

Sidelines

A brief look at the world of sports

Scores

NHL

Tampa Bay 3, Montreal 1
New Jersey 4, Winnipeg 1
Chicago 5, Pittsburgh 1
St. Louis at Dallas(n)
Los Angeles at Vancouver(n)
Boston at San Jose(n)

Schedules

PSU

Friday Men's Soccer

PSU vs. Army at Jeffery Field, 7:00 p.m.

Women's Soccer

PSU at Michigan State, 1:00 p.m.

Womens Tennis

PSU at the ITA Team Tournament

Saturday Football

PSU at Purdue in Lafayette, Ind., 12:00 (ESPN)

Women's Tennis

PSU at the ITA Team Tournament

Sunday Men's Soccer

PSU at Michigan State, 3:00 p.m.

Women's Soccer

PSU at Ohio State, 2:00 p.m.

Women's Tennis

PSU at the ITA Team Tournament

NHL

Anaheim at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Washington, 8:00 p.m.
Edmonton at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Florida, 7:30 p.m.

Baseball (AL)

Seattle at Cleveland, 8:07 p.m.

Baseball (NL)

Cincinnati at Toronto, 8:07 p.m.

In brief

Straw may end up behind bars for trip

NEW YORK—Darryl Strawberry's impromptu visit to a Manhattan nightclub this week could land him behind bars for violation of the six-month house arrest sentence handed down at his income tax trial.

"We've turned the case over to the probation department," Deputy U.S. Attorney Shirah Neiman said Thursday. The New York Yankees outfielder stopped inside a Manhattan nightclub Monday night without permission from his probation officer.

Strawberry was sentenced April 24 to six months house arrest following his guilty plea to a tax evasion charge. But the night after the Yankees lost their playoff series to the Seattle Mariners, he stopped inside the China Club to visit some teammates, said his agent, Bill Goodstein.

Strawberry returned to the major leagues with the Yankees this season after serving a 60-day suspension for drug use.

He plans to play winter ball in Puerto Rico when his house arrest ends the end of this month.

Chang gets win in Tokyo over Hlasek

TOKYO—Top seed Michael Chang turned in another quick victory in the \$1 million Seiko Super tennis tournament Thursday, beating Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland to advance to the quarterfinals.

Chang beat Hlasek 6-1, 6-3 in 56 minutes.

Quote of the day

"A shade on the heavy side of the middle of the road. They won't be as long as Arkansas, but they will be longer than Indiana."

Steve Fisher

University of Michigan men's basketball coach on the length of his team's shorts.

Compiled from Collegian staff and wire reports.

Lions try to get out of Big Ten basement

By ROB AMEN
Collegian Sports Writer

Three tattoos ornament Jon Witman's body — one for every year since he arrived at Penn State. One is a panther and another a tiger. It is the other — and the one he plans to get — that might figure into this weekend.

On Witman's right arm is what he calls a dream catcher, a tattoo that filters out the bad dreams and keeps the good ones. The fourth one he has yet to don, a Mandella, is an Indian good luck charm. Both may come in handy tomorrow when the No. 20 Nittany Lions (3-2, 0-2 in the Big Ten) invade West Lafayette, Ind. for a 12:30 p.m. kickoff at Ross-Ade Stadium with Purdue (2-2-1, 0-1-1).

What could be considered a major surprise heading into the contest Saturday is the Big Ten standings. Usual doormat Northwestern sits atop the conference at 2-0 while Penn State, a preseason favorite for the title, dwells at the bottom winless.

With national title hopes long gone and Rose Bowl dreams a recent memory, the Lions face the question of where to go from here. With a struggling offense and inconsistent defense, as well as a schedule that sees Michigan at home and an away trip to a much-improved Wildcat squad, nothing should come easy for Penn State.

"We're still focused," linebacker Gerald Filardi said. "We just got to take things one game at a time and win our last six."

But that is not the most enviable task, even for a team led by Joe Paterno. The Lions lost for the first time since a snow-blown 24-6 defeat at Ohio State two years ago, failed to fill Beaver Stadium last week and enter the game tomorrow as the team without the best running back on the field.

That honor belongs to Purdue fullback Mike Alstott. The 6-foot-2, 240-pound Heisman Trophy candidate has accumulated 620 yards this year and became the school's all-time leading touchdown rusher against Ball State on Sept. 30.

"He's a great player," Paterno said. "He does everything well. He can run the football, catch the football, and when they tell him to throw the football, he can do that too."



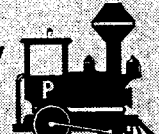
Collegian Photo/Michael L. Palmieri

Penn State's Bob Stephenson (80) and Jeff Hartings (50) make some running room for Bobby Engram (10) against Penn State earlier this season. The Nittany Lions are looking for their first Big Ten win tomorrow against Purdue.

Penn State VS. Purdue



Where: Ross-Ade Stadium
When: 12:30 p.m., Saturday
T.V.: ESPN
Collegian Prediction:
Penn State, 43-24



Collegian Graphic/Matthew Zittel

defensive end Terry Killens said, "but if you keep dwelling on that it will affect you into your next game. All the frustration is gone. We've pretty much forgotten about Ohio State. All that woulda, coulda, shoulda is over and it's time to focus on Purdue."

Many, though, are focusing on the fullbacks. The usually non-existent position has gained much attention this weekend with Alstott and Lions Witman and Brian Milne. With Alstott gaining national recognition, along with the Lion duo being named as possibly the

nation's best platoon at the position, many consider this a battle of the fullbacks.

But Witman said he is not worried about the recognition surrounding the three fullbacks.

"I'm not really thinking about that," Witman said. "I hope he has a good game but I hope we have a better game. We have to do what we have to do and hopefully the defense does it's job."

"We have to hold on to the ball," Witman added. "They have a very good offense. We have to use up the clock this week."

That, however, may be the game plan for both teams. And with both Penn State and Purdue possessing quality running games, the team that has the ball last might come out on top.



Collegian Photo/Laura Chiles

Penn State's Dirk Ayers works on his short game during practice Wednesday. The Lions are hosting the Northern Intercollegiate.

Linksters host tourney

By CRAIG YETSKO
Collegian Sports Writer

After tournaments in Rocky Mountain and Wolverine country, the Penn State men's golf team will not have to travel anywhere this weekend as they play in the friendly confines of Happy Valley.

The Lions will be hosting the Northern Intercollegiate tomorrow and Sunday at the Blue Course. Tomorrow, the 36-hole round will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the round of 18 on Sunday will start at 8 a.m.

There will be 18 teams participating in the tournament, including nine from the Big Ten. Lion Coach Greg Nye said there is an abundance of quality among the teams.

"The teams that will be playing in the Northern Intercollegiate will be the best field of teams to grace the Blue Course," he said.

He said Ohio State is ranked in the top ten nationally and is the favorite coming into the tournament. The Buckeyes lost to Minnesota at the Northern Intercollegiate last year at Michigan State by one stroke. Nye said a player to watch is Buckeye Chris Wollman, who is one of the top five amateurs in the country and recently won the U.S. Public Links tournament.

Nye said the tournament is a

preview to the May championships at the Blue Course and is weighed the heaviest in NCAA qualifications. "It's a big deal," he said.

Since the Lions have had three weeks to prepare for the tournament, staying focused and working on their game was important. Senior Dirk Ayers said the team has gone over its game plan and worked on fine-tuning its game the past few weeks. Ayers said the team is looking forward to this weekend.

"Everyone's excited and we hope to do well," he said.

Earlier this week, Nye said his team's work ethic should pick up.

"I'm looking for practices to be more intense," he said.

The Lions will have a mix of experience and first-timers in the starting lineup. Seniors Adam Decker and Ayers and junior Brad Kittsley are familiar faces in the lineup while juniors Tony DeMarco and Brian Gillespie will be making their first collegiate start.

"It will be interesting to see how they do this weekend," Nye said, adding that he hopes to see some flair out of the four and five positions.

Decker said he has been polishing his game this week. He added that the team has not changed anything in its preparation for the tournament.

Dunn lands first cager recruit as Nittany Lions head coach

By DAVID COMER
Collegian Sports Writer

The first recruit of the Jerry Dunn era has verbally committed to Penn State.

Carl Jackson, a 6-foot-8, 240-pound forward from Wilde Lake High in Columbia, Md., who describes himself as a "banger," will sign with the Lions during the early signing period starting Nov. 9.

More than 110 Division I schools contacted Jackson, and after narrowing his choices to Penn State, Providence, Virginia Tech, DePaul and James Madison, he decided the Lions offered the best situation for him.

PENN STATE HOOPS The Class of 2000

"We felt it was a great move for me," said Jackson, who is planning to major in either business or engineering. "I liked the alumni situation there. It will give me a great chance to get a job after graduation."

Jackson averaged 14 points per game last season, but his coach Paul Ellis said Jackson made his biggest impact defensively. His 12.4 rebounds and five blocked

shots per game led Howard County, located between Washington, D.C., and Baltimore.

"He's an extremely big kid," Ellis said. "My needs are obviously different on the high school level, and he played with his back to the bucket for me."

During the summer, Jackson played with an Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) team from Baltimore to improve his game and prepare for his senior season of basketball. He said playing against the high level of competition the AAU offers helped a "great deal."

"It helped increase my aggressiveness," Jackson said. "And I got to play against players from a different area."

Jackson, who said rebounding and playing defense are his strengths, wants to improve the range on his jump shot, which is now about 12-15 feet. While Jackson will be playing in the Big Ten and in the new Bryce Jordan Center, he said those factors "didn't have much to do" with his decision.

Penn State may sign another player during the early period.

Tim Wells, a 6-foot-7 forward from Carver High in Winston-Salem, N.C., is also considering Penn State, according to the Winston-Salem Journal.

Wells, a player with excellent athletic ability and quickness, has narrowed his choices to Penn State and North Carolina State.

Stickwomen ready for OSU

By DEIDRE STALLINGS
Collegian Sports Writer

The Lady Lion field hockey team has many things going for it entering its Sunday matchup against Ohio State.

The Lady Lions are playing at home.

They're on a five game winning streak.

They lead their overall series against Ohio State 15-1-2.

But most importantly, they have already defeated the Lady Buckeyes this year by a score of 4-1.

While it seems the Lady Lions have a great deal in their favor, Lady Lions Coach Char Morett said they are doing anything but looking past Ohio State. Although Penn State is well prepared for the contest after a full week of practice, Morett acknowledged that Ohio State was plagued in their last contest by injuries. She added that this team has many assets, including Dawn Pederson — a first team Big Ten player on the forward line.

"They are still a very dangerous team," she said. "We played really well against them at Ohio State. We don't take any team in the Big Ten lightly."

Last year Penn State was in a very similar position playing Ohio State. The Lady Lions went to Ohio State for their first matchup and came home with a 1-0 overtime win. But then the Lady Buckeyes answered right back by coming to Penn State and defeating the Lady Lions 4-1.

But regardless of the history, Penn State is planning to use the momentum they have gained from their past five wins to take down Ohio State, sophomore Julie Speller said.

"Right now our confidence is up. Everyone is working together and everyone is supporting one another," she said. "We have beat them before so that helps. We know we can win."

Although the Lady Lions had a comfortable lead in the first win, Lady Buckeyes Coach Karen Weaver said she is expecting an even matchup.

"Ohio State and Penn State have been a good rivalry over the years," she said. "I think in this conference anyone can beat anyone on any given day."