

# Stickmen challenge Lehig in first game

By BOB GROVE  
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

The men's lacrosse team will be looking to start its season off right when it plays the first game of its 12-game schedule at 2 tomorrow afternoon at Lehigh University.

Penn State coach Glenn Thiel said the Lions have progressed to about the point he thinks they should have before the first game of the season.

"We're definitely ready to play somebody," he said. "I don't think anyone's going to play their best game of the season (tomorrow), but we're ready."

"Stick-handling-wise, we're ready. Conditioning-wise, we're not quite ready, but the guys are all dying to play."

Because of recent weather conditions, the team has been forced to hold many of its practices indoors. Thiel does not believe this will hurt the Lions' performance.

"I don't think that's going to affect anybody but the goalies," he said.



Senior attacker Bill Curran, shown in action last season, will be on the move once again in the men's lacrosse team's season opener at Lehigh tomorrow afternoon.

"They will probably have a tough time adjusting."

Thiel's goalie tomorrow will be senior Ed Humphreys, who appeared in six games last season. Sophomore goalie Joe Guterding, who played in all 11 games last season, suffered stretched ligaments this week in practice and will not play.

Junior defenseman John Farrell is also injured, and Thiel is uncertain as to whether he will play tomorrow.

Senior captain Dave Eicher and sophomore Mark Gauding and Ken Panzer will start for the Lions at defense. Senior John Spillane and sophomore Bill Turri and Bob Campbell will play midfield.

Playing attack for the Lions will be senior Bill Curran, sophomore Mark Gelsomini and freshman Jay Staropoli.

Curran scored 14 goals last season on his way to becoming the second leading scorer on the team. Turri, who also tallied 14 goals last year, was third.

# Swimwomen at Nationals

The women's swimming and diving team is displaying its talent in the pool and on the diving board in the National Swimming and Diving competition being held at Las Vegas, Nev., which began Wednesday and will continue through the weekend.

The Lady Lions, who finished third in the Eastern Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Championships, are betting on a strong showing in the national competition.

Freshman Sarah Sykes, who qualified for nationals at the EAIAWC in the 100-yard backstroke event, failed in her attempt to advance to the consolation round in nationals yesterday, turning in a time of 1:01.8.

In Wednesday's competition, Bial set a new Penn State record in the 50-yard butterfly with a 25.72, but she only finished 11th.

Also Wednesday, the 400-yard medley relay team of Sykes, McQuaid, Bial and Aungst finished 28th out of 33 schools with a 4:02.3.

by Todd Lighty

# Lady fencers place 3 in AFLA

Three members of the women's fencing team will be competing tomorrow in the Amateur Fencer's League of America meet, in hopes of advancing to the AFLA's senior tournament to be held in July.

The meet is open only to those fencers who are under 19.

Women's fencing coach Beth Alphin is sending Lady Lions Donna Perna, Amy Levin and Avrii-Fleur Miller. She expects them to capture the top three spots.

Levin and Miller learned how to fence in physical education classes and then went out for the team this season.

Miller, who joined the team in the middle of the season, agrees with Alphin about finishing in the top three.

"If the coach thinks I can," Miller said, "I think I can."

by Todd Lighty

# scoreboard

NBA				NHL			
Team	W	L	Pct.	Team	W	L	Pts
Atlanta	36	16	.692	St. Louis	23	17	79
Boston	34	22	.607	San Jose	22	18	76
Chicago	33	23	.591	Washington	21	19	73
Golden State	32	24	.569	Philadelphia	20	20	70
Los Angeles	31	25	.553	Minnesota	19	21	67
New York	30	26	.530	Edmonton	18	22	64
Phoenix	29	27	.515	Colorado	17	23	61
Pittsburgh	28	28	.500	Winnipeg	16	24	58
Sacramento	27	29	.481	Quebec	15	25	55
San Antonio	26	30	.464	Montreal	14	26	52
Seattle	25	31	.447	Los Angeles	13	27	49
Utah	24	32	.430	San Jose	12	28	46
Washington	23	33	.413	Philadelphia	11	29	43
Western Conference	22	34	.396	Minnesota	10	30	40
Eastern Conference	21	35	.379	Edmonton	9	31	37
Midwest Division	20	36	.362	Colorado	8	32	34
Atlantic Division	19	37	.345	Winnipeg	7	33	31
Central Division	18	38	.328	Quebec	6	34	28
South Division	17	39	.311	Montreal	5	35	25
North Division	16	40	.294	Los Angeles	4	36	22
Western Conference	15	41	.277	San Jose	3	37	19
Eastern Conference	14	42	.260	Philadelphia	2	38	16
Midwest Division	13	43	.243	Minnesota	1	39	13
Atlantic Division	12	44	.226	Edmonton	0	40	10
Central Division	11	45	.209	Colorado	0	41	7
South Division	10	46	.192	Winnipeg	0	42	4
North Division	9	47	.175	Quebec	0	43	1
Western Conference	8	48	.158	Montreal	0	44	0
Eastern Conference	7	49	.141	Los Angeles	0	45	0
Midwest Division	6	50	.124	San Jose	0	46	0
Atlantic Division	5	51	.107	Philadelphia	0	47	0
Central Division	4	52	.090	Minnesota	0	48	0
South Division	3	53	.073	Edmonton	0	49	0
North Division	2	54	.056	Colorado	0	50	0
Western Conference	1	55	.039	Winnipeg	0	51	0
Eastern Conference	0	56	.022	Quebec	0	52	0

# Netmen on road trip

The men's tennis team will take on two Ivy League schools this weekend, traveling to Columbia University for a 2 p.m. match today and then going to Brown University tomorrow.

"We have our work cut out for us," Penn State coach Holmes Cathrail said of the Columbia match.

Columbia, he said, is generally always a strong team, yet the Lions are looking forward to the challenge.

"It should be tough," No. 1 singles player Tim McAvoy said, "but we're rarin' to go."

Last year the Lions lost to Columbia, 5-4, but they seem a little more confident of a win this time.

"The next step in our development," senior Bill Schmucker said, "this year we have a good shot at it. This year's team is a little stronger than last year's."

The Lions will also confront extreme differences in playing surfaces. The Columbia match will be played on clay, which, according to coach Cathrail, "is the slowest surface God ever created."

At Brown, a new addition to the Lion schedule, the team will play on a voltex surface—a roll-out, carpet-like surface that is slick and fast.

by Carol Brown

# Spikers face Buckeyes

By RICH SCARCELLA  
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

Outside of an early season win against Ohio State, the sixth-ranked men's volleyball team has yet to prove themselves worthy of their ranking when they face the eighth-ranked Buckeyes at 7 tomorrow night in Itec Hall's South gym.

Penn State coach Tom Tait said the match is important for the mental aspect of the Lions' game.

"The next step in our development," Tait said, "is to handle top-ranked teams like Ohio State and Rutgers-Newark with a winning attitude. We'd also like to go into the Rutgers match (next Saturday) with a win under our belt."

The schools have met twice this season. Penn State defeated the Buckeyes in the finals of the Nittany Lion Invitational in January. Ohio State took the second meeting in the semifinals of the Pitt Invitational last month.

"When we first met in the beginning of the season," Tait said, "I said we'd have some headknockers with them. At this point, they are the overwhelming favorite to take the Midwest region."

Tait said playing in the compact South gym might give the Lions an advantage.

"With the acoustics in the South gym," he said, "it'll sound like we have eight million people behind us if we get some of our fans to come out."

"One of our hitters, Craig Forster, who we stopped in the Nittany Lion Invitational, was much more effective against us at Pittsburgh."

The real sparkplug for the Buckeyes, though, is senior All-American Andy Dumplis.

Dumplis, who started out the year at setter in Ohio State's S-1 offense, is now playing at his more accustomed outside hitting position.

"If you don't stop him," Tait said, "you're in for a long night."

Lion junior Mike Gordon, who transferred to Penn State after a year at Ohio State, said the match means more than just a win to him.

"I really like to win against them," Gordon said, "just to prove something to myself."

Tait said playing in the compact South gym might give the Lions an advantage.

"With the acoustics in the South gym," he said, "it'll sound like we have eight million people behind us if we get some of our fans to come out."

"And, with Ohio State being a highly-ranked team, and the natural rivalry with Penn State, I'm sure people are going to have a hard time finding a seat if they come late."

Tait said the match carries more importance than just establishing a winning attitude against top 10 teams.

"Even though it's not a league match," he said, "it has a lot of significance. Because it's an inter-league match, it could be a factor in the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) tournament seedings."

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Spring is a special season at Penn State because it means all your favorite sports and events are here again. This year we want everyone to be a part of the fun and excitement. So we are all working together for The Spring Ahead Tabloid.  
On March 25th you'll know when to expect the Phi Psi 500, Gentle Thursday and the Sy Barash Regatta. Also, for our sports enthusiasts, we have opening dates and stats on individual players.  
Did you know that this year marks the 9th annual Ice Cream Super Bowl? And if you're a lover of those 37 flavors, we'll tell you how to enter.  
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