

IM Chiefs play old-time hockey

By CHRISTOPHER EVANS
Collegian Sports Writer

Hail to the Chiefs!

No, the former Presidents of the United States are not coming to town. Neither are the Charlestown Chiefs ice hockey team from the movie *Slapshot*. Rather hail to the 1996 Chiefs, champions of the intramural floor hockey league.

The Chiefs, the dominant team in the league over the past several years, won an unprecedented third straight championship and its fifth title in the past seven years.

Led by veteran players Mark Horgas and Chuck Michio and a stellar defensive unit that only allowed two goals throughout the entire playoffs, the Chiefs defeated their rivals, the Hoghangers, 3-2 on Sunday night to win the title.

Chris Kochan (senior-accounting), a first-year goalie for the Chiefs, said "the Chiefs are the best defensive team I have ever played on."

One of those defenseman is Mark Horgas, a 1977 Penn State graduate, a veteran member of the team and league said "the backbone of this team is the defense" and that the veteran defensive unit, along

with great team chemistry, are the main reasons the Chiefs repeated as league champions.

The Chiefs team is comprised mostly of Penn State undergraduate and graduate students, along with Penn State alumni.

"Many of these players on this team have played together for quite sometime, therefore giving the Chiefs an advantage over other teams that usually have to rebuild annually," said Michio, a 1991 graduate and the Chiefs' captain.

Bill Licopoli (senior-earth sciences) said all the players on the team are respected by each other, regardless of how long they have been a member of the team. "Discipline and respect are expected and demanded from every member of this team" he said.

Michio also said his teammates are a great group of guys and there is no "deadwood" on this team. Everyone pulls his own weight.

The Chiefs finished the regular season with a record of 21-1 and received an automatic first-round bye in the playoffs. They went on to sweep the best-of-three semifinal series against Aw Hell, not allowing any goals in the process.

In the championship round the

Chiefs faced the Hogs, the second best team in the league, and they too swept the best-of-three semifinal series against the Wizards.

The Chiefs were no match for the Hogs in the first game of the finals, thoroughly beating the Hogs 3-0. However the second game of the finals was a much different story.

The Chiefs scored in the third period to tie the game at 2-2 to send the game into overtime. In overtime the Chiefs scored quickly to win the game by a final of 3-2 and win the Intramural Floor Hockey Championship.

Although, Kevin Vena (senior-human development and family studies) assistant captain of the Hogs, was disappointed with the outcome of the finals he said the overall season was success. "We played our hearts out tonight and one loss does not make a season" he said.

Despite the IM league season ending the Chiefs still have one more game to play, and this may be their toughest road game of the year, as they play in a floor hockey all-star game at Houtzdale state prison, near Phillipsburg, on March 24.

Laxers eye better-than-best effort

By DON WAGNER
Collegian Sports Writer

Last season the men's lacrosse team found out just how far its best effort would get it. It turned out to not be far enough. With its best season ever under coach Glenn Thiel, and an 11-2 record, the Lions were not given a bid into the NCAA tournament. This season the team knows it is going to take more than its best effort to get a first-ever NCAA bid.

"We had a great year last year, 11-2 is an outstanding year," Thiel said. "The only bad part with a tournament is that only one team finishes the year happy."

For the Lions, one of the keys to getting into this year's tournament will be defeating teams like Georgetown, Hobart and North Carolina. "We need to beat the tougher teams on our schedule and show everyone we deserve to be in the tournament," attackman Chris Killoren said.

The first step for the Lions will be to replace a major part of last year's offense, attackman Erik

Merkel and midfielder Mike Busza. Merkel came within one goal of tying the record for goals in a season with 48 and was fifth on the team in points (48/13). But trying to replace Busza means trying to replace aspects that can't be measured on a stat sheet — hustle and leadership.

"Our biggest job is to replace them as emotional players," Thiel said. "They played the game with passion and they were quintessential lacrosse players, they played at a top level all the time," he said. Thiel fondly recalls a play against Delaware several years ago that illustrates his point. In that game Busza ran the length of the field and dove to check the ball out of a Delaware player's stick.

It is that kind of emotional leader that Thiel has yet to see emerge in this year's practices, he said. This year's leadership duties will fall to the foursome of captains, attackman Greg Jackson, midfielder Rob Warren and defensemen Dave Daniecki and Tolleison Morris. All are juniors except Warren, who is the lone

senior, but don't be fooled by their semester standing. Jackson was ninth last season in scoring with 34 goals and 10th in points (34/22), while Daniecki won the Lockhart award for the best defender in 1995, and Warren was fourth in scoring.

But the Lions don't need to worry about finding able bodies. The team has what Thiel calls "probably the best group of recruits we've ever had."

These quality freshmen mean a very young team for Thiel. "You look at the middies they're sophomores," he said. "You look at the attack, there's two freshmen and you look at the defense there's two significant freshmen and we have a very good freshman goalie."

As for last season's disappointment, it has now become a kind of motivation for the players. "It was definitely unfortunate that we didn't make it last year," Killoren said. "And now this year it is definitely in the back of our minds and we know we have to do a little more to make the tournament."

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TROPICAL RESORTS HIRING-entry-level and career positions available worldwide(Hawaii, Mexico, Caribbean, etc.). Waitstaff, housekeepers, scuba dive leaders, fitness counselors, and more. Call Resort Employment Services, 1-206-971-3600 ext. R52512.

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Today's HOROSCOPES
By Jacqueline Bigar ©1996 by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Feb. 29, 1996:
You are more in command of your ship than you know this year. You can pull rabbits out of hats. You have the intelligence and ingenuity to implement your ideas and achieve your goals. You will be likely to commit to a political organization or cause of some sort as you broaden your horizons. If you are single, romance is exciting and enticing this year. A relationship could help you realize many of your hopes. If attached, your relationship is rekindled because you feel good about the intimacy and power of your alliance. **CANCER** inspires you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Focus on your priorities, and understand how important your foundations are to your security and well-being. Express concern about a family member who may be a bit shaky. You need to center yourself and recharge. Check out an investment with care. Tonight: Settle in.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Communications are your strong suit. Be more in touch with what you need to do. Follow your instincts, and you'll come up smelling roses. Your popularity is high, so if you have a lot to do, screen your calls. Indulgence is in the air. Tonight: Go out.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Money matters dominate. Balance your budget. Do not let your checkbook affect your self-confidence — these are two different issues. Examine possibilities with care, and get needed advice. A gift or card means a lot to someone. Tonight: Run errands.

CANCER (June 21- July 22)
★★★★ There is reason for celebration. You finally find that others are responsive to you in meaningful ways. Listen to your inner voice, because you are a strong force today. You might have to repeat an important message again tomorrow. Tonight: As you like it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ There are days to assume a low profile, and this is one of them. Gather information, change directions and make strong choices. Listen to a friend who needs to talk. Your biggest gift is your ability to listen. Tonight: Curl up with a book or favorite person.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You have reason to believe that you will succeed. You are heading toward the victory circle because of your patient plotting. Understand where a friend is coming from. Make time to attend a key meeting or group event. Tonight: Hang out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You are in the limelight and are able to get a lot done. Others admire your work and abilities. Initiate new projects, and invite others to pitch in. This is a great day to make a "must" appearance if you want someone to respond to your charisma. Tonight: Be out and about.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Dream more, and use your imagination. There are powerful ideas right below the surface.

Open an avenue of communications; you will be pleasantly surprised at the information that comes your way. Find an expert to solve a problem. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Be more playful with a partner and associates. Get together with others, and let them know how much you value them; make this a special day for all involved. Discuss money matters, if not answers. Tonight: Continue the special times.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22- Jan. 19)
★★★★ Reach out to others, listen better and share more. Keep events light and social. You can be sure of one thing — you aren't changing anyone. Spreading laughter and comfort makes for positive interactions. Tonight: Be a social butterfly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You accomplish a lot very quickly. Concentrate on one task at a time. Make hay while you can, because at this moment you can clear off your desk. Start the weekend early if you can. Make calls, return messages and make a diet resolution. Tonight: Buzz along.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Your more sensual and playful sides emerge. Remain in touch with feelings about a child, loved one or potential new friend. At work, brainstorm, share ideas and make possible the impossible. Your ingenuity is working in your favor. Tonight: Let more magic into your life.

BORN TODAY
Actor Joss Ackland (1928), astronaut Jack Loumsa (1936), actress Michele Morgan (1920).