

## In Montclair State opener

# Lady fencers prepare for Penn

By DENISE BACHMAN  
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

The women's fencing team will definitely have the edge in their season opener Saturday in Philadelphia against Pennsylvania and Montclair State.

"We have the advantage in fencing Montclair first because it will give us a chance to warm up," Coach Beth Cramer said. "Then we should really be ready for Penn."

The Lady Lions did not encounter Montclair last season, but Coach Cramer points out that they have not been strong in the past. And this year seems to be no different.

"They have no solid four, so we should handle them pretty well," Cramer said.

Powerhouse Penn, on the other hand, will not be such easy prey. They are one of the toughest teams in the East and will be seeking to avenge last year's 12-4 Lady Lion whopping.

The top three fencers for Penn are Margaret Szabunia, Ann Kaylar, and Penny Reed. "These are their standard three. Kaylar is steadier than Szabunia, and Reed is fairly good, although I'm not sure if she would make our top team," Cramer said. "But they don't have a good fourth position person."

"We've been preparing all week for Penn and we should be able to win. But that's not saying we will."

Cramer might start sophomore Judy Smith in the first slot this week

in hopes that it will help her team "start with a bang." Smith is very aggressive and attacks a lot.

"I am hoping that we can set them back on their ear from the beginning," Cramer said.

Cramer is looking forward to Saturday's meets, not only because it's the opener, but also to see just how good her fencers are.

She is especially eager to see how well Carol Jursik fences. Jursik's kneecap wiggles laterally which causes some irritation to the joints. She is currently on heavy doses of aspirin and the knee will be taped.

"It's not serious and it won't hurt my play at all," Jursik said. Cramer, however, is not as op-

timistic and is "anxious to see if she can hold up."

Also, Cramer is concerned about Wendy Paschedag. "Wendy finished very strong last year, and I want to see if she's maintained her form."

Cramer expressed some disappointment over the postponement of the Ohio State meet (last Saturday), but feels it will not hinder the Lady Lions' play at all.

"I would've liked to have started with Ohio State," Cramer said. "It's always nice to finish a meet at the beginning of the season that you thought you could win."

The meet has been rescheduled for Feb. 4, when the Lady Lions also host James Madison and Cornell.

## Sabre the key when fencers meet Quakers

No one can ever accuse coach Mac Garret and the men's fencing team of ducking a challenge.

After already facing the likes of Maryland, NYU and Johns Hopkins, no one could blame the Lions (3-1) if they've had their fill of top calibre competition.

But this weekend finds them knocking heads with another fencing powerhouse. This time it's the University of Pennsylvania.

The Lions will fence the Quakers Saturday in Philadelphia and will

follow up with a Sunday match at Wayne, N.J., against William Paterson. The latter is a makeup of a snow cancellation from last weekend.

But the main problem will be Penn, a fourth-place finisher in the NCAA's last year. The Quakers are led by returning first-team All-American fencer, Jack Tichacek. He finished third in the country last year and also has a first-place finish in the Penn State Open to his credit.

The Quaker epee team could also present some problems for the Lions.

Chris Hanson and Walter Dragonetti, first- and second-place finishers respectively in the Penn State Open, provide an impressive one-two punch.

"Penn won the IFAs last year," Garret said. "They're exceptionally strong and have got depth."

"Foil and epee are their strongest weapons. I think they've slightly improved in foil and epee, but they have diminished in excellence in sabre."

"For us to defeat them we have to really garner most of our points in

sabre. That's the focal point for the success we may have against them."

So far this season the Quakers are 2-0. They share a common opponent with the Lions in the Maryland Terrapins, which both teams defeated by identical 14-13 scores.

"Penn State is a strong team, and we're not chopped live either," Penn coach Dave Macahnik said. "I expect a close, hard-fought meet."

That's too bad, chopped liver may not taste like prime rib, but it's a lot easier to digest. —by Rick Elia

## Revamped icers try to avoid looking ahead

The Penn State Hockey Club has compiled some pretty awesome statistics against West Chester, their opponent for Sunday night's game at the Ice Pavilion.

During the four years Penn State has played West Chester they have compiled a 5-0 record, the latest victory being a 7-3 triumph last year at King of Prussia. In all, Penn State has outscored them by a combined total of 26-10.

Doesn't seem like much in the way of competition, however, the Lions could run into some trouble if they start to look ahead to their game next week against Delaware.

"I hope that's something we can avoid," said Coach Clayton John. "We've been pretty good at playing one game at a time, but it's something that has been in the back of my mind."

To make sure he gets a good game this weekend John has decided to shuffle the deck a bit.

"I've planned on changing the lines around," John said. "I want to try and take a little more advantage of our firepower."

The shake-up will mean the separation

of Dennis Herr and Tom Horgas from the same line. If Eric Putch is able to return to action this week after having recently recovered from a broken wrist, he too will be placed on a separate line. The new strategy will give the Lions a potentially dangerous scorer on the ice at all times.

But, in actuality, Penn State probably won't need the extra scoring for this game. West Chester has only played one game in conference action this year, that being a 4-3 loss to Villanova.

"They have always had a pretty good checking team," John said. "I look for an extremely hard hitting game."

**Ice Chips:** Penn State forward Jamie Hettema is currently leading the Mid Atlantic Hockey Conference in scoring with a total of 8 points (7 goals and 1 assist) . . . Lions are undefeated at home this year 5-0-0, best home record was in 1975-76, 8-1.

—by Ron Wenig

## Trackmen skip Millrose for better meet

Tomorrow the trackmen will be passing up the prestigious Millrose Games in New York City to compete in another meet.

Why? According to coach Harry Groves, the three-way meet with Ohio State and Tennessee at the Buckeyes' French Fieldhouse is a better meet.

"It'll be a better meet than the Millrose Games," Groves said. "There'll be a good crowd, quality performances, all events and there won't be the rat race atmosphere of New York."

Ohio State has been rebuilding the last few years according to Groves and they

will be tough to handle. "I expect them to be stronger in the distances and the jumps," he said.

Tennessee has been the champion or contender for the Southeast Conference track crown for the past ten years and is strong again this season.

"They're a heckuva team," Groves said. "Reggie Jones is a world-class sprinter who is coming back from injuries and he's only third best on the team."

"They'll be heavy in the sprints and the jumps," he said. This is the kind of meet where you try to bear down, especially when both teams are good."

The 200-meter rubberized asphalt track in French Fieldhouse has recently been retopped and Groves calls it "a very good facility."

A very good facility with very good opposition, but the Lions should not be counted out.

"For us to win this meet we've got to have excellent performances. With the NCAA rule cutting track grants to 14 per school, every team has holes in it somewhere. In a meet like this, anything can happen," he said.

—by Pete Kowalski

## Bowlers set for regionals with two road matches

The Lion egglers will hit the road this weekend for matches at Penn State's Capitol Campus and Maryland.

Coach Don Ferrell doesn't feel that bowling away from home has any effect on the team's performance. "We've done quite well bowling away," he said.

Ferrell attributes the team's success on the road to experience.

"There's an average of eight to fourteen years of competition for each person on the team. Our kids are used to bowling in different places and under different conditions."

The bowlers will get a chance to use some of that experience on Saturday against Capitol. "Everything's usually kept in good condition there, so if they're bowling good, we expect to bowl good," Ferrell said.

After Saturday's match, the bowlers

leave for the University of Maryland to bowl against the Terrapins Sunday.

The Lion bowlers have already defeated the Terps this year. The men won 18-8 while the women won by a 17-9 score.

Ferrell says that Maryland is always tough at home. "I talked to their coach and she said they're really looking forward to bowling us."

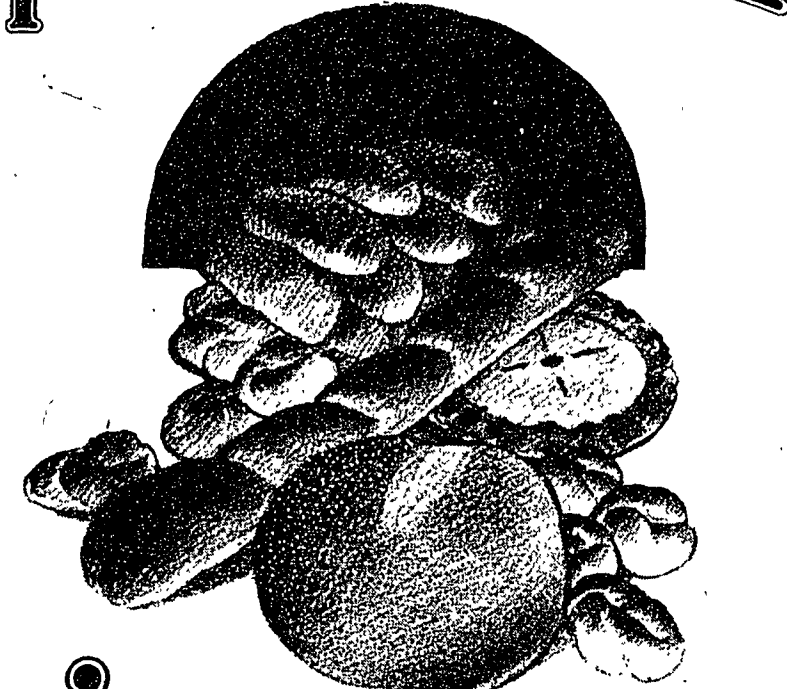
Ferrell said that the cancellation of matches over the last three weeks didn't affect his bowlers, either.

"We've been bowling, but not competitively," he said.


He expects to see two good matches this weekend, though. He hopes the bowlers will use the matches to tune up for the regional tournament that begins on Thursday.

—by Ed Sochia

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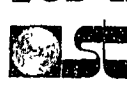
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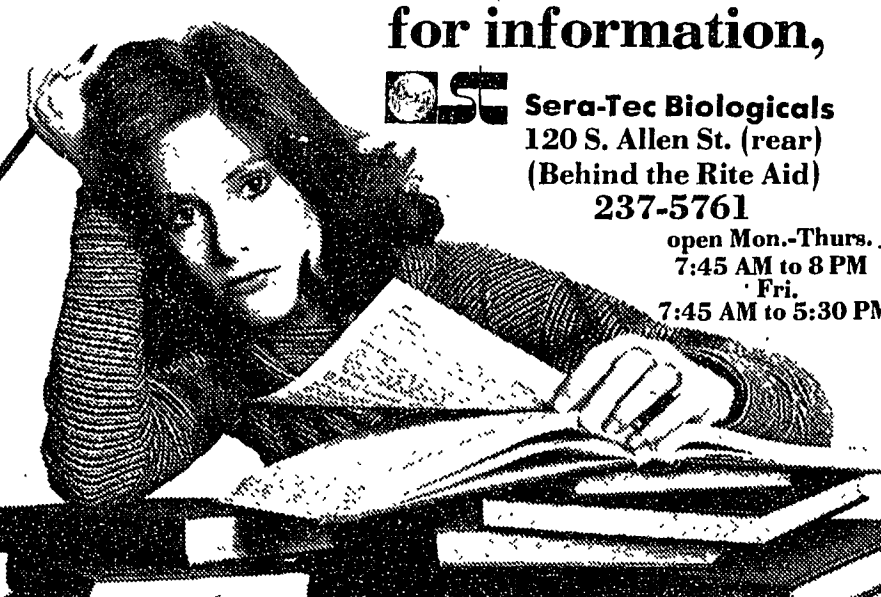
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