

THE LINEUP

- Winter Olympics**
Snowboarding, speedskating, Alpine skiing
8 p.m., NBC
- NCAA Basketball**
Purdue at Ohio State
6:30 p.m., BTN
West Virginia at Providence
7 p.m., FSN
Duke at Miami
7 p.m., ESPN
Penn State at Northwestern
8:30 p.m., BTN
- NBA**
Phoenix at Dallas
9 p.m., ESPN

ON THE WEB

To read full stories: psucollegian.com

CLUB ATHLETE

Skiers on to regionals following solid season

One team was unbeaten while another fell one event short heading into regionals.

ICE HOCKEY

Win over Kentucky secures playoff berth

A tie by Virginia Tech allowed the Ice Lions to sneak into regionals.

NEWS FROM THE COURT

Comfort with partner keys hot doubles play

The men's tennis team is off to a 7-0 start in doubles play, its best start since 2006, when it started 11-1.

QUICK HITS

2008 charges yield plea by Phila. man

A 20-year-old South Philadelphia man has pleaded guilty to hitting two Missouri women with his car after a 2008 Phillies game, killing one and injuring the other.

Twenty-year-old Joseph Genovese Jr. pleaded guilty Tuesday to aggravated assault by vehicle while driving under the influence, homicide by vehicle, and homicide by vehicle while driving under the influence. He faces a maximum term of 13½ to 27 years in prison when he is sentenced April 13.

Authorities said Genovese ran a red light while intoxicated and struck St. Louis school teachers Cindy Grassi and Sandra Wacker outside a Phillies-Cardinals game at Citizens Bank Park in July 2008.

OUR THOUGHTS

Janikowski signing is careless expense

In typical Al Davis fashion, the Raiders made Sebastian Janikowski the richest kicker in NFL history.

Seems like a nice chunk of change for a chunky place-kicker. With no salary cap expected for the 2010 season, maybe the Raiders are using this to bait prospective free agents to coming to Oakland.

For more of our thoughts, and to share yours, visit the MAKE PLAYS blog at psucollegian.com.

TRIVIA

NBA

Q: How many different NBA teams did Marcus Camby play for before he was traded to the Blazers Tuesday?

Monday's answer: True. The Indiana men's basketball team has never won the Big Ten tournament.



Brandi Personett competes in the Penn State women's gymnastics 30 meet at Rec Hall. The senior has recorded two perfect 10s on vault in her career. Photo by Andrew Beam/Collegian

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Personett cementing legacy

By Jake Kaplan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Brandi Personett stood at the foot of the blue vault runway with a face full of determination. The senior had done this so many times before.

With her team cheering, Personett started her sprint toward the vault.

Arms flailing, she approached her destination, put her hands down, sprang off the vault and pro-

ped into the air. Her body flipped, her feet finally stuck to the blue mat and didn't move.

She also performed in the air and landed the front moment, just to make sure the judges took note of her flawless landing as Rec Hall erupted.

A crowd of fans with accolades and personal testimonials for the Penn State women's gymnastics team. Personett has never gotten a perfect score of 10 on any event in her career.

Jessica Bastardi thought, "Seriously, finally."

Personett had done what she and her coaches considered a perfect vault many times before. Yet a "10" had never flashed up on the scoreboard — until this Jan. 23 home meet, and then again last Saturday at Pittsburgh.

Personett referred to the Jan. 23 achievement as the best moment in her gymnastics career. But before she scored the first two perfect 10s at Penn State since 2003, many things had to happen and

See PERSONETT, Page 10.

Rookie Turko biding his time

By Emily Kapian
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Nick Turko was always sure of his abilities — even as a gawky ninth grader.

Dan Mickle, the boy's volleyball coach at Red Land High School, remembers Turko as a 14-year-old when he first entered the program.

"He was just, you know, that tall, lanky kid, a little bit awkward, and he came in here and kept telling everyone that he was going to play at Penn State," Mickle said. "We all laughed because we've never had someone play Division I volleyball

at our school, let alone at a national power like PSU."

Five years later, with nearly every Red Land statistical record broken, Turko is a freshman on the No. 7 Nittany Lions' roster.

But going from a volleyball star in high school to watch-and-wait rookie at Penn State hasn't exactly been much fun for Turko. But if the freshman middle hitter is short on collegiate experience, he still isn't

See TURKO, Page 10.



Freshman middle hitter Nick Turko attacks the ball in Penn State's win over Laval on Saturday at Rec Hall. He had 10 kills on .909 hitting in the win. Photo by Andrew Beam/Collegian

PSU peaking physically before title bouts

By Ryan Loy
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

In recent weeks, members of the Penn State wrestling team have jogged back to the center of the circle and waited for opponents following restarts.

As the season wears on, even the little things like that show that the Nittany Lion wrestlers appear to be gaining strength. Not only have they been beating teams on the scoreboard, several Lion grapplers believe they have been in superior shape.

With the postseason approaching, the Penn State wrestlers are confident they can outlast their opponents because of their condi-

tioning — something they credit to coach Cael Sanderson.

"You're going to get tired, but you're opponent is going to be more tired," sophomore 197-pounder Dave Crowell said. "Since Cael has gotten here, it's been a complete 180 as far as guys fighting and continuing to press the action."

The No. 10 Lions (13-5-1) have won four-straight dual meets since consecutive road losses to No. 3 Ohio State and No. 1 Iowa. The

See WRESTLING, Page 10.



Penn State's Cael Sanderson (top) ties up Michigan State's Anthony Jones in their 157-pound bout Feb. 12 at Rec Hall. Photo by Asit Mishra/Collegian

Lions crush Bison

By Greg Garcia
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After defeating No. 14 Loyola (Md.) Sunday, many question marks lingered on how the Penn State women's lacrosse team would be able to handle its strenuous schedule.

The Nittany Lions were getting ready for their second game in three days, and coach Suzanne Isidor wondered if her team would be mentally prepared for the game.

For the meantime, some of those questions were answered as the No. 18 Lions (2-0) defeated unranked Bucknell (0-1)

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Penn State

Bucknell



Lesnick

15-2 Tuesday in Lewisburg. The Lions extended their dominance of the Bison, improving to 14-0 all-time against the in-state rival. The offensive scoring onslaught started when the Lions rattled off 13-straight goals before Bison junior attacker Becca Devine finally answered with her first goal of the season.

Junior midfielder Laura Lesnick scored her third and fourth goals of the season within the first three minutes of the game. Soon after, many players would follow her footsteps. Six Lions scored two goals on the day, while 11 players recorded at least one point in the victory.

Isidor described Lesnick as a go-to player. She added the junior midfielder is doing more than just scoring goals. She is helping the team in transition and on defense. The Lions had 32 shots on goal, 22 more than the Bison attempted on senior goalie Stephanie Ellis and sophomore goalie Dana Cahill. Ellis was pulled for Cahill after the first half.

Leading up to the game, Isidor stressed how important it was to keep focus and ignore a setback against the Bison.

"We wanted to ignore the weather and have no excuses," Isidor said.

Freshmen attackers Molly Fernandez and Hayley Sofarnos continued their strong play, combining for seven points in their second college game. Fernandez scored her first goal of the season early in the first half and added her second goal of the day later in the half. Sofarnos recorded a goal in both halves to stretch her season total to three. Once again, Isidor was not surprised with her freshmen, saying they are playing with high confidence and making the most of their time on the field. The Lions will now switch their focus to No. 2 Maryland.

"We already started talking about Maryland in the locker room after the game," Isidor said.

"We need to clean up some mistakes because Maryland will capitalize on those. We already have two wins under our belt, so we will be ready."

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