

Weather takes toll on Gentle Thursday

By PAT COLLIER
Collegian Staff Writer

Bad weather may have kept most students from stopping at the HUB Lawn for yesterday's Gentle Thursday revival, but the few who participated said they enjoyed a fun, relaxing afternoon.

The participants, who consisted mainly of a small core group of "Friends of Gentle Thursday," spent the afternoon playing games, juggling and generally forgetting the daily routine in order to relax and share, they said.

"We came, had a good time, and relaxed," John LaFemina, one of the organizers of the event, said. "That was the best thing."

"We played some Hacky-Sack, jugged, painted people's faces — just basically enjoyed ourselves," LaFemina said.

Bill Eichensner, a 1980 graduate of the University, said a group of 15 to 20 students also stopped by for a short time on their way to or from classes.

The Friends of Gentle Thursday have offered the revival for the past two years, LaFemina said.

Gentle Thursday originated in 1970 in an effort to relax war-related tensions on campus. It was cancelled in

1980 because of problems with drugs and alcohol, he said.

'We came, had a good time, and relaxed, that was the best thing.'

—John LaFemina, one of the organizers of Gentle Thursday

Gentle Thursday, which is traditionally held on the third Thursday in April, fell on a cold, damp day for the second straight year.

As a result, many students who normally would have stopped by out of curiosity probably passed by, LaFemina said.

Despite low attendance, which sunk to about 15 from 50 last year, the "Friends" are not discouraged and plan to celebrate Gentle Thursday again next year.

"There won't be any changes," LaFemina said, adding that they would still offer Gentle Thursday in an effort to get students to take an afternoon off to relax and share.

Retention problem a recruitment issue

By JOSEPH DITZLER
Collegian Staff Writer

The University needs clearly defined goals for retaining and recruiting minority students, the executive assistant to the president for administrative affairs said Wednesday.

William Asbury told a small gathering at the Paul Robeson Cultural Center that the University is making significant progress toward the recruitment of undergraduate and graduate minority students, but fundamental changes need to be made in the way the University views minority retention.

One of the basic problems facing all the University's desegregation programs is money, Asbury said. The University is not inclined to be successful if it just talks about how much money it has to spend, he said.

He said the University needs to attract minority students to programs other than traditional ones minorities enroll in, such as human development.

"We really have to make what seems to be some fundamental changes in our approach to retention; what we know about retention; what we know about market penetration to attract students in all the

areas where we think students ought to have the opportunity to be enrolled," Asbury said.

The University could realize some goals this fall by increasing the number of black students to the minimum goal set for the 1984-85 fiscal year, he said.

Asbury said another goal is increasing the number of black faculty and staff members and the number of black graduate students next year.

He also said that developing cooperative programs with Lincoln University and Cheyney University of Pennsylvania must go much farther. He said the University will be developing individual programs and arranging exchanges of faculty and staff during the next fiscal year.

He said he assumed visiting University faculty may draw students away from Cheyney faculty who must meet course enrollment levels in order to get paid.

Graduate programs so far, met with a varying degree of success, he said.

Warren Coleman, assistant professor of physical education, has been coordinating graduate recruitment for the College of Health, Physical Education and Recre-



William Asbury

ation, Asbury said.

Last week Coleman met with faculty and students of seven historically black colleges and universities to encourage prospective graduate students to enroll in Penn State's health and physical education programs.

Asbury said Coleman is optimistic that the University may acquire three-quarters of the 13 students to enroll in Penn State's

sports

Laxers face 'mirror image' against Retrievers

By JEFF SAUKAITIS
Collegian Sports Writer

When members of the men's lacrosse team glance toward the visitor's sideline at 2:00 tomorrow at Jeffrey Field when the Lions host the University of Maryland-Baltimore County, they might get the impression they are looking in a mirror.

PennState (4-5) has had to face a difficult schedule this season and the results have been mixed thus far. Although they have had their share of fine performances, the Lions have also suffered some close losses to highly-regarded opponents.

'We just don't have enough punch out of the midfield to control things there, so we control things on attack.'

— Glenn Thiel, men's lacrosse team coach

UMBC has a comparable 4-7 record, but Penn State Head Coach Glenn Thiel said tomorrow's opponents have played well this season, but have not been able to win consistently against perhaps the toughest schedule in the country.

Thiel said the game should be relatively high-scoring, and the Lions will have to slow down the pace in order to offset the tremendous quickness of the Retrievers.

"Their real strength is they have great speed up and down the field," Thiel said. "If we give them a broken play or open-field play, they could really convert on it. So we'll have to shut that down."

UMBC should also have a difficult test in trying to stop the Lions' recent offensive surge from their first line of attackmen — Gary Martin, Tom Lion and Rich Russo.

Earlier in the season, these three players often took turns in the spotlight. Now, with each in the midst of an offensive tear, the line is all the more difficult to stop.

Thiel said their improved offensive production has had a positive overall effect on the scheme of the Lions' attack.

"They're the guys that we really count on during these last four games."

Thiel said. "They're the ones that handle the ball the majority of times on offense. So they have to go for us to click on offense. We just don't have enough punch out of the midfield to control things there, so we control things on attack."

Lion said it will probably not be easy to score on the Retrievers, who return most of its standout defensive players from a team that gave Penn State fits last season.

"UMBC won 11-10," Lion said. The Lions would be looking to run a more balanced attack, trying to open up the offense to get the midfielders more involved. Opponents have been able to key on Penn State's strong attackmen, and Lion

said working the midfielders into the offense to a higher degree would help ease the pressure placed on the attackmen.

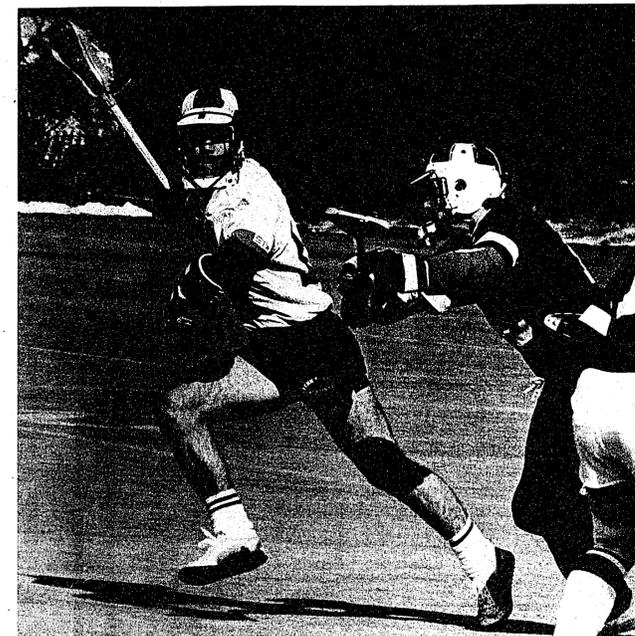
"The middies have been getting more involved in the offense lately," Lion said. "As attackmen, we have the primary responsibility to score. The middies have to play offense and defense. But they've been coming around well, and if they continue to improve, I don't think we'll have a problem."

Lion said Penn State's last two games provide a good contrast of playing consistently well for 60 minutes and playing well in spots. The Lions outlasted then seventh-ranked Hofstra 11-10 in overtime two weeks ago. Last week, they played solidly in the first and fourth quarters and suffered lapses in the second and third as they lost 10-10 to then sixth-ranked Rutgers.

The loss to Rutgers was especially disheartening to the Lions because they were coming off their best effort of the year against Hofstra, and they did not maintain a level of consistency and intensity. Thiel said he is concerned that the loss to the Scarlet Knights may have had a detrimental psychological effect on the Lions.

But Lion said Penn State's team attitude has remained upbeat through other setbacks this season, and he said everyone is still confident.

"Four of our losses were two- or three-goal losses, so we could have easily turned that around," Lion said. "We have four games left, and three of our teams are nationally-ranked. We could still prove ourselves to the lacrosse community by winning these last four games."



Midfielder Dennis Curran (left) of the men's lacrosse team looks for a pass in action earlier this season at Astroturf Field. The Lions will host the University of Maryland-Baltimore County at 2:00 tomorrow at Jeffrey Field.

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Part IV: 1:15 "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
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Part V: 1:40 "I Thirst"
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Part VI: 2:05 "It is finished"
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LaVie '85

Pistons top Knicks to even series

DETROIT (AP) — Bill Laimbeer scored 22 of his 31 points in the first half as the Detroit Pistons defeated New York Knicks 113-105 to even their NBA playoff series at 1-1.

King scored 23 points for the Knicks in the first quarter, matching the known high in NBA playoff history established by Seattle's Gus Williams on Tuesday night.

King's final first-quarter basket gave the Knicks their only lead in the game at 27-26 with 3:17 remaining in the period. However, the Pistons regained the lead on a pair of Laimbeer free throws with 2:51 remaining in the first quarter and led the rest of the game.

Laimbeer finished the first period with 20 points, and was perfect on 13 free throw attempts in the game.

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Lady laxers fall to Maryland, 9-8

By PATT SILVESTRO
Collegian Sports Writer

Despite a furious rally in the last minute of play, the No. 1 women's lacrosse team was handed its first loss of the season yesterday when it dropped a 9-8 decision to the Lady Terrapins in College Park, Md.

Lady Lion Laurie Gray scored with 50 seconds left in the game to pull Penn State within one goal of No. 2 Maryland. The Lady Terps then led 9-8, and the Lady Lions got the draw as Marsha Florio made one last attempt to tie the score by shooting from a free position. But Maryland's defense saved Florio's shot and the Lady Terps walked away seconds later with the victory over Penn State, keeping their undefeated record intact.

Penn State, now 7-1 on the season, experienced its slowest start of the year yesterday when the Lady Terps tallied four times before first home Gray put Penn State on the scoreboard after 11 minutes of play.

"We got off to a slow start, Maryland deliberately slowed the pace," Head Coach Gillian Ratray said. "Maryland played keep-away and prevented us from using our passing."

Ratray said Penn State had neither a strong mid-field game nor a crisp offensive transition because the offense was down at the other end of the field helping the odds to late in the game.

"I did say before we played Maryland that even though its scores were low, the Lady Terps would do what it took to win," she added.

Maryland (9-0) started its dominance in the first half of play. The Lady Terps tallied two more times after Gray's first goal, compared to only one goal from the Lady Lions. Maryland led Penn State 6-2 at halftime.

But the Lady Lions narrowed the four-point margin just 47 seconds into the new half. Florio gave Penn State its third goal of the game to cut the Maryland margin in half, 6-3.

Captain Betsy Williams made it 7-5 early in the half and Gray followed with another goal that put the Lady Lions within one of the Lady Terps. Maryland scored again, but Gray, with Williams assisting, once more cut the Lady Terps lead to one.

There was only two minutes left to play, but every last second was crucial for both teams.

The Lady Terps made it 9-7 with one and a half minutes left to play, but with :50 left on the clock, Gray scored to bring Penn State within one for the third time in the game. Penn State got the draw and Florio had a free position goal after Maryland fouled. Florio's shot was saved by Maryland and the Lady Terps picked up the rebound and stalled until the remaining seconds ticked away.

Ratray said turnovers killed the Lady Lions on offense. Penn State had a total of 19 offensive turnovers, which is more than it had in any one game of the entire season.

LADY LION NOTES: The turnover ratio wasn't the only unusual statistic for the Lady Lions in yesterday's game. Penn State had only one assist, and leading scorer Florio had only one goal in the game. Florio had scored 29 goals and 12 assists in the first six games. The Lady Lions will be on the road again to meet No. 6 Massachusetts at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Spikers familiar with underdog role

By JOHN WEISS
Collegian Sports Writer

Penn State Head Coach Tom Tait has been in similar situations before.

In both 1976 and 1981, Tait led his team into the Eastern Collegiate Volleyball League Championships as heavy underdogs, and both times the Lions came away with the title.

The latter win came against a Rutgers team that Tait recalls was ECVL title. But that victory was in the friendly confines of Rec Hall.

Now Tait and his Lions (19-9) take their underdog act on the road as they try to capture their fourth consecutive Eastern title this weekend at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

The winner of the ECVL title will be one of four teams to advance to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Championships May 4-5 at UCLA. The other three representatives will consist of the Midwestern champion and the first and second place teams in the West.

The fact that George Mason, a team that has climbed the national polls to No. 7 while posting a 26-3 record, is hosting the championship tournament makes Penn State's task that much more of a challenge.

"It's the first time that we have been in a situation where we have gone against the No. 1 seeded team on their home court where every one is expecting them to win," Tait said.

And why shouldn't the Patriots be expected to take the championship? The team is seeded first among the four teams competing, with the Lions second, Princeton (19-3) third, and Harvard (10-6) fourth.

Penn State will meet Princeton at 5 p.m. tonight while George Mason takes on Harvard at 8 p.m. A third place match will be held at 5 p.m. tomorrow and the championship match is scheduled for 8 p.m.

More important than the Patriots No. 1 seeding is the fact that the team has already beaten the Lions three times this season.

In the first meeting, the Patriots dominated Penn State 3-1 in front of a stunned Rec Hall crowd. The second encounter was a 3-2 decision at George Mason, while the third victory for the Patriots came by a 3-2 margin in the finals of the Ball State Classic.

The last match was the closest, with George Mason squeaking out an 18-16 fifth game win to clinch the match. It was that meeting with the Patriots that convinced Tait the Lions are capable of beating them.

"I think it's fairly easy for people from the outside looking in to say that we have no chance at it because they've beaten us three times during the season and it's at their home court," Tait said. "But realistically, I think we have a very legitimate shot at it."

"We have been playing better ball throughout the season, and we've closed the gap on them. The last time we met them, we were one swing away from beating them."

Middle blocker Ole Lachenmeier not only sees Penn State's chances as legitimate, but he also sees the pressure put on the Patriots.