

Stickwomen set to visit Princeton

By DANA PENNETT
Collegian Sports Writer

The object of the game is to score, and although the field hockey team (11-3-2) has done this to a degree, it has had trouble recently overpowering opponents with an offensive outburst.

Today, the Lady Lions head to Princeton University to face the Lady Tigers and they are hoping to rectify this problem.

Head Coach Charlene Morett may be disappointed with the lack of goals, but overall, she is very pleased with her team's play to date.

"Overall we've played well. We've been able to play with control and intensity," she said.

"Against Davis & Elkins on Sunday (a game the Lady Lions won 2-1), we used everyone on attack, which was good. The defense stepped forward and played on attack and the attack itself really worked well together.

"The only problem I've seen is the need for the defense to be better prepared in transition so we can stop the breakaways," she continued. "Davis & Elkins scored against us in a breakaway situation and we have to be ready to expect that and handle it properly."

'We need to score more goals, that's the bottom line.'

— Miriam Geller
Lady Lion co-captain

The Princeton team will not be an easy opponent. Last year, the Lady Lions defeated the Lady Tigers 2-0 in overtime. But Penn State isn't taking anything for granted this time around.

"We really haven't heard that much about Princeton, but that doesn't make a big difference," senior co-captain Miriam Geller said. "We really want to be able to prepare for everyone and go out and attack in every game. After the Penn game (which the Lady Lions lost, 4-3), we aren't willing to take anyone lightly."

Morett has learned that some of the Princeton players will definitely be a threat.

"I know they have a good inside forward that we need to hold down," she said. "And they have a good sweeper and goalie, so their defense is

relatively deep. The goalie isn't as good as the one we faced against Davis & Elkins, but we still need to get the ball past her. Any goalie seems to be an obstacle."

Getting the ball beyond the reach of the goalies has been a problem for the Lady Lions in '87. Against Davis & Elkins, the squad accumulated 68 shots on goal, but could only muster two goals. The most goals the team has scored thus far this season was four against Syracuse back in September.

"We need to score more goals, that's the bottom line," Geller said. "We're getting initial shots and second shots, but they've got to be more accurate. The goalie from Davis & Elkins was good, but we still should have scored more."

Princeton is not in the Lady Lions' region, so it does not directly affect post-season play for the Penn State squad. However, for Morett, every game carries importance.

"After they look at our regional record, they consider our overall record," Morett said. "So, we really can't afford to lose any games. Every game is important. I'd like to think that we'll just play every game with equal intensity because from here on in, we really have to win them all."



Collegian Photo / Dan Oleski
Tami Worley moves the ball past three Syracuse defenders earlier in the season.

Chumps to champs



AP Laserphotos
Minnesota's Don Baylor, left, Frank Viola, center, and Gary Gaetti pose with the World Series trophy yesterday. Kirby Puckett, left, and Jeff Reardon celebrate after Sunday's title-clinching 4-2 win.

Once-pitiful Twins now proud

By MIKE NADEL
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Five years ago, the Minnesota Twins lost 102 games. Three years ago, they almost left town. One year ago, they fired their manager for the second straight season.

This week, they won the World Series. "I can't even begin to describe how far this organization has come," said Tom Brunansky, one of six Twins remaining from the 60-102 club of 1982. "We were bad. Worse than bad. And look what we are now."

"We've come a long way. We've overcome a lot of adversity," said Kirby Puckett, who joined the team in 1984, when then-owner Calvin Griffith almost sold the team to a group that wanted to move it to Florida. Griffith finally sold the Twins to Minneapolis banker Carl Pohlad.

"I'm very proud of the organization," said Manager Tom Kelly, hired at the end of 1986 after the Twins fired Ray Miller, who had replaced the fired Billy Gardner the previous season. "I just hope I can be around a while longer to experience this some day again."

Frank Viola, who won two World Series games, was voted most valuable player in the series. Gary Gaetti, the offensive and defensive leader against the Detroit Tigers in the American League playoffs, was MVP of that series. Viola, Gaetti, Puckett, Brunansky, Kent Hrbek, Jeff Reardon and Greg Gagne all will receive votes as the season's most valuable Twin.

But there are some who believe that the Metrodome, the downtown bubble that holds in all that eardrum-shattering noise, was the true MVP.

After all, that's where the Twins fashioned baseball's best regular-season home record,

56-25, and where they recorded six of their eight post-season victories, including all four World Series triumphs. More than two million fans, a club record, attended Twins games in 1987.

Meanwhile, the Twins were 29-52 on the road, the worst record ever for a first-place finisher.

"We appreciate the fans and their support. They've been great and we love them," Kelly said. "But it's the boys on the field that get the job done, not the fans. The boys are the ones that have to perform, to pitch, to hit, to field."

And the boys on the field had a most interesting season.

For all intents and purposes, it began Sept. 12, 1986, when the Twins named Kelly interim manager to close out a 71-91 season.

During the offseason, Pohlad turned over total control to Andy MacPhail, whose first official duty was persuading Pohlad to hire

Kelly for 1987. MacPhail, 34, is the youngest top executive in the majors; Kelly, 37, is the majors' youngest manager.

On Dec. 16, MacPhail decided not to sign right-hander Jack Morris, the winningest pitcher of the 1980s who had offered to sign a free-agent contract with the Twins for two million dollars. When MacPhail said, "Hit the road, Jack," he instantly became the least popular person in Minnesota.

"I'm going to be a household word... like toilet," MacPhail said at the time.

Undaunted, MacPhail began the task of rebuilding a team that last won the AL West in 1970, the AL pennant in 1965 and the World Series in 1924, when the team was known as the Washington Senators.

Over the next several months, he acquired pitchers Juan Eserenguer, Joe Niekro, Steve Carlton and Dan Schatzeder, infielder Al

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Booters look to keep tourney hopes alive

By ANN GARRETT
Collegian Sports Writer

Nearing the end of October 1986, the soccer team held an 8-4-4 mark and was on its way to an NCAA post-season appearance and a quarter-final finish.

Tonight, a new and somewhat younger squad with a 7-6-3 record heads into the last leg of its season with hopes of following last year's team to the NCAA tournament.

When the Lions square off against Ohio State at Jeffrey Field at 7:15, they will be hoping to add another victory to their five-game unbeaten streak and possibly another flicker of hope to their NCAA playoff hopes.

Head Coach Walter Bahr has been happy with the recent play of his team and he knows that if the Lions are to have any chances at an NCAA bid, they must, very simply, come away with a victory.

"We have slim hopes of the NCAA tournament, so obviously we have to win to keep that alive," Bahr said. "Other than that, Ohio State's just another game. It's not a regional game, it's not an Atlantic 10 game, it's just a game that we want to win to keep our NCAA hopes alive."

The Lions are coming off Friday night's 2-2 tie with No. 13 Connecticut, a game in which Penn State knew what it was up against since it had battled the Huskies before. Tonight, however, Penn State will face a club that has never before appeared on its schedule.

The Lions are 1-2 this season against the unknown, dropping a 1-0 game to Bowling Green, blanking St. Bonaventure 3-0 and losing 2-1 to George Mason during Clemson's Umbro Tournament.

Bahr said that although he doesn't know quite what to expect from the Buckeyes, with a new coach and a progressive soccer organization, they are an up-and-coming team in their area.

"Ohio State is one of the newer
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Thompson quits Owls

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — James Thompson, starting quarterback for the Temple Owls, has left the team for personal reasons and to concentrate on his studies. Head Coach Bruce Arians said yesterday.

"I think he just wanted to graduate on time," said Mike Kaine, Assistant Director of Sports Information for Temple.

Kaine said he had no further information about Thompson's reasons for leaving.

Thompson, a fifth-year senior from Tallahassee Leon High School in Florida, was in his first year as the Owls' starting quarterback after serving as backup to Lee Saltz for three seasons.

In seven games, Thompson completed 66 of 153 passes for 985 yards and a 43.1 percentage with two touchdowns and eight interceptions. He also scored two touchdowns rushing in leading the Owls to a 3-4 record.

Arians has not announced a starting quarterback for the Owls' game Saturday at Army.

Sophomore Tony Lerro had been backup quarterback for Thompson. Matt Baker, a redshirt freshman, was the No. 3 quarterback.

Both played in Temple's 34-3 loss against Florida Oct. 17.

Lerro has completed one of six attempts for 20 yards this season.

Browns down Rams, 30-17

By CHUCK MELVIN
AP Sports Writer

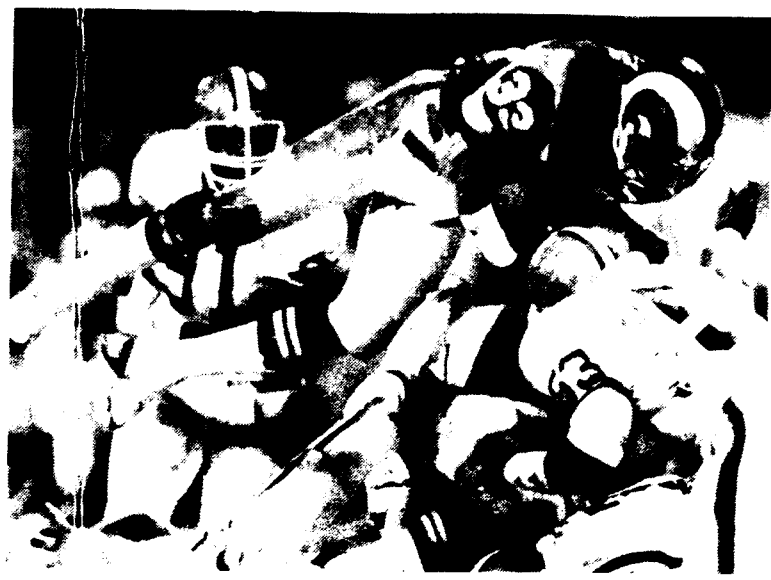
CLEVELAND — Safety Felix Wright returned a goal-line interception 68 yards to set up a field goal and took a second interception 40 yards for a touchdown last night as the Cleveland Browns beat the Los Angeles Rams 30-17.

Wright's interceptions helped the Browns, 4-2, to a 23-7 halftime lead, and Bernie Kosar then hit Brian Brennan with a 53-yard scoring pass on the second play of the second half for what seemed to be a comfortable 30-7 advantage.

The Rams, 1-5, who played most of the game with disgruntled half-back Eric Dickerson on the sidelines, ran off 10 straight third-quarter points on Charles White's one-yard dive and a 27-yard Mike Lansford field goal, but could get no closer.

Los Angeles paid dearly at least twice for benching Dickerson because of his salary complaints. In the first quarter, the Rams were unable to score after driving to a first-and-goal at the Cleveland one-yard line and in the fourth White was stopped on a fourth-and-one play at the Cleveland 15.

Wright intercepted Jim Everett



AP Laserphoto
Rams running back Charles White leaps over Cleveland defenders last night.

on third down to end the first-quarter Ram threat, taking a deflected pass 68 yards down the left sideline to set up the first of three Jeff Jaeger field goals.

Kevin Mack gave the Browns a 10-0 lead with a 16-yard touchdown run early in the second quarter, shaking off three tacklers on his way to the end zone. Wright then

stepped in front of Henry Ellard and picked off Everett's telegraphed pass for an easy 40-yard touchdown.

After Jaeger's 48-yard field goal made it 20-0, Dickerson ran 27 yards for the Rams' only first-half score.

Jaeger added a 41-yard field goal as the second half ended.

Dozier's 3 TDs help Vikings top Denver

By MIKE NADEL
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Darrin Nelson's runs of 72 and 16 yards set up two of D.J. Dozier's three short rushing touchdowns last night, leading the Minnesota Vikings to a 34-27 victory over the Denver Broncos in the teams' first game since the NFL strike ended.

The Vikings, who are 3-0 with their regular players but whose replacements went 0-3 during the 24-day strike, won even though Wade Wilson was intercepted five times.

They were helped by the sloppy play of the Broncos, who were penalized 10 times for 128 yards. Denver was 1-0-1 before the strike and 2-1 during it.

A crowd of 51,011 — there were 7,716 no-shows — cheered loudly on many occasions but didn't come close to matching the roof-raising roars heard in the Metrodome during the Minnesota Twins' drive to victory in the World Series. The Vikings-Broncos game was moved back a day so the Twins could host the St. Louis Cardinals in Sunday's Game 7.

Denver quarterback John Elway didn't look the least bit rusty early, completing his first six passes and

going 14-for-19 for 153 yards in the first half. But in the second half, he completed only eight of 20 passes for 92 yards.

Elway's 25-yard touchdown pass to Vance Johnson and his one-yard scoring plunge had helped Denver to a 17-14 halftime lead.

But on the first play from scrimmage in the second half, Nelson took off on the longest non-scoring run in Vikings history.

Nelson, who benefitted from the strike because he had been trying to recover from a knee injury, shot through a hole, cut behind the right tackle, and raced down the right sideline to the 3-yard line. Mike Hardin, blocked for about 20 yards downfield by receiver Hassan Jones, finally made the tackle.

On the next play, Dozier, the Vikings' No. 1 draft choice from Penn State, went around left tackle untouched into the end zone for a 20-17 Minnesota lead.

Later in the third, Nelson's spinning 16-yard run put Dozier in position for a five-yard touchdown run, making it 27-17.

Wilson, whose one-yard touchdown dive had tied the game 7-7, then hit Leo Lewis with a five-yard scoring pass 2:45 into the fourth quarter.