

Consistency pays off for divers

Clark, Jones qualify for next year's Senior Nationals

By CHRIS LINDSLEY
Collegian Sports Writer

All season long, the diving team has stressed the need to be consistent. And one of the keys to their success at Senior Nationals last week in Indianapolis, Ind., was their ability to score in the 6-plus range Diving Coach Bob Goldberg said they needed to be competitive in this prestigious event.

Lady Lion Mary Ellen Clark, who finished 15th in the one-meter competition, and Patti Jones, who placed 23rd in the one-meter and 16th in the three-meter, both qualified for the next Senior Nationals by virtue of their top 16 finishes.

Jones, who was at her first Senior Nationals, never let the pressure of the competition get to her. But she admitted it may have been harder for her to score as well as more

experienced competitors because "I never expected to be going to nationals," Jones said, "and to go out there against the best and quality on high board was a real thrill.

"But sometimes it is harder for me to get the scores other people were getting (for the same dives). Scoring is very political at nationals, and if you have a name it is easier to score well."

Scoring well was not a problem for Clark, who, with the exception of one bad dive, may have finished in the top eight, which would have qualified her for the Olympic Trials. Goldberg said she did what she had to do to make the top 16, and came within one dive of the top eight.

"Mary Ellen started out a little slow at first, but she really came on strong during her last three (optional) dives," Goldberg said. "She only missed one dive, (in which she

scored 3 1/2-4s) and if she did as well as she could have on that one that would have added about 15 points to her score, and would have put her in the top eight."

Also performing well for Penn State was Dale Dmitrzak, who was 28th in the three-meter competition. Dmitrzak said he was satisfied with the way he dove, but his finishing position was a little misleading.

"This is the best I have ever done at Nationals, and I was pleased with my performance," Dmitrzak said. "I scored better here than I did during the summer nationals (in which he finished 18th), but I ended up nine places lower (than at summer nationals), and that was mainly due to the competition.

"Dale didn't miss any dives and he still finished only 28th out of the

39 divers," Goldberg said. "I think this speaks well of the competition he faced. The U.S. is the best diving country in the world, and considering all of the top divers were here, I think Dale did very well."

The diving team has been working hard all year round to be in top form by the end of the season, and Clark said this meet is an indication of how the work in practice has helped them to prepare, and how it paid off by becoming a little better in national diving circles.

"We have been working very hard all year in practice to be at our best for the end of the season," Clark said, "and it pulled us through in good shape again (last week)."

"With a strong showing like we had last week, it helps to get Penn State diving known throughout the country, and each of us also benefits as our names become more familiar (with people at future nationals)."

Laxers drop 10-6 decision

Despite playing one of its strongest games of the season, the men's lacrosse team lost to eighth-ranked Rutgers 10-6 Saturday afternoon in Piscataway, N.J.

But had it not been for two Rutgers' goals in the last 40 seconds of the game due to a double-teaming, risk-taking defense, the score would have been closer.

Lion Coach Glenn Thiel said he can't be disappointed with his team's performance, only with the outcome. "It was anybody's game," Thiel said. "We got the ball and did what we wanted with it, but we just couldn't put it in the net."

"We played well all around and the game was a lot closer than 10-6, we took chances late in the game and they scored two easy ones."

Although Penn State never led in the game, there were a few times when the score was tied. In the second period with the score even at 3-3, Rutgers scored three unanswered goals and took a 7-4 lead at halftime.

"Thiel felt that stretch was the difference in the game. "In the second quarter they jumped out to a 7-4 lead, but we came back in

the second half and we outplayed them for the most part," he said. And although Penn State's biggest problem was getting the ball in the net, Thiel knew it wasn't poor shooting, but rather great goaltending.

"We were doing what we wanted in the second half, and it would have been nice to turn the tide," Thiel said, "but their goalie is tough and he's as good as we've seen all year."

Thiel said two of the standouts for the Lions were Bill Schoonmaker and John Coyne.

"Schoonmaker did a great job against Al Ray on the face-offs," Thiel said. "Ray is one of the best in the game but I think we won more face-offs than they did. And Coyne was super on defense against Rutgers' strong offense."

Penn State's next game will be Wednesday afternoon at Army, one of the top teams in the country and Thiel is aware of how difficult that game will be.

"We're already down by four to five goals," he said, "that's how tough it is to play them when they're at home."

— by Andrija Silih

Lion baseball team drops pair

By JOHN WEISS
Collegian Sports Writer

Everything had been going so well.

The weather had broken, the baseball team was gaining playing time, and a suspect pitching staff was doing the job. The Lions had won six games in a row, including five in a span of two days last Wednesday and Thursday.

Then their Saturday double-header at St. John's was washed out, but their twinbill yesterday at Rider was not. Unfortunately, the Lions found themselves on the short end of two hard-to-swallow defeats.

Penn State (12-12) took their opponent to extra innings in both games,

yet fell short each time by 4-3 scores.

The first loss, which went eight innings, may have been the tougher, with the Lions jumping out to a 3-0 lead in the second inning. Third baseman Roy Walker and shortstop Joe Phillips each had RBI singles in the inning, while left fielder Randy Simcox added a run-scoring double.

After the big inning, however, the Lion bats, which produced only six hits in the contest, fell to almost complete silence.

Meanwhile, Rider got one run back in the fourth, and the score remained 3-1 until the seventh, when Rider scored two in a do-or-die situation to tie the ballgame and send it to extra innings. A one-out

RBI single in the bottom of the eighth clinched Rider's comeback victory.

Jim Harry started for the Lions, going six innings and yielding three runs on five hits. The left-hander struck out two and walked four until he was relieved by Ray Moyer.

In the second game, the Lion bats rapped 11 hits in the 15-inning affair, but the team was no better off for it.

Right fielder John Tarley, center fielder Mike Obeid, and Phillips each had two hits in the contest, while first baseman Al Warrington collected three.

The Lions again started off with the lead, with Obeid's double scoring Warrington in the first inning.

After Rider tied the game with a run in the fourth, the Lions took a 2-1 lead in the fifth when Phillips scored on Warrington's second double.

Rider came back to take a 3-2 lead with two runs in the bottom of the sixth, but in the seventh, the Lions stayed alive when Walker came home on an error.

Penn State would again be denied a victory with Rider scoring on an RBI single in the bottom of the 13th.

Kevin Ferringer started for the Lions, going six innings while giving up three runs on three hits, with only one of the runs earned. The big right-hander also struck out five and walked four until giving way to Bob Zonts.

Zoeller eases to win at Heritage Classic

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. (AP) — Fuzzy Zoeller, given breathing room when double bogey disaster struck down Jim Nelford, needed only a round of par 71, to score a 2- stroke victory yesterday in the Sea Pines-Heritage Classic.

Zoeller, the PGA Tour's resident free spirit, acquired the fourth title of his career with a 275 total, nine strokes under par on the picturesque but deceptively difficult 6,650-yard Harbour Town Golf Links.

The victory, on a beautiful but breezy spring day on this resort island, was worth \$63,000 from the total purse of \$350,000. It raised Zoeller's earnings for the year to \$111,005 and enabled him to join the elite gathering of winners only who will congregate for the Tournament of Champions next week.

It was Zoeller's first triumph since the 1981 Colonial National Invitation and only his second since taking the 1979 Masters title.

Zoeller, the leader after 54 holes, surrendered the top spot over the front nine, and a host of challengers emerged. Among them were Craig Stadler, persistent Mac O'Grady, Bob

Eastwood, Nelford and David Graham.

One by one they began dropping back and Zoeller regained the lead with birdies on the tough 16th and 12th holes.

Nelford, a Canadian who has yet to win in six seasons on the American tour, was the last contender. He tied Zoeller with a 25-foot left-handed putt on the 14th.

That tie, at 10 under par, was a fleeting, momentary thing, however, as Nelford, too, fell victim to the subtle demands of the course many players regard as the finest on the Tour.

Nelford got his third shot in a bunker on the par-5 15th, just got out with his fourth, played a weak chip and had to make an 8-footer for bogey—that dropped him one back.

On the 16th, he again found the sand, exploded long and then 3-putted for a double bogey that provided the steady Zoeller with a 3-shot lead.

Zoeller three-putted for bogey on the final hole, which plays down the edge of a marsh where a red-and-white striped lighthouse overlooks the green. But by that time it mattered not at all.

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