

Lady gymnasts, minus Carr, anxious to host York



Photo by Ken Kasper

Jan Anthony will compete in the all-around competition against York University tonight at Rec Hall. The team will be without Ann Carr, who is among the top six women participating in the Mardi Gras Invitational in New Orleans.

By JOYCE TOMANA
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

The women's gymnastics team has had all they can take from "Old Man Winter" and consider themselves fortunate to be able to host York University tonight.

After two meets cancelled because of snowstorms, and York having to battle a Canadian blizzard en route to State College, coach Judi Avener's Lady Lions are anxious for competition.

"We just can't wait," Avener said. "It seems so long, we wondered if we'd ever have a meet again."

The layoff has been long, but Avener said the squad has kept a positive attitude and made some improvements.

"The beam routines looked good in practice this week," she said, "more solid than they've been the last

few weeks. The difficulty is a bit shaky, but better."

The Lady Lions will perform tonight without the talents of team leader Ann Carr. She competes this weekend at the Mardi Gras Invitational in New Orleans. The six top American men and women gymnasts were invited. Carr and Jeanie Beadle of Louisiana State are the only collegiates among the six women. The others are the top elite performers.

"She hated to leave Rec Hall," Avener said. "But we're hoping she does well. It's important that she establishes herself among the elites."

With Carr gone, Penn State has a chance to experiment. York University puts all their gymnasts in the all-around. Penn State will field five all-arounds, instead of the usual four.

"We're still looking for the fourth all-around spot to make our best lineup," Avener said. "The open spot will help us determine what our strongest lineup will be. It's important that we prove we have a good team without Ann."

Getting her first crack at all-around competition will be sophomore Lynn Samuels. She'll be joined by Joanne Beck, Lisa Ingebretsen, Patti Spisak, and Jan Anthony. Specialists will be Davies Bahr on vault, bars, and balance beam, and Claudia Coldren on balance beam.

York University is led by Nancy MacDonald, a seven-year veteran of the Canadian National Team. But she is questionable for tonight because of a slight hip injury. The other all-arounds will be Marlene Boyle, Lynn English, Kathy Morris, Ann Farde and Clair Linseman. Action begins at 8 p.m. in Rec Hall.

Swimmers expect victory

The Lions face an unknown quantity Saturday when the men's swimming team travels to Edinboro. The consensus, however, is that the Lions should win. "Should" being the key word.

"We haven't got too much information on them," Lion coach Lou MacNeill said. "So they've improved since we last received information."

But how good are they? And more importantly, how good is Penn State?

"Team-wise, we have more depth," Lion captain Bill Hieb said. "But they may be more psyched up for the meet. Last year was an easy meet, this year I don't know."

Apparently even if the team has its ears under water most of the time, it feels the home court advantage.

"It's their home pool and their own diving equipment," MacNeill said. "And they may be in much better shape than our previous information (from early December) says."

"Two years ago, the meet was at Edinboro and the place was filled to capacity," Hieb said. "It's a small state school versus the big university, and they're looking for an upset. They shouldn't be taken lightly."

"Two years ago, they were at home and they killed us," Brian O'Shea added.

In addition, the Lions may have depth trouble in the backstroke and individual medley, with Hieb sitting out the meet while trying to recover from an illness.

"If we swim the way we should swim, we should come out with more than 57 points (the number necessary to win a swim meet)," MacNeill said. "This one should be a win."

"But there's more pressure on winning this meet than there was on most of our previous meets. This one is one that we shouldn't lose."

—by Kim Smith

Mills, Fales to Millrose

Individual performances will be the name of the game this weekend when part of the Lady Lion track team journeys to New York and part to Ohio.

Kathy Mills and Penny Fales will travel to New York City on Friday for the Millrose Games, where runners from all over the country will be participating. The remainder of the team will go to Ohio State on Saturday for a qualifying meet for the AAU Nationals in February.

Mills will be competing in the 1500 meter race and Fales will be racing the 880. While coach Chris Brooks would obviously like to see both runners win, she is hoping more that the races will serve as good learning experiences.

"I'm really psyched for it," Miller said. "I haven't had a lot of experience in indoors track. But I'm in better shape than I've ever been in

before. I may not hit the qualifying time, but I should be close."

"Kathy needs a lot of racing experience," Brooks said. "She needs to be pushed around a little so that she has to fight back. And Penny needs the experience too. She made a lot of mistakes at the CYO Invitational. The only way for her to learn is to run the 880 and get some racing tactics."

Among those hoping to qualify in the half-mile run at Ohio State are junior Lea Ventura and freshman Sandy Miller.

"I definitely need some races under my belt," said Ventura, who has just switched from sprints to middle distances this year. "But I feel I'm a quick learner. As long as I improve this week, I'll be happy. But I would like to qualify."

—by Jim Loose

Stone, Bayi to meet match at the Garden

NEW YORK (AP) — Miler Filbert Bayi and high jumper Dwight Stones, two of the most prominent winners on the indoor track and field circuit in recent years, have but one victory between them this season.

Both will try and reassert their prominence Friday night in the Millrose Games at Madison Square Garden but in won't be easy. The soft-spoken, carefree Bayi and the colorful, controversial Stones will be facing star-studded fields in a meet that has attracted numerous world record holders and 40 athletes who held more than 50 American and national collegiate championships.

Bayi, the world record holder for 1,500 meters with a

time of 3 minutes, 32.2 seconds, has finished second twice and fourth once in three appearances on the 1978 indoor circuit.

But he is not concerned.

"I run as a hobby," he said matter-of-factly.

He also said that he was not in top condition for the indoor season, having trained for only about one month following his wedding and a three-week honeymoon late last year. He said, "This indoor season is just preparation" for the outdoor season, which he prefers.

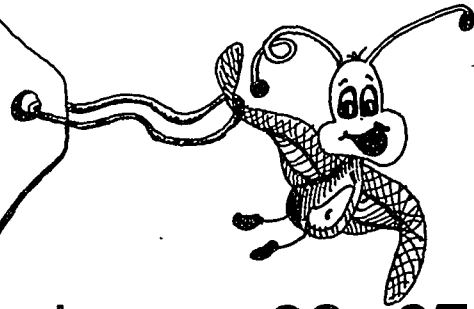
The Garden, however, is one of Bayi's favorite indoor tracks. And the excitement of the crowd, expected to be over 15,000, plus string opposition, could stir him on to

his first victory of the year and perhaps a Garden record, breaking the mark of 3:56.1 he set in 1976.

Facing Bayi will be Dick Buerkle, who set the indoor mark of 3:54.9 two weeks ago at College Park, Md. Wilson Waigwa of Kenya, winner of two races this year on the indoor circuit; veteran Paul Cummings, winner of the Millrose mile in 1976; fast-rising Steve Scott of California-Irvine; Mark Belger, winner of the 880 in this meet last year, and Georgetown University freshman Kevin Byrne.

Stones, who admits getting psyched by large crowds and is exceptionally fond of competing in New York, is the meet's defending champion.

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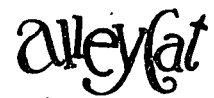
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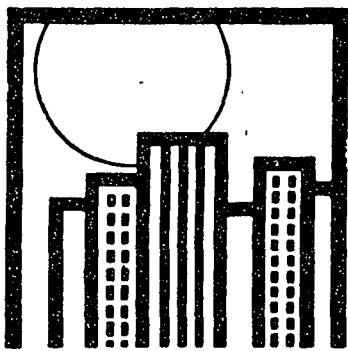


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