, vs. Navy, 1 p.m.; men's and women's bowling, vs. American University, 1 p.m.; men's and women's rifle, vs. Ohio State, 2 p.m.; men's swimming, vs. Indiana, 2 p.m.; wrestling, vs. Lehigh, 2 p.m.; men's basketball, vs. Navy, 7:30 p.m.  
Black History Celebration films, "Malcolm X Speaks" and "The Struggle for Freedom," both at 2 and 7 p.m., HUB assembly room.  
Valentine Candlelight Dinner, 4:45-7 p.m., HUB Terrace Room.  
U.S.G. DateMatch dance, 6 p.m., HUB ballroom.  
O.T.I.S. meeting, 6:30 p.m., Room 307 HUB.  
Un-Common Dinner Theatre, dinner, 6:30 p.m., "Veronica's Room," 8 p.m., Kern.  
University Theatre, "The Beggar's Opera," 8 p.m., Playhouse Theatre.  
Penn State Symphony Orchestra, 8:30 p.m., University Auditorium.

Sunday, Feb. 13  
Chapel Service, 11 a.m., Eisenhower Chapel. Dr. Yoshio Fukuyama.  
Black Christian Fellowship worship service, 11:15 a.m., Eisenhower.  
P.S.O.C. Hiking Division, snowshoe hike, 9 a.m., HUB parking lot.  
Alpha Chi Omega Song Contest for Charity, 2 p.m., HUB ballroom.  
P.S.O.C. Canoe Division, indoor canoe and kayak races, Natatorium, finals 2 p.m.  
Shaver's Creek Nature Center, "Lichens," Stone Valley, 2 p.m.  
Lowell Knauer, organ, and Kevin Clemens, organ, 3:30 p.m., Music Bldg. recital hall.

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