

Depth makes up for lack of superstar

By Paul Casella
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

As a team, the Penn State Icercs are ranked right near the top of the ACHA.

But individual-ly, they have nobody anywhere near the league leaders in any of the major statistical categories.

Despite being ranked No. 2 in the ACHA and averaging 5.5 goals per game, the Icercs do not have a player in the top-50 in goals scored or the top-70 in overall points.

"It's something I've pointed out to these guys a few times," coach Scott Balboni said.

"We don't necessarily have that one player who does everything like some teams have, so when we

have everyone healthy, it's a nice luxury that we have such great depth."

Penn State has showed its versatility the last two weekends in sweeps of rivals No. 4 Ohio and No. 19 West Chester.

In the four wins, 11 different Icercs scored the team's 14 goals with only one player, sophomore Nick Seravalli, scoring more than once over the four-game span.

So many different players scoring goals gives the Icercs a late-game advantage against other teams that get most of their goals from only a couple of lines, sophomore forward Chris Cerutti said.

"We can play four lines with the confidence that anyone on any of them can score," Cerutti said, "whereas most teams have just two or three lines they rely on

most the night and then those guys get a lot more tired toward the end of games."

At the start of the season, the Icercs were trying to replace 12 seniors who graduated at the end of last year.

That list of players included the team's lone captain last year, Frank Berry, and a player who had more than 100 goals and 200 points in his Icercs career, Luke DeLorenzo.

But now, with six players having scored 11 or more goals and 13 players having double-digit assist numbers, Seravalli said practices are getting intense as players vie for spots in the lineup each weekend.

"It's really competitive," Seravalli said. "A lot of people thought we



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past weekend for the first time since Oct. 16, freshman George Saad went down with a knee injury and is now out for an indefinite period of time.

Line combinations have continued changing with so many players moving in and out of the lineup on a week-to-week basis.

But Seravalli, who has scored in each of his last three games, said that it's not a big deal at this point in the season.

"It doesn't matter. I'll play with anyone on a line," Seravalli said.

"As long as we win, it doesn't really matter."

"I'd play on a line with [Steve] Thurston and [John] Conte if I had to. It's just a matter of getting out there and getting ice time."

To e-mail reporter: plc5032@psu.edu

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By Jacqueline Bigar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2010.

This year, your actions directly reflect events. Give up your attitude or a need to control, and much could happen with great ease. Let go of a need to have events unfold as you think they should. The end results will be far better. If you are single, you could meet people with ease. Know the type of bond you desire when deciding which person to make your sweetie. If you are attached, you will need to focus on the caliber of your daily life. CANCER can be soothing but a true stick in the mud.

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) ***** The time has come to mellow out some. You have pushed perhaps beyond reason. Now is the time for a break. Realize your limitations and that even you need to slow down. Don't allow someone's mood to impact you. Tonight: Order in.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) ***** Keep communication going, and understand exactly what needs to be done. You could be overwhelmed by the possibilities that exist around you. Return calls and see what comes up. Realize what is happening with a neighbor. Tonight: Do more listening.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** You might wonder what your limits are. Certainly, it might be hard to determine, with perhaps the exception of your finances. If you would rather approach a different matter, walk a conservative path. You will be much more

content tonight. Your treat CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Allow more happiness to enter your life. Someone who continually aims to gain control might not be worth dealing with. You want more openness and fewer games. Support yourself in those desires. Tonight: Enjoy each moment. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Smile, but keep your feelings to yourself. You are best off not being too abundant in what you share. Someone might be itching for an argument. But you do need to feed someone the information in order to cause a problem. Tonight: Try an early bedtime.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Knowing your objectives could help you override someone who might decide most unexpectedly to take a stand. You can handle it, but not necessarily well. Keep your long-term goals in mind, and don't allow yourself to digress, if possible. Tonight: Where the fun is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Realize that someone might not be intending to, but nonetheless is limiting you. Realize what is acceptable. You might need to establish your limits once more, questioning the very premise from which you are coming. Tonight: Burning the candle at both ends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Events force you to think and stretch your mind. Certain issues are no longer acceptable, and you are not likely to let the status quo continue. How you see a situation could change radically given time. You might feel far more upbeat later. Tonight: Allow your imagination to wander.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Someone makes an offer you might feel is too good to be true. You can test the waters if you would like to, but then it is most likely the person will back off. Are you willing to accept the risk involved? Tonight: Dinner for two. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Remain mellow and easy. Understand what needs to happen. Listen to news that heads in your direction; the inevitable occurs. Power plays become inexcusable if you decide that it has to be your way. Relax and trust in others' abilities. Tonight: Fatigue plays a role. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** Understand what is happening behind the scenes at work. Though you might not be able to sleuth out a situation or even imagine what is up, focus on your work. Take care of your share of what must be done. Tonight: Take a break from your routine. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Stay on top of work, despite a potential distraction. You might not be able to handle everything that is on your plate. Know when you have had enough, and call it a day. Focus on a personal matters at a later time. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

BORN TODAY Drummer Nick Mason (1944), author Jennifer L.B. Leese (1970), actress Bridget Fonda (1964) ***** Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2010 by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

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