

Sidelines

A brief look at the world of sports

Scores

NBA

Orlando 114, New Jersey 98
Indiana 94, Golden State 85
Cleveland 95, Milwaukee 86
Houston 109, Philadelphia 95
San Antonio 120, Toronto 95
Dallas 137, Denver 120
L.A. Clippers 122, Sacramento 110

NHL

Washington 2, Florida 2, tie
Detroit 5, NY Islanders 1
Chicago 4, Colorado 3
Calgary 7, Pittsburgh 3
St. Louis at Vancouver, late

Schedules

PSU

Today

Women's gymnastics
PSU at Shanico Inn-Vitalonal, Corvallis, Ore.

Men's volleyball

PSU at Hall of Fame Classic, Springfield, Mass.

Tomorrow

Baseball

PSU at Santa Clara

Men's basketball

PSU at Minnesota

Women's basketball

PSU at Big Ten quarterfinals, Indianapolis

Fencing

PSU at Mid-Atlantic/South regionals, Teaneck, N.J.

Softball

PSU at Florida Atlantic Tournament, Tampa, Fla.

Men's tennis

PSU at Ohio State

Men's track and field

PSU at IC4A Championship, Boston

Women's track and field

PSU at ECAC Championship, Boston

Men's volleyball

PSU at Hall of Fame Classic, Springfield, Mass.

Sunday

Baseball

PSU at Santa Clara

Women's basketball

PSU at Big Ten semifinals, Indianapolis

Fencing

PSU at Mid-Atlantic/South regionals, Teaneck, N.J.

Softball

PSU at Florida Atlantic tournament, Tampa, Fla.

Men's track and field

PSU at IC4A championship, Boston

Women's track and field

PSU at ECAC championship, Boston

In brief

Jets sign O'Donnell to \$25 million pact

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — The man who took Pittsburgh within a drive of winning the Super Bowl is now with the team with the NFL's worst record.

Neil O'Donnell made it official yesterday. He took \$25 million over five years, including a \$7 million signing bonus, from the New York Jets, returning to the area where he grew up rather than staying with the team he nearly led to a championship.

He joins a team that has spent the first fortnight of free agency in an aggressive style.

The Jets, 3-13 last season, enticed O'Donnell by signing tackles Jumbo Elliott and David Williams to shore up an awful offensive line. They are likely to take wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson of Southern Cal with the first pick in the draft to augment a receiving corps whose leader was Wayne Chrebet.

Quote of the day

"They said it was a business decision, whatever. I don't think anybody would imagine releasing an All-Pro with the capabilities of Natrone Means."

Sean Holley

Means' agent on the Chargers' decision to release the running back to free up salary cap room to sign linebacker Marco Coleman.

Compiled from Collegian staff and wire reports.

Icers' championship hopes die

By FRANK FERRIOLA
Collegian Sports Writer

This was to be the season the Icers brought the national championship home to Happy Valley. It was their destiny to wreak havoc on the rest of the American Collegiate Hockey Association and prove they were the best.

Last night the dream came to an abrupt end. The No. 2 Icers were upset by No. 6 Iowa State by the score of 6-3 and because of the loss, Penn State can get no farther than the consolation game on Saturday.

"I don't want it to end like this for the seniors," said Icer coach Joe Battista. "Things didn't bounce our way. It was a very sloppy game on our part."

The game didn't start out sloppy for the Icers, as they outshot the Cyclones 19-9 in a scoreless first period. Then Iowa State came out of the locker room with a head of steam.

The Cyclones netted their first goal just one

minute and fifteen seconds into the second period. Two minutes later, they scored again building a 2-0 lead over the Icers.

Icer forward Brent Brower cut the lead to one when he put home a shorthanded goal at the 7:00 mark of the period. Iowa State made sure they got the lead back to two goals before the end of the period by scoring with just :57 seconds remaining.

In the third period, the game escaped Penn State. Icer defenseman P.J. Amodeo scored to cut the deficit back to one goal, but then the Cyclones answered with three straight goals — one into an empty net. Amodeo added his second goal with just 1:03 left in the game, but it was already too late for a comeback.

Battista said there were two major problems with the way the Icers played the game.

First, he said the defense was not as strong as it was during the game on Wednesday, and second, the Icers took too many penalties. Iowa State received ten power play opportunities

while the Icers only received five chances.

"They didn't score any power play goals, but the problem was that they kept us from using our depth to our advantage," Battista said. "It wasn't a lack of effort, it was mental mistakes. You can't take ten penalties in a game this crucial and win."

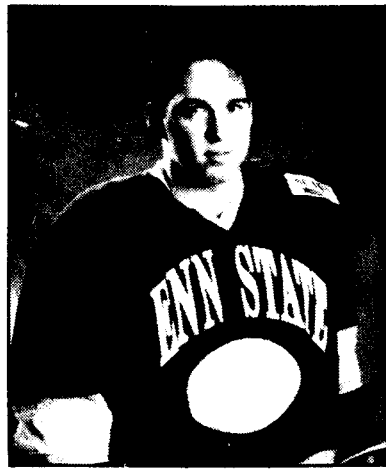
The players of the game were Iowa State's goaltender Kyle Geiger, who stopped 29 of 32 shots, and forward Sean Weaver who scored two goals for the Cyclones.

Notes:

■ No. 3 Arizona defeated No. 7 Arizona State by a score of 4-3, and No. 4 Eastern Michigan beat No. 8 Delaware, 6-3.

■ The winner today between No. 1 Ohio University and Eastern Michigan will face off against Iowa State in the championship tomorrow night.

■ The Icers will play Arizona at 4 p.m. today and a win will clinch them a spot in the consolation game tomorrow afternoon.



P. J. Amodeo
Icer defenseman

Big Mack keeps up big attack

By CHRISTINE L. MILLER
Collegian Sports Writer

Appearance gets a high ranking on Katina Mack's list of priorities.

Whether she is penetrating defenses for the Lady Lion basketball team or attending graduate classes on campus, the fifth-year swingwoman cares about putting her best face forward. And hairdo.

During her tenure on the collegiate courts, Mack has been notorious for having twenty something different styles atop her head. And she knows fans will remember her for that, especially because the announcer at the Michigan State home game reminded them. But Mack also wants to be known for other sides of her personality, specifically that she is the "Kat woman," a title of hers that graced promotional posters two years ago.

"I'll be remembered as the aggressive player, very intense," she said. "I was just the person who likes to smile and be happy."

Mack will have a chance to reinforce these perceptions of herself this weekend as she and her teammates enter Butler University's Hinkle Fieldhouse in Indianapolis for the women's basketball Big Ten tournament. Penn State, armed with the conference's second seed, can relax tonight.

"Since we have a bye the first day," she said "Now we can sit back and watch everyone else lose." They will play at 6 p.m. today against seven-seed Northwestern or ten-seed Michigan. The semifinals will be 4 p.m. Sunday and the title game is 7 p.m. Monday.

Mack has not always been able to look well and play well at the same time. She has had a list of injuries almost a mile long over her Penn State career. The kidney stones, the stress fractures and certainly the concussions. Doctors' orders have forced her to sit the bench a bit each year. Perhaps that's where she developed a knack for coach-



Collegian Photo/Shawn Knapp

Fifth-year senior Katina Mack drives past Michigan State's Jamie Wesley last week. Mack's playing time may be coming to an end soon, but her impact will remain.

ing. Since graduating in January with a bachelor's in recreation and park management, she's been taking a few exercise and sports science classes, including a coaching course taught by Mike Morse.

"Even people like Katina, they've never sat back and had to schedule the practices and order equip-

ment," Morse said. As her last year at Penn State winds down, she has more games to strut her stuff on the court and observe plays while taking a breather on the bench. After winning the regular season game at Ohio State, she thinks the team has enough momentum to create havoc in Indianapolis.

Grapplers ready for Big Ten run

By TIM HYLAND
Collegian Sports Writer

When the Penn State wrestling team walks into Michigan State's Breslin Center on March 9 for the Big Ten wrestling championships, it knows that rankings, season records and reputation mean nothing. All that matters when the teams of the Big Ten battle for supremacy is how they perform that day.

"Right now is the time to focus and let everyone else worry about you," Lions coach John Fritz said. "This is crunch time — the exciting time of the year."

Fritz has reason to be excited, as his Lions will have their strongest possible lineup in East Lansing, Mich., featuring three No. 1-ranked wrestlers in 126-pounder Sanshiro Abe, 142-pounder John Hughes and 150-pounder Russ Hughes. Also providing scoring punch for the Lions will be 134-pounder Biff Walizer, 158-pounder John Lange and 167-pounder Matt Hardy.

Purdue coach Jesse Reyes, whose Boilermakers enter Big Tens as the lowest ranked Big Ten school at No. 24, believes that the Lions could make a big impact now that they are again wrestling at full strength.

"They are a much better team than No. 12," Reyes said, adding that with individuals like Abe and the Hughes brothers, Penn State would be right near the top of the standings when the tournament concludes.

But even with their lineup packed with ranked wrestlers, the Lions will have their work cut out for them. All 11 of the Big Ten member schools are ranked in the top 25, and eight are in the top 13. Of the 10 weight classes, seven of the top ranked wrestlers are from the Big Ten.

The Iowa Hawkeyes, who will be looking to pick up their 23rd straight Big Ten title, equal the Lions with three top-ranked wrestlers, and the Minnesota Gold-

en Gophers have one in heavy-weight Billy Pierce.

Abe will be hoping to pick up his third Big Ten championship at 126, but if he wishes to do so, he'll have to knock off Iowa's No. 2 Jeff McGinness, who beat Abe in last year's tournament to take the title. Whereas Abe is top-ranked in Amateur Wrestling News poll, McGinness owns the top spot in the Big Ten coaches poll. Also providing competition for Abe will be Wisconsin's Eric Jettton and Northwestern's Scott Schatzman.

"I think you have to say that Abe and McGinness are the two that stand out the most," Fritz said.

John Hughes looks to defend his 1995 Big Ten 142-pound title, and like Abe, Hughes' competition will be from a Hawkeye, No. 2 Bill Zadick. Hughes knocked off Zadick in last year's final, 6-4 in overtime. Indiana's No. 3 Roger Chandler could also make an impact.

Russ Hughes will be looking to pick up his first Big Ten title, and only Indiana's No. 5 Andy Trevino looks to be a contender to stop him from doing so.

"If I don't win it's because of my own stupidity and because I didn't do something right," Hughes said.

But Fritz believes that for his team to have a good tournament showing, it will take more than outstanding performances from his top-ranked guys.

"We just can't have a few guys wrestling well," Fritz said. "We're going to need a couple of surprises. Some guys are going to have to wrestle above and beyond what they have in the past, and what better time is there to do that?"

Two possible surprises for the Lions could be Lange and Walizer. Walizer finished a strong freshman campaign with a record of 26-12, including a team-leading eight pins.

The favorite in his weight class is yet another Hawkeye, Mark Ironside, but Purdue's Frank Laccone and Northwestern's Tony Pariano also will be tough.

Fencers, Wolf hungry to defend regional title

By DON WAGNER
Collegian Sports Writer

About three years ago Penn State senior fencer Carin Wolf had reached a dead end in her fencing career. At that time she was a member of the Ohio State University fencing team and she had reached a "plateau", in her words. She wasn't going backward but more importantly she wasn't going forward, she was miserable.

But just as Wolf was ready to quit and throw away 12 years of hard work and dedication her family told her to consider transferring. So after much consideration Wolf settled on Penn State for both its high academic standards as well as its reputation for a strong fencing program.

"Penn State had everything I wanted," she said. "It had great academics as well as a strong fencing program and great coaches."

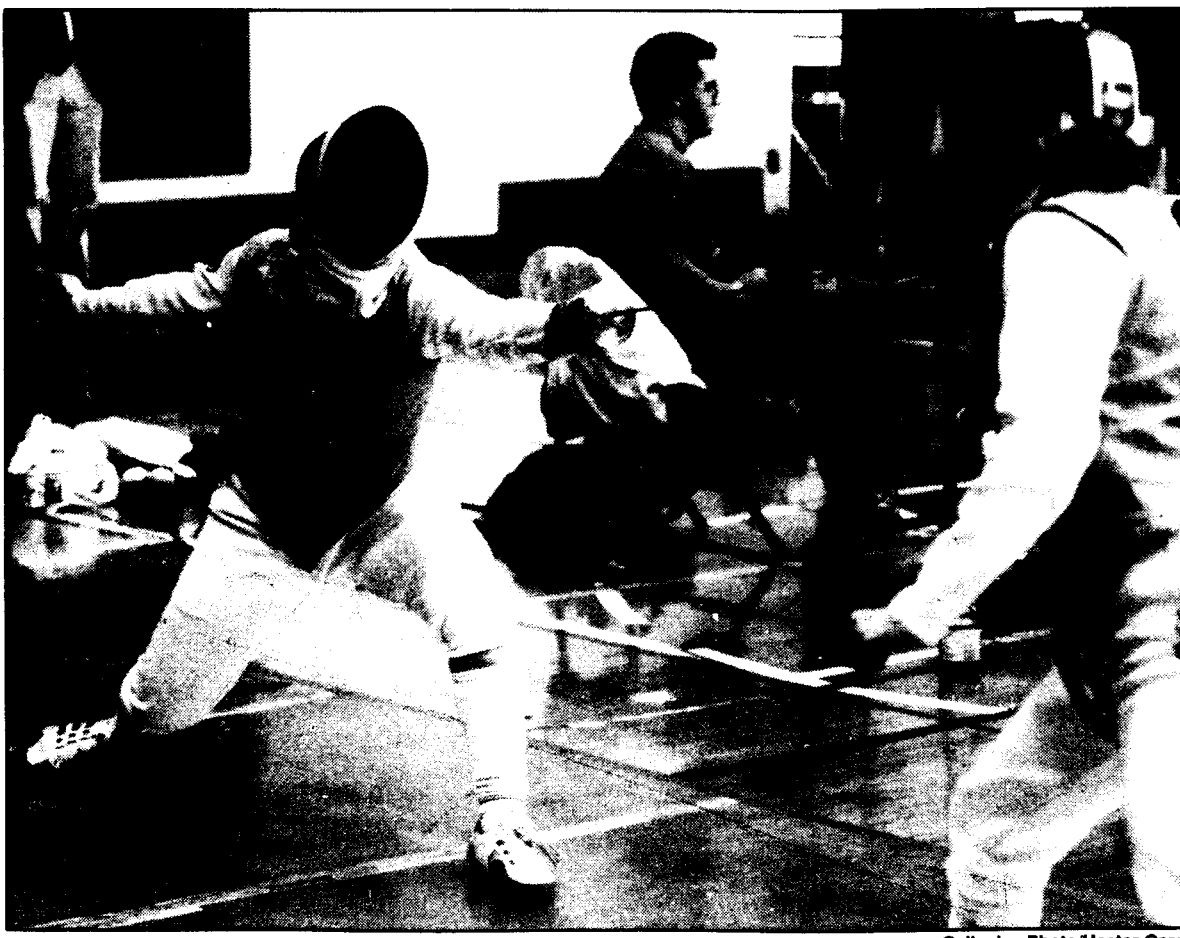
Now as a member of the Penn State fencing team Wolf will try to help her teammates take the first step in defending their NCAA title at the Mid-Atlantic/South Regionals in New Jersey on Saturday. For the Lions and Wolf the goal will be to qualify the maximum number of 10 fencers. Trying to qualify along with Wolf will be her foil teammates Colleen Bruen, Sibyl Goldstein, Claire Jackson and Olga Kalinovskaya who will be making the trip. Also going to New Jersey will

be the women's epee team of Kim Allen, Wendy Hall, Gena Henderson, Mary Frances Kmetz and Polo Wagner.

On the men's side traveling for the Lions will be the men's foil team of Tobias Darnstadt, Nik Lezhava, Dave Lidow, and Wes Waldron. In sabre Scott Howard, Jason Levin, Serge Lilov and Brian Walther will all compete. And in men's epee Jeff Feinblatt, Dean Jacobberger, Tom Peng and Jon Walheim will round out the Penn State regional contingent.

This year the regional competition will have a different look because there will be only an individual competition and only 120 fencers will qualify for NCAAs as opposed to the 130 that qualified last year. This is something that Lion head coach Emmanuil Kaidanov said doesn't really play to the Lions strength as a team. Other teams that Kaidanov said may challenge the Lions include Rutgers, Penn, Princeton, Duke, The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Haverford, Temple and Farleigh Dickinson (women only).

As for Wolf her main goal is one last trip to NCAAs and if she maintains her focus it is a goal she believes she can achieve, she said. "Fencing is such a big part of my life it is almost like a business to me," she said. "I need to go in there and take care of business."



Collegian Photo/Hector Caro

Carin Wolf, left, fences Sibyl Goldstein, right, during the Penn State Invitational earlier this season. Wolf, a senior at Penn State, plans on making one more trip to the NCAA finals.