Despite record, Parkhill a winner

dients in our everyday diet. EveryHe has faced circumstances out of (Craig Collins and Dwight Gibson) to

think of Lee Iacocca, Dean Smith, the kind of leader a young, up-and-com-New York Yankees and the Boston ing basketball program needs.



Losing is not fun. No one has ever gained anything from losing and contrary to popular belief, coaches and players do not accept "moral victories" as excuses for losing.

the character of a man. of the men's basketball team on April 10, 1983, Bruce Parkhill has had a tough time winning. In his three

Losing, however, does not reflect

His record does not indicate his team and heads back home. The personality. After building a winning Lions tailspin in the Atlantic 10 and

years at Happy Valley, Parkhill has

and Dick Harter had trouble doing one to bad grades. The Lions lose six while they were here. It is something out of their next seven games and Pennsylvania. Happy Valley is football and wrestling country, and buildtrying to have Mikhail Gorbachev

A closer look into Parkhill's three

For some, winning is natural; it coming off a 17-11 season that includ- Chaney of Temple and Gale Catlett of comes as easy as tying a shoe or ed a win over Maryland. The Lions go West Virginia riding a bicycle. For others, the abili- 5-6 to start the season and have a ty to win becomes a constant battle of three-game winning streak when they utility. No matter what they do, travel to Rhode Island. The 64-58 loss some people simply do not know how to the Rams ignites a 17-game losing "It doesn't matter how good a

> Year 2 . . . 1984-85: Before the season begins, Parkhill loses a top player College and transfers to Rider. Penn State upsets Navy 66-63 and plays hard in a loss to DePaul before a packed Rec Hall. After the game, however, the team's leading scorer, Terry Graves, is ruled academically ineligible. Also, a top recruit, Troy Daniel of Philadelphia, leaves the

It's one of the most powerful ingre- Penn State, but with no luck.

thing we do revolves around who wins his control, and while the final responsibilty rests with him, Parkhill son with five freshmen, three walkhas shown grace, class and patience ons and no seniors. After a season-When you think of winners, you in the wake of adversity. He's the bigk of leaders a young unand com-Navy and Oklahoma. Penn State re-What he has tried to do is build a Rutgers, bolts out to a 7-4 record. But When you think of losers, Walter basketball program at Penn State, in a matter of eight days, the Lions Mondale. Northwestern football, the something current National Basket- lose four starting players: two to New Orleans Saints and Charlie ball Association coaches John Bach injuries, one to homesickness, and

losing their two leading scorers

ing a basketball program here is like State program, but they do show what Parkhill has had to deal with in his

Bruce Parkhill is a class individual. He is a widely respected coach and Year 1 . . . 1983-84: Penn State is O'Brien of St. Bonaventure, John

But as Chaney put it after his team streak. Penn State lost one of its co-coach you are, you have to get playcaptains, Wally Choice, for most of ers. Coaching ain't worth a damn February, and finish with an abysmal without players. (Parkhill's) got to

> lieve a big-time basketball program can exist at Penn State, but he needs the thoroughbreds to do so. If Parkhill can turn it around, and he's capable of doing so, then he will be the biggest miracle worker since

He's probably two years away. Chris Loder is a senior majoring in journalism and a sports writer for

Mahoney answers swimmen

He's been described as level-headed but moody, but past year, although he gives much of the credit for it to also excitable. He's a man who may be small in stature the competition in practice. He feels the added competbut can tip the scales when it comes to talent. Who is itiveness is the result of a very strong freshman class. this enigma? - His name is Jay Mahonev.

The members of the men's swimming and diving team are very familiar with the riddle Mahoney poses. They have been trying to solve it since he came to the team four years ago. The thin senior also puzzles his opponents, with his on-again-off-again performances during the season and his sizzling end-of-season swims. "You never can tell how Jay's going to swim at the end of the year during the season," said fellow senior Guy Del Franco. "You have no idea of how good he can

do until the end of the season. "Sure he wins events but at the end of the year when he shaves, he blows people's minds. At the end of the year, nobody can beat him. He's unbeatable." This proved true last year as Mahoney waited until

the final competition of the season, the Eastern Seaboards, to post his best performances — setting new Penn State records in both the 100- and 200-vard butterfly. Why does he save his best performances for last, aside from the obvious factor of time to condition? That's where the moodiness comes in. 'You never can tell how Jay's

going to swim at the end of the year during the season. You have no idea of how good he can do until the end of the season.'

Guy Del Franco, Lion swimmer

"He's a moody guy — he lets things get to him sometimes," Del Franco said. "He's a very mental very easy to talk to." he has been swimming very well up to this point. His into the National Collegiate Athletic Association individual times are down and he has been a part-time championships this April, Brown said. member of both the successful 400-yard medley and 400-yard freestyle relays.

said Coach Peter Brown. "I think he's pretty pleas with where he's at right now." Mahoney is pleased with his improvement over the

'The fact that there are people on the team who can go fast the

whole year keeps me going, it

keeps all of us on our toes.'

Jay Mahoney, Lion swimmer

"I'm doing much better than I have in the past, bu the freshman that are coming in are so much better than I've seen here in the past," he said. "The fact that there are people on the team who can go fast the whole year keeps me going, it keeps all of us on our toes." Probably sharing in Mahoney's satisfaction of his success are his teammates, who elected him as one of their captains recently. Mahoney acknowledges this recognition from his fellow swimmers, but more importantly values the friendship he feels is present between himself and the other team members. "I never really thought about being captain at any

point in time, I always looked up to them," he said. "It's a great honor. I don't feel like I'm overpowering. but in the same respect I think it's really neat that you have people all around you that you really like, and you really like to be around."

One reason for the liking and respect that seems to follow in Mahoney's footsteps is because his ears are always open to the younger swimmers, senior Joe

they can come and talk to him about anything. He's swimmer. When he's up, when he's high, when he's He may be easy to talk 'to' but one thing he doesn't like to talk 'about' is his talent. Although he may not Mahoney must be feeling good this season because like to talk about it, his skill may very well carry him

"He's not a very big guy, but he's got a lot of talent," Brown said. "He probably has as good a chance as "He's doing much better than he was a year ago," anybody to make it to NCAA's this year.

Gymmen seek potential; held back by injuries

Collegian Sports Writer

linebacker throws his body on top of vide the gymnasts with the best possi-

sport where no one is there to beat on "As soon as I had the cast on, I the performer's body. These are the thoughts of someone quads," Gonzalez said. "Every two who had not taken a recent visit to weeks, the trainers added new exer-White Building to watch the men's cises to my workout. I started off with

Many are the kind of injuries that er, I started with the weights and the are not extremely serious but can resistance machines."

dent athletic trainer said. "They're Head Coach Karl Schier said when bodies. It's just them against the tion, he will be a different gymnast Penn State's Marlo Gonzales performs on the high bar during a dual meet with knee he injured last year and is just one of the many injured members of the

continual stress," trainer Angela knee injury - will be one of the top ized for Laux's injury. Carlson said. "They're a lot of chron- two in the gym. If Gonzalez does Laux works on a fitness bike to work on that now." ic problems in areas such as the return to competition this season, it maintain his cardio-vascular level shoulders, forearms, shins, fingers will be in upper-body events such as while he is away from the equipment. cardio-vascular work and the resisand ankles. Most are caused by im- pommel horse and parallel bars. proper conditioning or improper me- Another injured Lion is Chris Laux. cises for his upper arms, legs and

assistant trainer at every practice. It is considered a high-risk sport by the It is not a sport where a 250-pound University and care is taken to pro-

Co-captain Mario Gonzalez has into the boards to get to the puck. And been under the care of the team it is not the kind of sport where there physician and trainers since last bound to trip over 40 other feet. Those after suffering an injury in a meet are sports where injury is almost with Iowa. An individualized rehabil-But gymnastics is not a dangerous for Gonzalez and he works with the contact sport. It is a graceful, artistic training staff on a daily basis.

started working on tightening up my gymnastics team practice. On the 12- leg lifts and range of motion exerman team, there is not one gymnast cises in up-and-down directions to who is suffering from at least one keep my leg muscles from atrophying. Then as my knee became strong-

cause enormous amounts of pain and While undergoing therapy, Gonzadiscomfort. They're the kind of injury lez improved his cardio-vascular fitthat won't go away and the gymnast ness by riding an exercise bike and a regimin of lifting exercises. Gonza-"You can imagine the beating their lez said the trainers were helping him

doing some drastic things with their Gonzalez finally returns to competiequipment and themselves. As far as than he was in the past. Schier said he Japan last season in Rec Hall. Gonzales is undergoing rehabilitation for the non-contact sports go, gymnastics will be more creative, artistic and ranks as one of the highest with flexible. He added that Gonzalez's would be anywhere from three to six arm has been so swollen. But I've myself regularly," he added. "I've in there. But then you have to keep

Before the first meet of the regular ankles. Carlson said the men's gymnastics season, Laux broke his hand in prac- "It's been hard the last two on a daily basis. program has the coverage of a certitice and was told his recovery period weeks," Laux said, "Because my

where I need work. And I have time to been trying to keep up my physical of it. Carlson said that in addition to the ories."

He also uses manual resistance exer- tance exercises, it is important to thing about being injured is watching routines in my head that I want to do prevent the gymnast from gaining the rest of the team compete. weight while he is unable to practice "It gets really frustrating," he team competes, I feel the nerves

upper body strength — which was not weeks. Once again, the training team been working on my stretching and had to watch what I eat because I'm your head up and not get defeated "Most gymnastic injuries are from one of his strongpoints before the has developed a program individual- flexibility because that's an area not burning it off working out. I've You feel like you're missing out on all strength while cutting back my cal-

said. "At first, you're real up to get when I watch. But until I can compete "I feel like I'm keeping up with better because you want to get back again, I do a lot of imagery."

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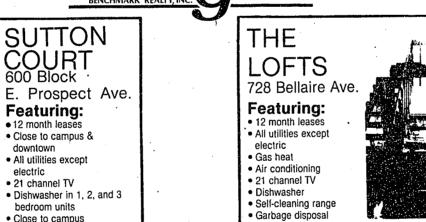
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