Season ends for women's tennis

By Hiran Ratnayake **COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER**

All bad things must come to an end, otherwise they would cease to be bad things.

This old adage rings clear when concerning the Penn State women's tennis team, as their disappointing season found its resting

place in Ann Arbor. At the Big Ten Conference Championships in Michigan, the Lady Lions bowed down to the Purdue Boilermakers by a score of 4-2.

The early exit for Penn State came down to the final matches.

The Lady Lions were down three matches to zero when sophomores Rebecca Ho and Janel Perez returned to the scorer's table with a pair of victories, closing the gap to just one match.

Ho's victory avenged an earlier loss to the Boilermaker's Shannon Taheny by beating

her 6-2, 0-6, 6-4. Meanwhile, Perez toppled her sixth sin-

gles opponent (6-3, 2-6, 7-5). Two more victories and Penn State would overcome Purdue, a team that beat the Lions 5-2 earlier in the season.

However, this was not to be the case as the momentum shifted back to the Boilermakers in the next match, assuring them the victory.

"The last matches were in the third set, they were both good, tight matches," head coach Buffy Baker said.

"Our players left their hearts out there, the only thing is we didn't come away with the victory.

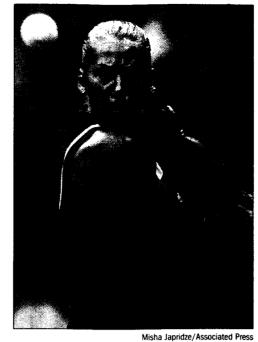
The makings of the season finale replicated an experience that has become a commonplace for the squad throughout the entire year: Close, but no cigar. Many times throughout the course of the tennis schedule, the players fought their way within inches of a Big Ten victory and came up

However, the team put forth the first steps to rebuilding the program with a 7-0 shutout of Michigan State in their last match of the season.

Combining that with the emergence of Ho and Perez, the return of Pilar Montgomery and Ali Barnett should solidify the Lions

"The last matches of this year were a good foundation to build upon," Ho said. We're gonna want to win a lot more next year because we definitely have the talent and the experience that it takes at this

France beats Russia in Kournikova's return



Russia's Anna Kournikova hits a ball during a Federation Cup World Group C tennis roundrobin match against France's Julie Halard-

Russia made it to the Fed Cup final last year without its injured phenom Anna Kournikova.

However, even with its top player back in the fold yesterday, the Russian team was no match for its French counterpart in the first round

Kournikova, playing in the Fed Cup for the first time since 1997, lost in singles and doubles as Russia bowed to France 3-0 in round-robin play in Moscow.

She made 43 unforced errors in a 6-2, 2-6, 6-1 loss to Julie Halard-Decugis. Sandrine Testude beat Elena Likhovtseva 6-1, 6-4 in the other singles match, and Halard-Decugis teamed with Nathalie Tauziat in the doubles to defeat Kournikova and Likhovtseva 6-3, 7-6 (5).

Kournikova was 9-0 in Fed Cup doubles matches.

France, the 1997 champion, was not at full strength.

Amelie Maursemo, the 1999 Australian Open runner-up, withdrew this week because of an injury, and Mary Pierce had earlier opted not to play in the tournament mathces.

Russia lost last year's final to the United games won.

States, which received a first-round bye as

the defending champion. The three winners of this weekend's newformat group play will join the American team in the semifinals and finals held dur-

ing Nov. 22-26. In the other Group C contest in Moscow,

Belgium defeated Australia 2-1. In Group A in Bari, Italy, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and Conchita Martinez picked up straight-set singles wins as Spain

routed Italy 3-0. Germany edged Croatia 2-1.

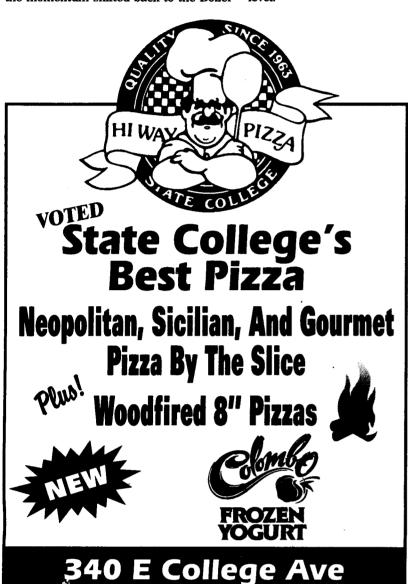
In Group B in Bratislava, Slovakia, the Czech Republic beat Austria 2-1.

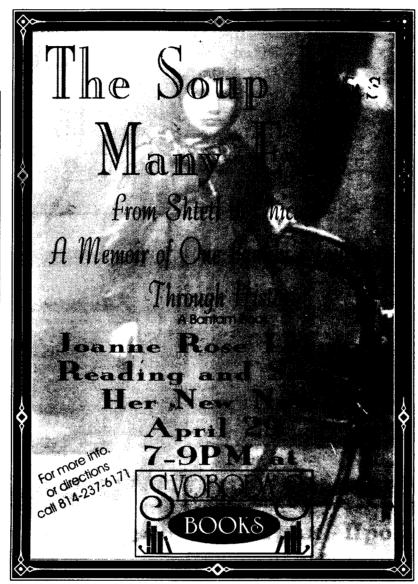
Under the new format, 12 World Group teams are split into three round-robin groups, with play through running through

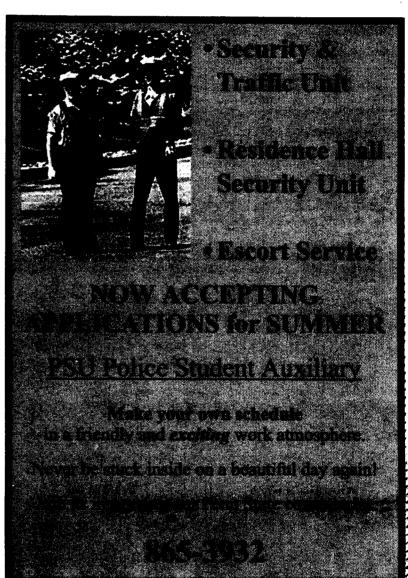
Sunday. Each encounter in the tournament consists of two singles matches and one dou-

bles match. If two teams are tied for the group lead after play ends on Sunday, the first tiebreaker is the head-to-head records that the teams hold.

If three teams are tied, the tiebreakers will be most matches won, highest percentage of sets won and highest percentage of







re you ready



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		BI SC 004.1	ECON 304.1.2	HIST 010.8	METEO 022.1	PSY 203.1
	A	BI SC 004.2	ECON 315.1	HIST 011.2-7	METEO 2/3L.1	PSY 213.1-8
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	TG 211	BIOL 033.1	ECON 351.1	HIST 021.4,5	METEO 2/3L.3	PSY 217.1
	TG 311.1	BIOL 129.1-16	ECON 372.1	HIST 021.8.9	METEO 2/3L.4	PSY 221.1
	TG 471.2-4	BIOL 141.1	ECON 434.1	HIST 143.1	METEO 2/3L.5	PSY 231.1
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	H 011.1-9	CHE 302.1	FR 139.1-5	IE 302.1	MKTG 342.1-3	RL ST 001.7
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	W 243.1	COMM 403.2	HDFS 249.1	MATH 140.1-12	PL SC 001.1-12	SPLED 400.1
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	G 421.1-3	EARTH 002.2	HDFS 418.1,3	MATSC 081.1-3	PL SC 437.1	STAT 200.15-28
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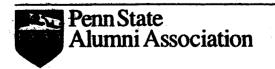
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