

the daily sports

Boys' basketball jumps to 10th

Lions' 10th

By Rick Grant

The Top Twenty

By The Associated Press

Boys' basketball in the Associated Press College Football poll is in paragonese, as shown by the following points. Points based on 20-19-17-16-15-14-13-12-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.

1. Notre Dame (47) 7-0-0 281
2. Georgia (15) 8-0-0 238
3. Florida State (1) 8-1-0 1094
4. Oklahoma (1) 6-0-1 1072
5. Michigan (1) 6-0-1 1022
6. Penn State (1) 7-1-0 908
7. Ohio State (1) 7-1-0 866
8. Baylor (7) 5-1-0 835
9. Pittsburgh 7-1-0 817
10. Penn State 7-1-0 812
11. Oklahoma 5-2-0 612
12. Michigan 5-2-0 610
13. Alabama 5-2-0 584
14. Penn State 5-2-0 583
15. Baylor 7-1-0 565
16. Purdue 6-2-0 520
17. Missouri 6-2-0 429
18. Mississippi State 7-2-0 242
19. Florida 6-1-0 238
20. Florida 6-1-0 138

Booters welcome back old friend

By RICH SCARCELLA

By the interlude between 1939 and today, this country has seen just about everything, including the latest — a former movie actor running for the highest office in the land.

But one thing it hasn't seen is a Penn State-Lehigh soccer game. Fans got that rare opportunity at 7:15 tonight at Jeffrey Field as the 10th-ranked Nittany Lions (15-2) host the Engineers (4-8-1).

After 41 years of inactivity, the series resumes for both competitive and financial reasons.

"When you increase the schedule from nine games (in 1939) to 22 games, you try to increase the quality of your program with the teams you face," Penn State coach Walter Bair said. "We also try to get teams to play that will fit into our budget — teams that are located in a 200-mile radius.

"We'd like to schedule a Cleveland State, a St. Louis and an Indiana once a week, but it's a financial impossibility."

So the Lions tune up for those ranked schools by playing teams like SUNY-Binghamton, Shippensburg State and Fordham.

Lehigh is in a class with East Stroudsburg and Bucknell," Bair said. "Occasionally they have a good club. We're in good physical and mental condition. If we lose, it's because we're looking ahead to Sunday."

That's when Penn State finally takes on third-ranked Connecticut, a game the Lions have been pondering over for the past few weeks.

"I think the team might be overlooking Lehigh," midfielder Jeff Materhofer said. "They're a hacking, dirty team. The important thing is to stay healthy for Connecticut. The Connecticut game is the most important one of the season."

And Penn State should be prepared for the showdown. With three games remaining



Duncan MacEwan (8) and the rest of the 10th-ranked Penn State soccer team may need some heavy play at 7:15 tonight at Jeffrey Field when it tries not to overlook Lehigh.

maintaining before a probable National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament bid, the Lions are peaking at the right time.

Forward Peter Jancevski snapped out of a lengthy scoring slump Friday as he erupted for three goals and two assists in a 6-0 whitewashing of SUNY-Binghamton.

"Yeah, Peter has broken out of it," defender Greg Dennis said. "A number of the forwards are coming around. The whole offense is coming into its own."

"My goal is to make it back down to Florida and the Final Four. And ultimately, winning it."

It will be interesting to see what happens this Saturday when Penn State plays North Carolina State. The Wolfpack is a mediocre 4-4 team, but always seems to give the Lions fits, including last year when Herb Memhardt kicked a 54-yard field goal to lift Penn State to victory.

It's not a game that demands national attention, but it should at least get the attention of the people who live within a dropkick of the stadium.

The defense stopped Miami on 12 out of 13 third-down situations, but no many people took notice. Oh, some alumni stood up and cheered the last year when Herb Memhardt kicked a 54-yard field goal to lift Penn State to victory.

I'm not so sure Penn State deserves a winner — and that's exactly what the football program has produced throughout the years. And this year is one of the best, but the students don't know that.

I really can't explain it," said Fran Fisher, sports promotions director. "I have no way to understand that. I hope it's not a sign of the students' lack of interest."

The scary part about it is that may be exactly what it is. When 16,436 seats were added to Beaver Stadium in 1978, the students cried about how too many of those seats went to the general public. It did seem unfair then, but now it's obvious the students don't deserve any more seats.

And how can students complain about seating policy or ticket prices when many of them buy season tickets and watch half a game or no game at all?

Barry Jones, coordinator of marketing, merchandising and promotions, said the problem was "most students, and it may sound ridiculous, simply did not pack winter clothing when they came up."

But the problem goes much deeper than two layers of clothing.

What's happened to Penn State pride? It's been barely evident all year long but Saturday it was gone with the wind.

And it's not the alumni who've failed to support their football team, it's the students. By the start of the fourth quarter of Penn State's 27-12 win over Miami, there were more empty seats than students in the student sections. Students were allotted about 22,000 seats on Saturday, but only an estimated 10,000 cared enough to watch the game.

What's even more appalling is the large number of students who didn't even bother to show up.

Sure, the numbing, windy weather may have been better suited for polar bears than Nittany Lions, but some faithful alumni three and four times the age of most students sat through the nasty conditions.

Tom Verducci

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Fieldwomen earn No. 1 seed in districts

By SHARON FINK

The field hockey team, the defending EAIAW Middle Atlantic district champion, was named the No. 1 seed in this year's tournament on Sunday afternoon by a selection committee of coaches.

The championships will be played Friday through Sunday at the University of Maryland at College Park.

The Lady Lions will face Princeton in their first-round game at 11 a.m. on Friday. To earn a trip to the national championships Nov. 19-22 at Southern

Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill., Penn State must finish in one of the top three places.

The seed really came as a surprise to the Lady Lions, who in the process of beating every team in the region they've played, finished the regular season undefeated (15-0-2). They've also been ranked as top team in the country in the national coaches' field hockey poll since the beginning of the season.

Rutgers and the Lady Lions, however, still consider getting the top seed quite an accomplishment. The

Mid-Atlantic district is the most competitive in the nation's top 20, and with the exception of Princeton and Penn State, each of those teams has lost to Penn State.

The Lady Lions have participated in every Mid-Atlantic tournament since 1975, and this is the third consecutive year they have been seeded first.

Last year, Penn State beat Temple and Ursinus in the first two rounds and faced Maryland in the finals. The Lady Lions beat the Terrapins in a tie-breaker.

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Bowling teams 2nd, 3rd

By SHARON FINK

A weekend in West Virginia proved to be prosperous for the men's and women's bowling teams.

Although Penn State did not win the Holiday Lanes Tournament this weekend, the Lions and Lady Lions finished second and third, respectively, in a field of 35 teams. The men had a total team score of 8,712 for nine games, while the team total for the women was 7,917.

The Lions, who lost to Ohio State by only 100 pins on Sunday, were led by doubles champions Ray Saxon and Terry Saxon. Saxon scored a 658 for three games while Saxon bowled a 617.

The Lady Lions were led by singles champ April Long (618 for three games) and singles runner-up Audrey Hichar (614). Long had the high for nine games with a score of 1,688. Eric Community College placed first in the women's division, while SUNY-Buffalo finished second.

Penn State will participate in another important tournament, the Sheraton Lanes Tournament, this coming weekend in Buffalo, N.Y.

—by Tony Smith

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Time for students to come out and support Lions

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