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10 | MONDAY, March 21, 2005

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

WRESTLING

2 wrestlers earn All-America status

By Chris Weeden

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ST. LOUIS — Finally, the brackets have been completed.

No, not those brackets. Penn State wrestling sent six athletes to the NCAA Championships, with two returning to Happy Valley as first-time All Americans. The Nittany Lions placed 24th in a field of 72 teams and ninth among Big Ten teams.

Junior Eric Bradley lived up to his No. 4 seed at 184 pounds, and unseeded

freshman Phil Davis turned heads in his seventh-place showing at 197 pounds.

Bradley — who was taken down just twice all season, both times by now-three-time national champion Greg Jones of West Virginia — stumbled in a quarterfinals match against No. 5 Ryan Glynn of Illinois. Glynn, who lost to Bradley in the Big Ten Championship final and in a regular season meet, prevailed in a 6-0 decision that came on two takedowns, an escape and riding time.

Dropping into the consolation, Bradley needed a win against Ryan

Halsey of Cal Poly to become an All-American. A loss would have booted Bradley from the double-elimination tournament.

After a scoreless first frame, Bradley opted to start in the down position. Though Bradley was nearly ridden out for the full two minutes, the referee penalized Halsey for stalling with one second on the clock.

To start the third, Bradley allowed Halsey the escape, tying the match at 1-1, but Halsey had the riding point secured with a 1:59 advantage. Bradley

needed a takedown. And he got it at the mat's fringes with time running down.

He then kept Halsey from escaping for a final score of 3-2.

Continuing his momentum off that takedown, Bradley opened up his offense against Matt Pell of Missouri in an 8-4 rout to guarantee himself at least sixth place.

Bradley, a first-time All-American, has overcome a career-threatening back injury.

"I'm the first All-American from New Hampshire, so I'm pretty proud of that,"

Bradley said. "My high school wrestling coach came to watch and one of my real close friends from high school is here. It feels good to have them supporting me. My parents are here."

Davis fell in the quarters, losing 9-4 to No. 2 seed Jake Rosholt of Oklahoma State. Returning to form, Davis dominated No. 3 seed Chris Skretkovicz of Hofstra, 12-6.

"He has my style, except I'm better at it," Davis said after securing his All-America status. "[He's] long, lanky, has

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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Taking down the top cats



Bill Allen/New Jersey Sport-Action

Penn State celebrates its victory against No. 1 Princeton. The Nittany Lions have now beaten three teams that made last season's Final Four, including No. 1 Virginia.

Penn State knocks off Tigers in triple OT for second upset of nation's No. 1 team

By Corey McLaughlin

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Both times the opponent was the No. 1-ranked team in the country. Both times were on the road. And both times the Nittany Lions came home with a victory.

Ten days ago, the Penn State women's lacrosse team handed defending national champion and then-No. 1 Virginia its first loss of the season. On Saturday, the Lions (5-1, 2-0 ALC) did the same to No. 1 Princeton, beating the national runners-up from a season ago in a 14-13 triple overtime thriller.

Senior attack Kristen Burke scored six goals, including the game winner

1:38 into the third overtime period of the day. The goal came off of a pass from fellow senior Emily Chambers.

"Our senior leadership really, really came through," Penn State coach Suzanne Isidor said. "Their experience and their ability to make plays late in the game was huge."

The 10th-ranked Lions trailed 12-11 with 12 minutes to go in regulation before consecutive goals from junior midfielder Lori Havrilla, her fourth of the day, and Burke put the Lions ahead 13-12.

Princeton's Elizabeth Pillion scored her sixth goal of the game to tie the score at 13 with 2:40 left. The Lions had a final chance to win before overtime, but Princeton goalie Sarah Kolodner made a save on a shot from Chambers with 10 seconds to play to keep the score knotted up and force an extra session.

Neither team could convert its opportunities in the first two overtime periods. Princeton's one overtime shot, a free-position attempt by Mary Minshall in the first extra period, was stopped by Penn State goalie Lee Tortorelli. In the closing seconds of the second overtime, Penn State midfielder

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Bill Allen/New Jersey Sport-Action

Kristen Burke scores the game winner.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Lions finish NCAAs in 13th

Penn State swimmers won 11 All-America honors at the national championship.

By Mike Garvey

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The Penn State women's swimming and diving team finished in 13th place at the NCAA Championship meet at Purdue University with 87 points, despite sending the biggest squad in school history and fifth-largest in the country.

It was a mixed bag of results for the Nittany Lions, who fell short of a desired top-10 finish. However, 11 team members attained All-America status, which is awarded for finishing in the top 16 places of an event (honorable mention is given to places 9 through 16). A school record in the 400-yard freestyle relay fell, and despite swimming well, there was an overall feeling that the Lions could have swam better.

"I suppose that with our second-highest finish in school history I should be pleased, but instead I'm pretty disappointed," Penn State coach Bill Dorenkott said in a press release.

Senior Kristen Woodring cited a different energy level than that of the Big Ten meet as a reason for the team's results.

"We wanted to do well, but it's difficult coming off a Big Ten win like we did," Woodring said. "Sometimes you try your hardest and you don't get what you expect. You can't be too disappointed."

However, to say that the meet was an overall disappointment after winning the Big Ten title wouldn't capture the successes the Lions have already achieved and the month-long work they have done.

"In no way [did we] have a downhill finish," Woodring said. "There's more to swimming than times, something I've come to learn in my five years here."

Woodring earned All-America status in three events, including the 200- and 400-yard medley relays, both of

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BASEBALL

Baseball team rolls to weekend sweep

By Josh Moyer

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Batting has normally been a sore subject for the Penn State baseball team — but that's beginning to change.

The Nittany Lions (7-6) exploded for 25 runs over the weekend to complete a three-game sweep of Delaware (7-11). Penn State defeated the Blue Hens 6-1, 12-6 and 7-1.

"Everybody's hitting the ball on the team," outfielder Lance Thompson said. "Everybody has confidence right now. Last year, we weren't sure who was going to hit the ball in any game.

"This year's a lot different." Thompson recorded his first home run of the season in yesterday's contest. The round-tripper came in the eighth inning and increased the Lions' lead to five.

Of course, Penn State's hitting in the

final two frames was strong throughout the weekend — the Lions recorded 10 total runs in the eighth and ninth innings of the three-game series.

"It was a good offensive weekend," Penn State coach Robbie Wine said. "You play according to your game, and there was no letup."

While the scores tell a dominating tale, the Lions did have a few close calls.

In the second game of Saturday's doubleheader, Penn State jumped out to an early 5-0 lead after Delaware's left-handed pitcher, Brent Gaphardt, had trouble finding the strike zone.

Gaphardt walked four batters — in the first inning — as the Blue Hens allowed five runs on just two hits.

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WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

Women's gymnastics wins final home meet

By Dan Graybill

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The Penn State women's gymnastics team showed off for the home crowd one last time this year. Once again the Nittany Lions used great beam and floor routines to pull away from Rutgers, Temple and William & Mary.

They scored a 49.200 on beam, a season high, and a 48.925 on floor to finish with a total team score of 195.500.

"I was a little disappointed with some of the scores and the judging," Penn State coach Steve Shephard said.

On vault four gymnasts stuck their landings and had good vaults but scores for the four ranged from 9.575-9.775. Lisa Clark scored the 9.775 to win the vault competition. Despite some low scores, Penn State still took the first four spots.

Corissa Pirkel finished first overall on beam with a 9.875 as the Lions took the first four spots in the competition.

195.500
Penn State

193.100
Rutgers

Kristal Uzelac finished first in the all-around with a 39.300 and Clark finished second with a 39.075.

During the second rotation, Penn State was on bars. Uzelac scored a 9.900 to finish first in the competition. Penn State scored a 48.800 overall on bars. Senior bars specialist Cecile Allen scored a 9.875, tying her career high and good enough for second place behind Uzelac.

"I was really happy to end on a good note," Allen said. "It was my first stick at home this year."

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Carolina Villanueva/Collegian

Corissa Pirkel spots the beam to land her layout in Penn State's meet at Rec Hall.