

Penn State soccer

Soccer club provides another chance to boot

By JOHN RATZESBERGER
Collegian Sports Writer

Last year, the Penn State Women's Soccer Club broke up when Penn State decided to form a varsity team. Many of the women who were originally on the club team were drafted by the varsity, leaving the club team without many players and ultimately causing the team to fall apart.

That's where Joanna Ultman (junior-nutrition), the team's president, comes in. She started the club again after it turned into the varsity team last year. Ultman enjoys playing for the team and proudly stated that the team tied the national champions, Miami (Ohio), two weeks ago.

"I've been doing sports all my life, I know I have three days of practice a week and still have fun on the weekend," she said, describing the team as "a lot of fun doing hard work."

The club will host a four-team tournament tomorrow at Pollock Field. It will begin at 9:30 a.m., and include teams from Michigan, Ohio University, and Rutgers.

The team this year, coached by Gustavo Sampaio (senior-film and video production), has evolved into a successful club team. Heading into this week-end tournament, the team boasts a 5-1-2 record, their only loss coming in the first game of the season.

The team does not enjoy the same kind of funding as the varsity teams. According to Sampaio, about 75 percent of the team's money comes from fund raisers and from within the team. Each player must contribute a small fee that is used for travel expenses. The other 25 percent comes from the club sports office.

Sampaio stressed the players' dedication, that every team member played in high school, and the talent at the club level is probably better than most might suspect. "Women's soccer in the past year or two has exploded, more girls are playing.... There is a lot to be seen at the club level."

Christa Rimanneau (freshman-biology) plays center mid-field for the team and said all the players take the team seriously, and still have fun.

Booters face Army Cadets, Buckeyes

By DAVID COMER
Collegian Sports Writer

The men's soccer team was lethargic and played with little emotion during its 2-0 loss to Wisconsin last Sunday, and Lion Coach Barry Gorman wasn't too happy.

So he and the rest of the soccer team talked. They talked about what they needed to do to avoid a repeat performance of their game Sunday. They discussed the team goals and what must be done to accomplish them.

"To a certain degree, they were much needed," senior Stuart Reid said. "I think a lot of people needed to re-evaluate the overall goals of the team and the hard work that is needed to achieve them."

After the No. 15 Lions' 7 p.m. non-league

game tonight at Jeffrey Field with Army, they will find out whether the discussions were worthwhile. Penn State (8-3 overall, 2-1 Big Ten) will then travel to Ohio State for a 2:00 p.m. game on Sunday.

"They were down," Gorman said of his team after the Wisconsin loss. "We had some frank, honest discussion that went both ways. That pleased me. We are not dictatorial; we try to be cooperative and learn together."

While the Lion offense was invisible against Wisconsin, the Penn State attack has been potent this season. The top two Lion scorers also lead the Big Ten. Junior forward Travis Berger's 24 points (10 goals, 4 assists) top the conference and Reid's 21 points (8, 5) rank him second.

Army (4-5-3, 1-1-1 Patriot League) will be the

Lions' first obstacle. Penn State needed a Berger goal in overtime to beat the Cadets 1-0 last year. Gorman expects another battle from Army.

"Coach Gorman's Penn State teams have been well skilled, well prepared and a great group of skilled athletes," Army Coach Joe Chiavaro said. "More than one or two guys on Penn State can hurt you. We just have to play a very solid game all the way around."

The Lions then return to league play against Ohio State (3-8-1, 1-2), which is led by forward Jeremy Sloan and his five goals.

Penn State has two possibilities. They can either play the same way they did against Wisconsin, or they can play their best soccer of the year. After the games this weekend, they will know how productive those discussions were.

Lady booters hoping to end three-game skid

By CHRISTINE L. MILLER
Collegian Sports Writer

Hoping to bust up a three-game slide, a bruised batch of Lady Lion soccer players hits the road this weekend for two Big Ten matchups.

But collecting victories at Michigan State at 3 p.m. today in East Lansing and at Michigan at 2 p.m. Sunday in Ann Arbor will be a difficult task. Especially difficult because five members of the Penn State lineup are questionable for the conference games, Coach Pat Farmer said.

Keiper Robyn Van Praag dislocated her shoulder again and may be in the net on Sunday. Freshman Dara Christante will guard the goal this afternoon.

"We're pretty banged up right now," he said.

The list of problems goes something like this. Jodi Huckabee, a backfield power the team can rely on to promptly deliver the ball upfield, has strained groin and hamstring muscles. Three key midfielders in Dina DaCosta, Kristin Boomsma and Melissa Sallade may also be sidelined.

The Lady Lions bring a 3-1 con-

ference mark (9-4 overall) into these two games. They were shut out in their last two contests, 5-0 to Washington and 3-0 to No. 2 Portland, at the Washington Classic.

In both losses, Penn State's opponents were held scoreless until well into the second halves.

"With Portland, we held them scoreless until 20 minutes left in the game, so we hung in there with them," said sophomore forward Rachel Hoffman. "Their coach said after the game that we played them the toughest ever this season."

Hoffman, usually Penn State's biggest offensive threat, was held

to a total of six shots on goal in both games. The two West Coast schools limited freshman forward Carole Dutchka to seven.

There was an advantage to playing in the Seattle tournament last weekend. Penn State got a glimpse of what was to come. Michigan State, 0-1-1 in the conference (6-5-1 overall), was also there, also losing to the West Coast programs.

"They did very well, they did much better than we did against Washington," said Farmer of the Spartans' 5-3 loss to the Huskies. "They have some people up front who can do some damage."

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