

Lady swimmers to host Villanova

The women's swimming team will get a chance to see whether it can turn in a performance like the men's team did Wednesday night against Villanova when the Lady Lions battle the Wildcats at 1 p.m. tomorrow in McCoy Natatorium.

Penn State coach Ellen Perry said she is hoping for the same type of victory the Lions recorded, but tomorrow's meet has been modified to include mostly sprints.

"In a sprint meet, everybody is going to have to do very, very well," Perry said. "It will come down to the best turns, the best starts and the best finishes. It might go down to the last relay."

If the Wildcats have their way, they could upstage the Lady Lions' bid to win

their second meet of the young season. Villanova, which placed third in Division II of the National Collegiate Athletic Association last year, has all but one swimmer back from its relay teams.

But that hasn't diminished Lady Lion freshman Cindy Post's optimism for the meet with Villanova, which also has a dual meet winning streak of 21 on the line.

"We have quite a few strong swimmers," Post said, "and I think we'll win. We've been working hard."

The Wildcats' firepower comes from Jenny Franks (100- and 200-yard individual medley), Rita Edge (100- and 200-yard freestyle) and Beth Metzger, a freshman who last year qualified for the Olympic trials in the 100-meter backstroke.

"They're probably a lot stronger than they were last year," Perry said, "especially with the addition of Metzger. I'm expecting that everybody is going to go pretty hard. But obviously a home crowd to cheer us on would be much appreciated."

In light of the Wildcats' weakness in the diving events, Lady Lion diver Patti Jones said she will experiment with two new dives on the low board. After tomorrow's meet, she and teammate Pam Hiestler will travel to the Hershey Christmas Invitational, where Penn State diving coach Bob Goldberg said it will be a good opportunity for the divers to practice for the big meets later in the season.

—by Steve Graham

Swimmers look past St. Bonaventure

For the first time this season, the men's swimming team will take to the road as it faces St. Bonaventure at 2 p.m. tomorrow.

Bahan said he hopes to lower his time in the 200-yard freestyle, but he'll be concentrating on qualifying for the national championships in the 50- and 100-yard freestyles. "It will probably be about the same kind of meet (as Villanova)," said freestyler Ed Bahan, who will again be swimming in the 200-yard freestyle in order to gain some experience for Easterns.

He said part of the reason for the changeover to the 200 was due to the Lions' strength in the 50- and 100-yard freestyles.

Penn State coach Lou MacNeill said the Bonnies are weak in the diving events and don't have any outstanding sprinters and therefore he doesn't expect the Lions to have too many problems.

"They're (the Bonnies) all hopped up," MacNeill said. "They'll be competitive, but I think Villanova (who lost to the Lions, 73-60, on Wednesday night) could beat them. We're probably eight seconds better than them in the

400-yard medley relay. The medley relay gives you an indication of what the rest of the team is like."

Bahan said he hopes to lower his time in the 200-yard freestyle, but he'll be concentrating on qualifying for the national championships in the 50- and 100-yard freestyles. He holds Penn State records in both the 50 and 100.

"I'm pleased, but I'm not satisfied," Bahan said. "I haven't reached any of my goals yet."

Bahan said MacNeill knows what it's like to have an average program like St. Bonaventure has. He said his coach doesn't like to run up scores and will probably use a lot of second string swimmers against the Bonnies.

After tomorrow's meet, Lion divers Craig Brown, Dale Dmitrak and Mike Cecatiello will be headed for the Hershey Christmas Invitational on Sunday. The meet will feature age-group competition, and will involve several high school divers from Maryland and Philadelphia schools in addition to college divers from Pittsburgh and Clarion State.

—by Steve Graham

Icemen on the road again for 2 weekend contests

By RON MUSSELMAN

For the past two years the hockey team has got on more mileage than the good set of Firestone steel-belted winter radials. Home ice has been in Mechanicsburg, a little more than 100 miles from here, while practices have taken place in the coal mining regions of Johnstown and Wilkes-Barre.

And with two important away games this weekend, the Lions once again hit the road to Johnstown on Wednesday night to sharpen their skills. Penn State faces off at 7:45 tomorrow afternoon in Upsala and then plays Ramapo at 7 p.m. Sunday.

After practice Wednesday night, Lion goalie Jim Pollock and coach Clayton John both breathed a sigh of relief, since they both know that only one more practice separates them from being able to practice and play in the new rink.

"For any team to be fully effective," Pollock said, "a team must practice more than once a week. You know what it was like last year, we were always on the road and we practiced on an undersized outside rink. It was tough."

"But this new rink is what everyone on this team is looking forward to. I hope people come out and watch us. I think they will like our brand of hockey."

"It seems like we've been on the road forever," John said. "Getting into the new rink will be super and we

won't have any more traveling to do for awhile, because we have a lot of home games the second half of the year. People don't realize that our practices tie up about eight hours when you include time spent on the road."

But perhaps more important to the team than the opening of the rink is the importance of the games this weekend against National Collegiate Athletic Association competition. Ice hockey at Penn State is only a club sport but has a schedule consisting of Division II and III schools.

"Both of these games are going to be a good test for us and it is important that we win," John said. "Both teams are formidable opponents and I am relying heavily on our defense to put pressure on them and control the tempo of the game."

"It's also important because right now, we are dictating our home attendance. If we win these two games then we should draw well, but if we lose it could be an altogether different story. We want to pack the new rink, so."

Defenceman Joe Battista agreed that it was a must-win situation. "We know they're gonna be in good condition because they are varsity teams and they have a big jump on us practice-wise," Battista said. "They have also played a lot more games than us (both Upsala and Ramapo have played nine games), so that is a factor. This could be the turning point of our season."

Lion fencers expect easy weekend; face 3 New York teams

By TONY SMITH

Daily Collegian Sports Writer

Bowling coach Don Ferrell is looking forward to matches against Temple Saturday at 1 p.m. and Drexel Sunday at 10 a.m. at the school, but he is also looking forward to Dec. 15.

What's so special about Dec. 15? On that date, the results of the National Collegiate Bowling Poll, which determines the top 10 men's and women's collegiate bowling teams, will be released.

Does Penn State belong in the top 10? Let's examine the evidence.

First, the records of the men's and women's teams. The Lions are 8-0; the Lady Lions are 7-0. Not bad.

How about tournament competition? The Lions and Lady Lions have participated in two highly-competitive tournaments—one at Weirton and another in Buffalo.

Only once did Penn State miss first or second place (the women finished third at Weirton).

It would appear from the evidence that the Penn State men's and women's teams are shoo-ins for spots in their respective top 10s. According to Ferrell, however, that may not be the case.

"I hope we make it (in the top 10)," Ferrell said, "but you can never be sure how it is going to turn out."

"You know what happens with the other teams," Ferrell added, referring to other Penn State athletic teams. "Penn State hopes to continue to make its case for the top 10 tomorrow, when it hosts Temple at Rec Hall. The Lions were scheduled to host Drexel on Sunday, but due to a change in the school calendar, Drexel may not be permitted to show up, Ferrell said.

The Owls will be looking to avenge the two losses they suffered to Penn State in November. The Lions won 14-5; the Lady Lions won 13-4. Ferrell said he anticipates a serious challenge from the Temple team.

"Both the men's and women's matches should be close," said Ferrell. "It won't be lopsided like it was with Lincoln (University) last week."

Ferrell said the fact that Penn State defeated Temple earlier this season won't affect his team's.

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Unbeaten keglers strive for top

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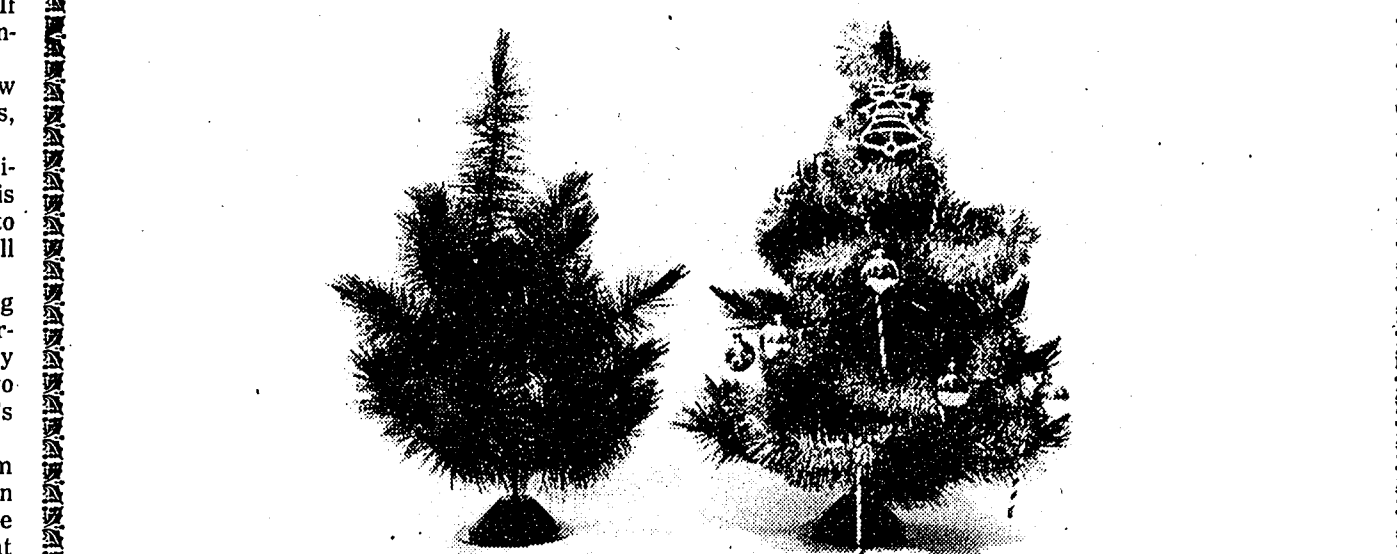
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