

# Lady laxers crush Delaware, 19-7

By RICK STOUCH  
Collegian Sports Writer

A team that is ranked No. 1 is often said to have been jinxed or given the "kiss of death" as it loses one or several games immediately afterward.

The women's lacrosse team, however, must not believe in such bad luck—at least not yet. The No. 1 Lady Lions, rather than succumb to any misfortune that might accompany occupying the top spot, instead defended their top ranking with a vengeance by thrashing No. 3 and defending national champion Delaware 19-7 yesterday on the Blue Hens' home field.

Head Coach Gillian Rattray told her team to quickly establish its game.

"We looked at Delaware's scores and they had been slow starting," Rattray said. "We were determined to set the pace. We were attempting to not let them get their rhythm."

And the strategy worked well. After Penn State (6-0) jumped out to a 3-0 lead by the 3:12 mark, Delaware (2-1-1) could only come within 4-2 before the Lady Lions went on a 6-1 streak to build a 10-3 intermission cushion.

The Blue Hens could not recover in the second half.

In the only other poll by Lacrosse magazine this year—released in preseason—Temple was No. 1 (now No. 4), Delaware was No. 2 and Penn

State was No. 3. The Lady Lions will play No. 2 Maryland, who tied Delaware 8-8 in the Blue Hens' first game this season, on April 19 at College Park, Md.

While the Lady Lion defense was responsible for preserving Penn State's 6-5 win over Temple last Tuesday, Rattray said the attackers carried the weight against Delaware.

"Our defense won the Temple game, but today our offense came through," Rattray said. "Laurie Gray was very strong."

First home Gray led the Lady Lions with seven goals and an assist, while second home Marsha Florio accumulated five goals and four assists and left attack wing Maggy Dunphy chipped in three goals.

Rattray, although highlighting the offense, did not forget about the defense.

"We pressured every ball," she said. "Barb Jordan looked superb. Lynn Mattson had an excellent game."

Mattson made 10 saves, while Jordan made four interceptions, got six ground balls and caused seven Delaware turnovers. Dunphy led with eight ground balls. Penn State had 21 shots on goal in the first half and 20 in the second compared to eight and 14 for Delaware.

Rattray said the Lady Lions must be careful not to let this easy win cause them to take Delaware too lightly for a possible meeting in the National Collegiate Athletic Association playoffs.

"We are just that little bit further ahead in our season than Delaware is," Rattray said. "It was our day, but we must guard against counting Delaware out. I think we'll play them again."

Although Penn State's offense and defense have been consistent this season, one variable that looks to continue to change is who the Lady Lion career assist leader is.

At the beginning of the season, Candy Finn (1979-82) led the all-time list with 69 assists, while Williams and right attack wing Betsy Williams at 61, and had to again at 62, before recording two more assists to lead 64-62.

Against Delaware, Williams passed for three assists to again take command. Florio tied Williams at the 42:21 mark, but Williams went ahead again with an assist at the 46:52 mark on another Florio goal to lead 66-65.

Both passed Finn in the William & Mary game, but not without some major seasawing. Williams passed both Finn and Florio to break the record first at the 12:12 mark, ironically on a Florio goal. Florio tied Williams at 61, and had to again at 62, before recording two more assists to lead 64-62.

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Cathrall said, "because that is more of a team situation as compared to singles. We knew we couldn't match them man for man, but we thought we could have stayed with them in the doubles matches at least."

"The Yale match could have been very close," Cathrall added. "I feel we could have won three doubles matches there and if we did, the score would have been 5-4 instead."

The fact that the team has one of the toughest schedules in the country gives it a good opportunity to improve.

"We look forward to playing these type of people," Cathrall said. "You're forced to really work hard to win; they challenge you. They (Harvard and Yale) take their tennis so seriously that they had tailgate parties before the matches."

"This way you have to raise your game in order to win," Crist said. "If we didn't play anybody better than us, we would eventually start playing down to the level of our opponents and that won't help us any."

With the recent losses, the Lions' losing streak ran to seven and one wonders just what the team is missing.

"I think it's just a matter of us getting together and playing well all at the same time," Crist said. "What we're doing instead is just trying to survive each match and we're losing perspective of what our goals are."

"Each match is important," Crist added. "But I think we should focus on winning the Atlantic 10. If we concentrate on that, we'll be alright."

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the Lions play at Maryland, Navy and Richmond respectively, and Cathrall said it will be yet another uphill battle.

"Virginia beat us 8-1," Cathrall said, "and Maryland beat them by the same score. Harvard and Yale beat Navy in close matches and Richmond has one of their best teams in the last 10 years."

# Crist shines, but netmen lose 2

By ROBERT LEICHTMAN  
Collegian Sports Writer

Every black cloud has a silver lining, and one player that emerged for the men's tennis team (6-12) through the recent defeats at the hands of Harvard 7-2 and Yale 8-1, was junior Bryan Crist.

Crist, playing No. 5 singles, was the only Lion to come away victorious in both of his matches against the Ivy League powerhouses. Head Coach Holmes Cathrall said it was only a matter of time before he came through.

"He's been working hard all year," Cathrall said. "I knew he could play better than he has been and I think he finally played up to his full potential."

Cathrall said, however, he will not move Crist up a notch.

"I think to reward it to punish," Cathrall said. "It might destroy his confidence and I know he's fine where he is and he can cope with it."

"I just think that getting some matches under your belt is important to build up your confidence," Crist said. "Once I play this good and win though, I expect to win all the time. I might be putting a lot of pressure on myself in the future. But it's good not to have the underdog feeling walking on the court."

The No. 3 doubles team of Ben Shobaken and Howard Beckman also managed to emerge victorious against Harvard, while No. 1 singles player Virgil Christian had a good showing at Yale, losing to the No. 1 Canadian Davis Cup player Martin Wostenholme only 6-4, 6-3.

Cathrall was pleased with the overall performance of the team but thought the final scores should have been closer.

"I was a little disappointed with our doubles play,"

Cathrall said, "because that is more of a team situation as compared to singles. We knew we couldn't match them man for man, but we thought we could have stayed with them in the doubles matches at least."

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# Schmidt's smash lifts Phils past Astros, 3-1

By RALPH BERNSTEIN  
AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Mike Schmidt described his game-winning home run as a relaxed, easy swing. The result was a smash.

Schmidt hit an eighth-inning 2-2 pitch from Houston's Nolan Ryan into the left-field stands for a three-run homer that gave the Philadelphia Phillies a 3-1 home-opening victory over the Astros.

"He (Ryan) is a battler, a challenger, and I just got one hit that happened to beat him," Schmidt said.

The home run was Schmidt's fourth off Ryan and the 391st in his career.

Schmidt, who broke two bats during previous appearances, said he approached the plate anxiously after failing to get a hit in three earlier efforts and leaving six runners stranded. But once there, Schmidt said he felt at ease.

"It was a good feeling. He didn't freeze me or anything," he said. Schmidt said the home-run pitch, waist high and a little inside, was the same one Ryan used to get him out earlier in the game.

Ryan said he tried to go outside with a fastball.

"That was the place to throw it. But it tumbled back over the plate."

"As soon as I released it I knew it was gone," Ryan said.

Phillies' Manager Paul Owens said Schmidt's homer "was the best at bat he has had in two or three years. He fought off a lot of tough pitches. There was a lot of pressure on him because he had left so many on. It shows why he is such a great player."

Ryan now has lost six straight decisions to the Phillies, dating back to 1980.

Schmidt delighted the 37,226 fans on hand with his home run after Houston's Craig Reynolds broke up a scoreless tie with a homer.

Juan Samuel had started the inning by drawing the fourth walk of Ryan, who had allowed only four hits in the first seven innings. Len Matuszek then dropped a bunt single off Ryan's glove before Schmidt ripped his second home run of the season.

The home run gave John Denny, the 1983 National League Cy Young Award winner, his first victory against one loss. He gave up five hits, struck out four batters and walked none. He left after Terry Puhl led off Houston's ninth with a single.

Al Holland came on and issued a one-out walk to Jose Cruz, then retired Jerry Mumphrey on a fly to right and struck out Ray Knight to post his first save.

Ryan's 11 strikeouts improved his career total to 3,694. It was the 152nd double-figure strikeout game for Ryan, who is second on the all-time strikeout list, 27 behind the Phillies' Steve Carlton.

DETROIT (AP) — Darrell Evans belted a three-run homer to back the four-hit pitching of Dan Petry yesterday as Detroit extended its winning streak to six games with a 5-1 victory over the Texas Rangers.

It was the second American League homer for Evans, who signed with the Tigers as a free agent after a 15-year career in the National League.

Petry, 2-4, walked three and struck out seven before an opening-day crowd of 51,238.

Texas starter Dave Stewart, 0-2, walked Lou Whitaker and Alan Trammell in the Detroit first. Then Evans, making his first appearance in Tiger Stadium, belted a 1-0 pitch into the upper deck in right field.

Kirk Gibson then singled and Stewart walked Larry Herndon, Chet Lemon and Howard Johnson to force another run.

Herndon doubled off reliever Dave Schmidt and scored on Dave Bergman's single in the Detroit third.

The Rangers' only run came in the 42-minute first inning when Buddy Bell singled, went to second on a grounder and scored on a single by Larry Parrish.

The Tigers' 60-start matches a club record set in 1911 and leaves Detroit the only unbeaten club in the major leagues.

NEW YORK (AP) — Phil Niekro and Jose Rijo, the oldest and youngest players in the history of the New York Yankees, combined with Dave Righetti on a seven-hitter yesterday and Willie Randolph hit a two-run homer as the Yankees won their home opener from the Minnesota Twins 4-1.

Niekro, the 45-year-old knuckleballer released by Atlanta following the 1983 season after 25 years in the Braves' organization, allowed five hits in 6 1/3 innings. He walked one, struck out two and did not permit a batter beyond first base until Darrell Brown doubled with one out in the sixth inning.

The Yankees, before a crowd of 52,430, scored off Frank Viola, 0-2, when Tim Lincecum singled with one out in the third inning and Randolph followed with a towering fly into the left-field stands for his first homer of the season, the 28th of his nine-year career.

It was the sixth consecutive loss for Viola dating back to last season.

The Yankees added a pair of unearned runs in the eighth. After leading the bases against Larry Pashnick on two-out singles by Don Baylor, Dave Winfield and Toly Harrah, Pete Filson came on to face Don Mattingly. But Gaetti, the third baseman, muffed Mattingly's low liner for an error and the ball caromed into short left-field as two runs scored.

PHILADELPHIA's Mike Schmidt watches his eighth-inning home run travel over the left field fence yesterday in Philadelphia. Schmidt's three-run smash led the Phillies to a 3-1 win over the Astros.

AP Wirephoto

Yankees 4  
Twins 1

Rangers 5  
Astros 1

Yankees 4  
Twins 1

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Astros 1

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Twins 1

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Nittany Grotto meeting, 7 p.m., Room 106 Boucke.  
Chess Club meeting, 7 p.m., Ground Floor HUB.  
P.S.U. Horticulture Club meeting, 7 p.m., Room 108 Tyson.  
Marketing Assoc. meeting, 7 p.m., Room 111 Boucke.  
Monty Python Society meeting, 7 p.m., Room 303 Willard.  
Agriculture Mechanization Club meeting, 7 p.m., 206 Ag. Engineering Bldg.  
Christian Student Fellowship Bible Study, 7 p.m., 212 Eisenhower Chapel.  
Premedical Society meeting, 7 p.m., Room 307 Boucke.  
P. S. Stamp Club meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 207 Sackett.  
U.S.G. meeting, 8 p.m., Room 205 Boucke.  
P. S. Equestrian Team meeting, 8 p.m., Room 314 Boucke.  
Campus Bible Fellowship meeting, 9 p.m., Room 316 Boucke.

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