

Wrestlers aim for top finish

Even though the collegiate wrestling season ended last month with the NCAA finals at Princeton, Penn State wrestlers are remaining active by competing in freestyle tournaments all across the country.

John Hanrahan, Bob Bury and Bill Marino — a transfer from Clemson — will compete this week in the National Amateur Athletic Union Freestyle Championships at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz.

Hanrahan will wrestle at 180 pounds, while Bury and Marino will wrestle at 136½ pounds. Their trip is being sponsored by the New York Athletic Club and the Penn State Wrestling Club.

"This is the elite of freestyle tournaments in the country," said Penn State coach Rich Leone. "It's a stepping stone for the '84 Olympics; you have to wrestle against this kind of competition if you have any thoughts of trying out."

Earlier this month, Marino competed in the U.S. Wrestling Federation Tournament at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



Laurie Gray

Photo by Dan Vogely

Lady laxers host Temple Owls

By LAURIE JACOBS
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

"Rags to riches" is a typical story, but how many times does it happen in real life? What are the chances of an unscrupled freshman making the best lacrosse team in the country? The odds are definitely stacked against it.

But freshman Laurie Gray, the newest addition to coach Gillian Rattray's defending national championship lacrosse team, is a walk-on who beat those odds and went even farther to earn a starting position as attack wing for the Lady Lions.

Gray is a graduate of Lower Merion High School near Philadelphia, where she played lacrosse for three years, making All-Central League as a senior. She said she chose Penn State in hopes of playing lacrosse.

"When I saw Penn State play in a game against West Chester I realized that I just wanted to play for Penn State," she said. "When I made the team I was so proud — I was really ecstatic."

Gray isn't the only one happy about her being on the team. Rattray said she couldn't be more pleased with her new attack wing, especially after Gray's performances in the past four games in which she scored five goals and two

assists. Three of those goals helped pull the Lady Lions out of a precarious situation against William & Mary.

"Laurie Gray is fast and has some very good shots," Rattray said. "She had a very good game against William & Mary. She came through and scored goals when we needed them."

Both Rattray and Gray agreed that Gray had been a bit hesitant in her play in the beginning of the season due to first-game jitters, but Gray said she gained confidence quickly.

Now her main goal for the season is to develop her skills more to help the team. "I've gained my confidence now," she said, "and I can feel how the other players are playing now with their cuts and the way they play. I'm feeling a lot more comfortable."

"I hope to improve my personal skills and to be a great asset to the team," Gray will have a chance to be an asset to the team as the Lady Lions host Temple today at 3 p.m. at Lady Lion Field.

Temple already has 10 games under its belt, with losses to three of the four top-ranked teams, including Maryland, Harvard and Ursinus, (Penn State is ranked

No. 1), but nevertheless will be a strong challenge for the Lady Lions.

The Owls have lost all three previous games it has played against the Lady Lions, but by only two goals or less.

In last year's game, the Lady Lions slid by the Owls in the final six minutes of the game to win 6-5, and the scorers of the Owls' goals, Mindy Jacobs (3) and Kathie Daley (2), once again lead the Owls in scoring this season.

"Temple will provide a lot of tough competition for us," Rattray said. "They will be up for us; there's a lot of rivalry there because most of the players are from the same schools as our players."

"We know they're going to have a strong offense; they have a lot of good players back, especially Kathie Daley and Mindy Jacobs. We know it's going to be a tough game."

The Lady Lions have prepared for the Owls by practicing working against a zone defense, which the Owls will use to try to slow down goal-scoring machine Candy Finn and the rest of the Penn State powerhouse offense.

"We've been working against the zone because a lot of schools use it to slow us down," Rattray said. "On defense we have been trying to pull up more tightly man-to-man through the midfield."

More excitement on tap in Stanley Cup circus

Over the years, the battle for the coveted Stanley Cup — the symbol of North American hockey supremacy — has produced some memorable moments.

Take 1928 for example. Lester Patrick, the 44-year-old coach and general manager of the New York Rangers, came off the bench in the second game of the Cup finals against the Montreal Maroons to don goaltender's pads after his regular goalie was injured. The Rangers rallied around their coach, winning the game in overtime and taking the series in five games.

In 1942, the Toronto Maple Leafs staged perhaps the greatest comeback in Stanley Cup history, rallying from a 3-0 deficit in their best-of-seven series with the Detroit Red Wings to win the final four games and capture the trophy.

And who could forget the Boston Bruins winning their first Cup in 29 years when Bobby Orr scored 40 seconds into overtime in the fourth game of the 1970 finals against the St. Louis Blues?

Whenever Stanley Cup playoff time rolls around, hockey fans have come to expect exciting, well-played games and outstanding individual efforts. And they've also come to expect the unexpected.

So far this season, they have not been disappointed — the National Hockey League's preliminary round provided a little of each.

Those who like excitement had to look no further than the Pittsburgh-St. Louis series, which the Blues won on Mike Crombeen's goal in the second overtime period of the fifth and deciding game.

Fans keen on rooting for the underdog undoubtedly loved the Montreal-Edmonton series,

which the Oilers unexpectedly swept in three games, stunning the hockey world.

And as for individual efforts, the play of the Oilers' Andy Moog and Wayne (what else is new?) Gretzky, the New York Rangers' Ron Duguay and Steve Baker, the Minnesota North Stars' Steve Payne and the Pittsburgh Penguins' Mike Bullard has probably already fueled more than a few barroom discussions.

It's almost a sure bet there's more to come. But where will it come from? And from whom?



Bob Grove

Those are two very good questions to which most hockey fans are probably giving a lot of thought now on the eve of the playoffs' quarterfinal round.

On the heels of correctly predicting the outcome of five of the eight preliminary round series (which by no means makes me an authority), I would like to address the above questions.

N.Y. Islanders-Edmonton: Things certainly do not get any easier for the Edmonton Oilers. First they eliminate the Canadiens and now they're called upon to face the defending champion Islanders. As everyone knows, goaltending is a very important factor in NHL post-season play; goaltender Moog will have to come up big again in this

series if the Oilers are to have a chance. The key for the Islanders will be shutting down Edmonton's Callaghan-Gretzky-Kurri line while keeping Bryan Trottier and Mike Bossy supplied with pucks. — Islanders in five.

St. Louis-N.Y. Rangers: The way the Rangers played at times this year, it's a mild (considering the playoff format) surprise they're still around. Anders Hedberg and Ulf Nilsson are flying high after helping the Kings choke in the playoffs again. How much the pesky Penguins took out of the Blues is the biggest question here. Second biggest question: Has Mike Liut seen too much rubber this season? — Not yet — Blues in six.

Minnesota-Philadelphia: This might be the most hotly-contested series of the quarterfinal round. The North Stars have to be giddy after eliminating the Bruins in three straight, and visions of the Cup are no doubt dancing in the heads of youngsters like Bobby Smith and Don Beaupre. The Sabres, on the other hand, have a bit more experience on their side. Not many know more about the Stanley Cup than Scotty Bowman. — Still, I like the North Stars in seven.

Calgary-Philadelphia: How will the Flames react to their first taste of playoff success? Like a kid who's just eaten his first ice cream cone, they'll be screaming for more. Home ice advantage is a big plus for the Flyers, who sport a nice mixture of youth (Ken Linseman and Brian Propp) and experience (Reggie Leach and the indefatigable Bobby Clarke). Philadelphia must guard against mental lapses, like giving up three goals in less than five minutes to the Nordiques in game four. — Flyers in six.

Bob Grove is a 12th term journalism major and a sports writer for the Daily Collegian.



Mel Bridgeman (10) and the Philadelphia Flyers will have to avoid costly mental lapses when they face off against the Calgary Flames in their quarterfinal Stanley Cup playoff series, which begins tonight at the Spectrum in Philadelphia.

UPI wirephoto

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