

Open proves even Borg can lose

NEW YORK (AP) — Nine times he has tried and nine times he has failed. The U.S. Open championship remains the most prominent jewel that is missing from tennis king Bjorn Borg's crown.

Borg, the five-time Wimbledon and French Open champion, was denied his first U.S. Open title by John McEnroe 7-6, 6-1, 6-7, 5-7, 6-4 in a four-hour, 10-minute thriller Sunday. But the disappointment did not end there.

"The next day when you wake up you still think of the match," Borg said yesterday during one of a series of endorsements and appearances at which he appeared in the past two days.

"You just feel very disappointed," he said. "I lost because I was serving very badly. But still it came down to the fifth set, a couple of points either way. For all the luck I've had at Wimbledon, I've been very unlucky here. At Wimbledon I win all the crucial points; here I don't. I don't know why."

This was the third year in a row that Borg, who first played the U.S. Open at the age of 16, came here with the French and Wimbledon titles in hand, needing the U.S. and Australian crowns to join Don Budge and Rod Laver as the only men to win the Grand Slam. In 1978 Connors beat him in the finals, in 1979 it

was Roscoe Tanner in the quarterfinals, and Sunday it was McEnroe.

Of the last seven U.S. Opens, three have been won by Connors and the last two by McEnroe. The presence of these two tough Americans, particularly the feisty 21-year-old McEnroe, is clearly the chief stumbling block Borg must overcome if he is ever to win here.

McEnroe's victory ended a streak of 13 consecutive victories in five-set matches for Borg, who thrives under pressure. It also avenged a five-set loss to Borg in their classic Wimbledon final two months ago, and made him the first repeat winner of this championship since Australia's Neale Fraser in 1955-60.

"After Wimbledon, I wondered what I had to do to ever beat him," said McEnroe. "Then when it got to 2-2 in sets after being up 2-0, I figured I might never beat him."

"But I had a lot of things going for me here. This is my best surface and his

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Play several challenging teams Lady booters seek satisfying year

By BOB GROVE
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

While the men's soccer team was edging its way to an NCAA Final Four berth last season, the women's soccer club was also enjoying a rather productive season, winning all eight of its regular season games.

And this year, the Lady Lions will probably experience much of the same success. There are a number of reasons to expect another good season from second-year coach Tim Conley's 1980 squad. The Lady Lions:

- Lost only one starter from last year's squad.
- Have a nucleus of nine returning regulars, naturally more experienced this year than last.
- Feature a large and talented crop of freshmen that Conley said probably will produce at least two starters immediately.
- Exude an optimistic and confident attitude.

Carefully avoiding to establish a goal

which may be too high for his team, Conley talks not about another undefeated season but rather a satisfying season.

"We're not going to finish 8-0," he said. "We won't be undefeated because we play a much more difficult schedule. But you don't have to be undefeated to have a good year."

"We're going to be much better this year than last year. Every year the teams we play improve. I just don't know if we've improved as much as the other teams."

This season, unlike last year, the Lady Lions will face a schedule composed mostly of varsity teams, including powerhouse Cortland State and St. John Fisher. Add to that the fact that the team will be traveling much more this year (only four home games are scheduled), and you have the potential for a less-than-satisfying season.

However, it doesn't seem to bother the Lady Lions.

"We're more challenged," said Sheryl Blumenthal, one of the leading scorers on last year's squad. "And I like playing in that kind of situation."

"Our playing potential is better this year. We have more people with experience and we've been playing with each other for a while longer. Half the game is knowing what your other players can do."

Junior goalkeeper Patti Wisniewski agrees with Blumenthal.

"We're definitely better this year," she said. "Everyone's more intense because we have a varsity schedule; we have to show everyone we can play a varsity schedule. Everyone wants to go out and win."

Senior Paige Brown, last season's MVP, won't argue with her teammates.

"We will improve simply because we're playing better teams," she said. "Some of us have been together for a long time and we're playing a lot better together this year. We've improved a lot."

Blumenthal, Wisniewski and Brown aren't saying the Lady Lions didn't encounter any challenges last season. After finishing eighth in the Eastern Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women tournament, the Lady Lions won their own indoor tournament, took second place in the eight-team Big Red Tournament in Bloomington, Ind., and completed a two-week tour of England which saw them win all three games they played.

"We were much quicker than the English teams we played," Conley said. "This year, we will have much better team speed. Our defense has played together now, too. All of the girls enjoy playing and they learn very quickly."

Conley said his team, now in its second week of practice, has been working on developing strong outside shooting and support techniques in preparation for its first game Saturday against Lock Haven at Pollock Field. If the Lady Lions have their way, it could be the start of a very successful season.



Although the women's soccer team is rich in experience this season with Shawn Ladda, right, and eight other starters returning, it will be difficult to equal last year's 8-0 slate since the Lady Lions will face stiffer competition this season.

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