

SPORTS

10 | FRIDAY, NOV. 13, 2009

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

THE LINEUP

SPORTS ON TV

NCAA Basketball
Drexel at St. Joseph's
7 p.m., TCN
Howard at Indiana
8 p.m., Big Ten Network

NBA
Utah at Philadelphia
7 p.m., CSN
Atlanta at Boston
8 p.m., ESPN

NCAA Football
West Virginia at Cincinnati
8 p.m., ESPN2

QUICK HITS (AP)

ICERS

Power play troubles see improvement

After a rough start, the Icers found their footing on a man advantage, scoring nine times in their last 23 chances.

Win streak on line against No. 7 Rams

Penn State will face off against No. 7 Rhode Island this weekend in their first major test since Week 2 of the season.

CROSS COUNTRY

Weekend touney on a familiar course

Both the men and women's cross country teams will compete in the NCAA Mid-Atlantic Regional Championships at the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore this weekend at a course on which they have found previous success.

National bids loom in wake of weekend

The Nittany Lions look to make a splash on the regional scene this weekend in hopes of earning an NCAA championship race bid.

W. SWIMMING

Swimmer adjusts, becomes motivator

Sophomore swimmer Kristen Rodman has become a team leader and a favorite personality among her teammates after adjusting to life with a new coach.

ICE LIONS

Travel test awaits Penn State

A hectic schedule awaits the Ice Lions this weekend as the team plays on three consecutive nights at three different schools.

CLUB SPORTS

Club cross country to compete for title

Both the men and women's club cross country teams will attempt to bring home a national championship from this weekend's National Intercollegiate Running Club Association (NIRCA) National Championships at Eagle Crest Golf Course.

OUR THOUGHTS

NCAA FOOTBALL

Coaches continue to embarrass Irish

Seems Notre Dame is looking for more FBS handouts — a coach accused Navy of "malicious blocking." For the amount of money Charlie Weis gets despite being awful, we'll counter and accuse him of stealing from the university.

TRIVIA

NHL

Q: How thick is the ice of an NHL ice rink?
Thursday's answer: The Eagles lead the series over the Steelers, 46-27-3.

Krispin's OT goal propels Lions

By Brendan Monahan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Time gradually ticked away in double overtime.

A shootout looked unavoidable in the Penn State-Michigan showdown. One of the Nittany Lions' co-leaders in goals, Jason Yeisley, registered only one shot during the whole game. Penn State goalkeeper

er Warren Gross and Michigan goalie Chris Blais combined for 10 saves, and the Wolverines tallied only five shots on goal. The net was impenetrable and a shootout loomed larger as each second slipped into the past.

But in the 106th minute, Lion midfielder Patrick Krispin ended

1
Penn State
0
Michigan

the defensive battle with one swoop — the first goal of the sophomore's collegiate career. The tally solidified a 1-0 Penn State win in the first round of the Big Ten Tournament and allowed the Lions to survive another day in Bloomington, Ind.



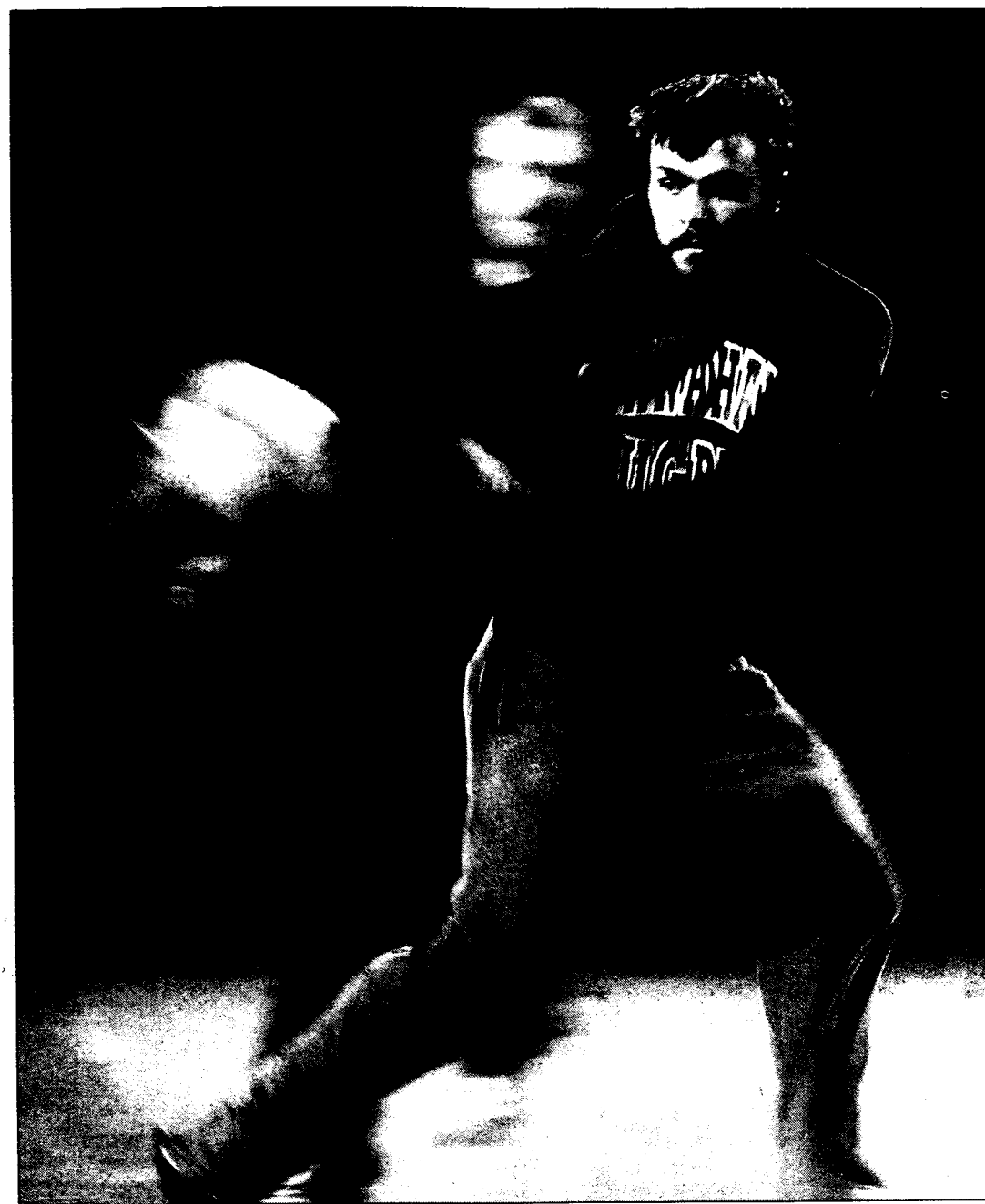
Krispin

relief," defenseman Andres Casais said.

Krispin's goal came off a Penn State corner kick. Michigan (10-7-1, 2-4-0 Big Ten) tried to clear the ball, but Krispin batted the ball from his chest to his left foot. From there, Krispin's shot hit the inside far post from about 20 yards out and ended 105 minutes of scoreless play.

Corner kicks were a weakness for the Lions (11-6-2, 3-2-1). Penn
See KRISPIN, Page 13.

BATTLE AT ANNAPOLIS



Daniel Bott/Collegian

Senior winger Bryan Oteri catches a pass during practice Thursday night at the West Campus Pitch. Oteri and the Penn State Ruggers travel to Annapolis, Md., this weekend to take on Navy to determine the No. 2 seed in the MARFU playoffs. To read the full story, visit psu.collegian.com

PSU opens season at Lehigh

By Ryan Loy
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

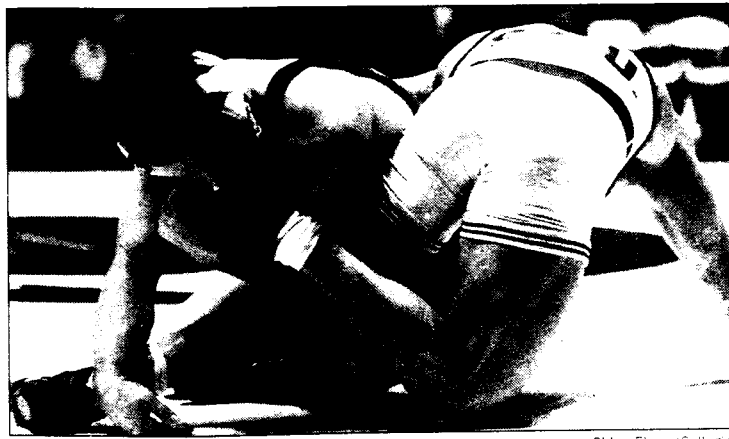
After months of preparation, the Penn State wrestling team will finally have an opportunity to test its skill against true competition.

The Nittany Lions' opening weekend features a few marquee matchups for some of the team's top wrestlers.

The Lions have a tough dual meet tonight at 7 when they travel to No. 19 Lehigh before returning home to Rec Hall for a noon contest Sunday with Bloomsburg.

After seeing a relatively relaxed coach Cael Sanderson look on during the team's Nov. 5 Intrasquad Duals, the Lions' fans get their first glance at Sanderson guiding his team against an opponent when he's thrust into the rivalry with the Mountain Hawks.

Lehigh coach Pat Santoro said the familiarity between wrestlers



Chloe Elmer/Collegian

James English holds Frank Molinaro during the intrasquad match.

and coaches within Pennsylvania add to the friendly rivalry. The Lions come in holding the upper hand against Lehigh, holding a 61-33-3 all-time record in the series.

Though both teams are ranked entering the meet, Santoro said

he's just looking for good execution from his grapplers.

"Right now, it's so early in the year, we have to go out and get our guys to compete hard for seven minutes," Santoro said. "It's just about wrestling hard, developing
See WRESTLING, Page 13.

Nonconference games add to rough schedule

By Bill Landis
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

As nonconference opponents go, Drexel is no cupcake.

The defending Colonial Athletic Conference champions are coming off of a season in which they earned a No. 12 seed in the NCAA Tournament and are again the consensus pick to win the CAA title.

The Lady Dragons also return forward Gabriela Marginean, who was third in the country last season in points per game with 23.3.

All of these elements combined put the Lady Lions in an unfamiliar

position for a season opener. "This is gonna be a tough game," Lions coach Coquese Washington said. "We've got eight kids on this roster who've never played Drexel and never played this style of basketball. I definitely think we're the underdog."

While in college, Washington played against Drexel coach Denise Dillon. Dillon uses the same style at Drexel that she used as a player at Villanova under coach Harry Perretta. It's a style that uses multiple formations and is designed to get defensive players out of position.

See SCHEDULE, Page 13.

To read about the Lady Lions' 3-point shooting woes | **SPORTS**, Page 14.

Illinois thinking revenge

By Bill Landis
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Kevin Hambly was not impressed with his team the last time it played Penn State.

The Illinois women's volleyball coach said the No. 1 Nittany Lions (26-0, 14-0 Big Ten) got into his team's head when they swept the Illini back on Sept. 26 in Champaign, Ill.

"To be honest, the last time we played Penn State they throttled us so bad, it just rattled us a little bit," Hambly said.

Since that loss to the Lions, Illinois has lost just once and won 11 consecutive Big Ten matches. Penn State is the only team in the Big Ten that the Illini have not beaten this season.

As such, Penn State will be seeing a different team this weekend than it saw in September.

But Illinois will not only be different because of the way the team is playing, it will be different because they will have different personnel on the court.

Senior libero Ashley Edinger suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in her left knee on Oct. 31 in a match against Purdue. Despite the loss of its starting libero, Illinois has continued to win conference matches.

Sophomore Rachel Feldman has filled in for Edinger, and Hambly hasn't seen much of a change in his team's play.

"Systematically, it's still the same," Hambly said. "[Feldman] has practiced all year and was prepared if something were to happen. It's just more personality and experience."

Feldman's inexperience could come into play this weekend.

Still, Penn State coach Russ Rose isn't taking anything for granted.

"Their numbers were pretty much the same last week with the new girl playing," Rose said about Feldman. "I would expect them to be as big a challenge that we're gonna see to date and maybe well into the future."

Friday's match will feature the top two teams in the Big Ten, but Hambly said his team is not focusing on the standings. Instead, the team will be focusing on doing something that they didn't do in the first match against Penn State — getting better.

Hambly said the goal is always to improve as a team.

"We're looking forward to the opportunity to try to get better as a team," Hambly said.

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Dan Bott/Collegian

Freshman Alex Bentley drives to the basket during Sunday's game.