

Netmen finish with two wins

By TIM BEIDEL
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

It was a wonderful way for the men's tennis team to end its season, but it wasn't all that enjoyable to talk about.

The Lions defeated Mercyhurst 6-3 on Friday and beat Temple 5-4 yesterday behind some clutch playing on the part of the first doubles team. A flurry of bad manners after the last and deciding match by Temple's Bob Litterst almost overshadowed the outcome. But it wasn't quite enough.

The Temple match was tied at four with only the last set of the first doubles match remaining. It was up to Jon Whiteside and Tim McAvoy to come through.

Whiteside and McAvoy had already lost the first set 7-5, and won the second set 6-3. The momentum in the match had been swinging back and forth, but it was on Penn State's side at the start of the third set.

Despite the pressure, Whiteside

and McAvoy jumped to a quick 5-0 lead, all but sewing up the match.

"I was really psyched," McAvoy said. "I thought we could beat them."

The Owl team of Litterst and Allen Bond managed to hold serve in the sixth game, and made a late charge, coming back to 5-3.

"When it was 5-3 and I was serving, my throat was dry, and I couldn't get a drink because my hands were shaking," McAvoy said. "But I wanted to serve. A couple of times this year our matches have come right to the end, and I like it."

Penn State coach Holmes Cathrall must like it too when it comes down to McAvoy. Cathrall was happy with McAvoy's play yesterday, but the key, Cathrall said, was the third singles match.

"I figured those two guys (Ned Eames and Bill Schilling) would be the keys," Cathrall said. "I told them it was going to come down to the first and second doubles team. I knew they could get a point on the board."

Eames and Schilling easily took care of their opponents, 6-4, 6-4, to get that big win on the board. Tom Beckhard also got an important win in the last singles match, defeating Gary Soloman 6-1, 2-6, 7-6.

"It was a great match," Cathrall said. "It was one that everybody enjoyed. I don't think anybody left."

The Mercyhurst and Temple wins will probably place the Lions third in the Middle-States division, behind Princeton and Pennsylvania.

"Our season had been up and down," McAvoy said. "These last two wins kind of salvaged it."

Cathrall agreed with McAvoy about Penn State's year.

"It's been a good season," Cathrall said. "The teams that defeated us were nationally ranked, teams that we haven't played before."

Next year's schedule will be even tougher, with Princeton, Harvard, and newly-added Yale all away, but Cathrall is looking forward to it.

Lacrossers' slow down strategy fails as tough Maryland romps

By JUSTIN CATANOSO
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

Slow and steady wins the race.

The men's lacrosse team hoped Aesop's advice would help them upset Maryland, but the Terrapins better resembled hares as they outran the Lions 21-6 at College Park on Saturday.

"We wanted to frustrate them by slowing down our offense and controlling the ball," midfielder Bryan Sibson said, "but they fast broke and scored some quick goals on us, and we had to come out of our game plan."

Facing its toughest competition this season and the second best team in the country, Penn State (2-8) could not keep pace early with Maryland (7-1) as nervousness and poor passing helped the Terrapins gain an 8-1 first quarter lead.

"We started off shaky," Penn State coach Glenn Thiel said, "and we threw the ball away too much, but we played just super in the second quarter."

In that quarter, the Lions better

executed their game plan. Working from a four corner set, they moved the ball slowly and deliberately and waited for openings inside Maryland's swarming defense. Midfielders Karl Herzer and Ed Recco (who with Sibson led Penn State with two goals each) snuck in for a couple goals and with 2:30 left in the half, the Lions cut Maryland's lead to 9-5.

The defense, which concentrated on getting back quicker and cutting off the Terrapins fast breaks held the opposition to just one goal through some 13 minutes of play, but Maryland popped in two quick goals before halftime to go up 11-5.

In the third quarter, Maryland showed why it has national championship potential by dominating both ends of the field. On defense, the Terrapins denied the Lions the penetration they enjoyed in the previous quarter. The defensiveness, while clearing the ball flawlessly to the midfielders, often keyed fast breaks by

heading upfield themselves. This often left the Penn State goalies helpless in one-on-one situations.

"They really blitzed us in the third quarter," Thiel said, "and we couldn't catch them. They shut down our attack (Penn State scored just one goal) and adjusted to everything we did on defense."

"Maryland has a great bunch of athletes; they can do pretty much anything they want to do."

And what they apparently wanted to do was put the game out of reach. Attackmen Bob Boniello and Terry Kimbal, who led Maryland with five goals each, saw to that as the Terrapins stormed the Lions' net for eight goals to Penn State's one.

"Maryland is just loaded with talent," Thiel said, "and we couldn't stop them. They don't go one on one much, but keep the ball moving with sharp passes which they rarely drop. And when they shoot, they stick 'em."



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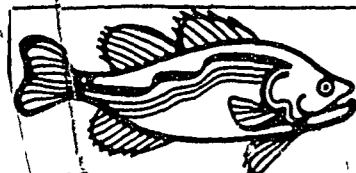
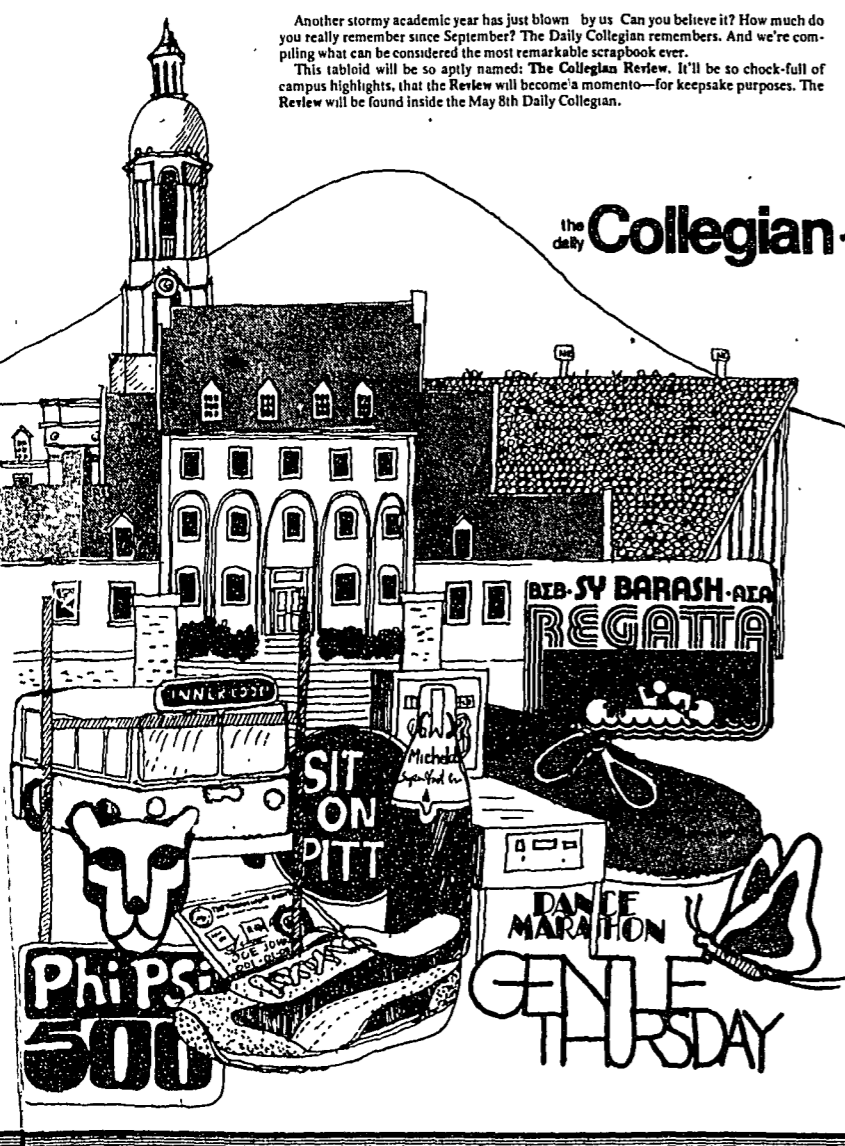
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This scrapbook will be so spiffy named: The Collegian Review. It'll be so chock-full of campus highlights, that the Review will become a moment— for keepsake purposes. The Review will be found inside the May 8th Daily Collegian.

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