



THE LINEUP

MLB
 St. Louis at Cincinnati
 1 p.m., ESPN
 L.A. Dodgers at Pittsburgh
 1:30 p.m., FSN
 Cleveland at Chicago White Sox
 2 p.m., ESPN2
 Chicago Cubs at Atlanta
 4 p.m., ESPN
 San Francisco at Houston
 7 p.m., ESPN2
 Minnesota at L.A. Angels
 10 p.m., ESPN2

NCAA Basketball
 Butler vs. Duke
 9 p.m., CBS

Penn State finishes third

By Jim Mauro
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Matt Greenfield said the goal at the Big Ten championships was to finish in the top three.

It had to battle to the end, but the No. 7 Penn State men's gymnastics team accomplished its goal.

The Nittany Lions scored a 347.300 and edged No. 5 Ohio State by .350 of a point to earn a third-

place finish at the Big Ten championships Friday in Columbus, Ohio.

No. 3 Illinois won its second-consecutive conference title with a score of 359.700, stealing the lead from No. 4 Michigan on the final rotation.

The Lions did not shine in any rotation, placing no better than third in an event. However, they

were consistent enough to hold off higher-ranked Ohio State and Minnesota.

"We hit routines. We definitely did better than people expected us to be, and I'm really proud of our guys," Penn State coach Randy Jepson said. "I knew that they had it in them, but they hadn't shown it really until the last meet of the season."

Senior Nick Virbitsky led the Lions, finishing tied for third on floor exercise. He also won a silver medal on floor in the individual event finals.

Still rings was the best event for the Lions. They finished third on rings and tied their season-high score of 59.550. Freshmen Scott Rosenthal and Matt Chelberg, sophomore Miguel Pineda and senior Noam Shaham executed solid routines and qualified for the individual event final on rings.

Pineda, who missed last season's Big Ten championships because of a broken hand, scored a 15.125 in the individual ring finals and tied for third.

"I've gotten a bunch of medals. See **BIG TENS**, Page 12.



Jepson

MINUTE MISTAKES



Chris Donadio/Collegian

Nick Dollk (26) takes a diving shot during Penn State's 10-8 loss to UMass on Saturday afternoon at Jeffrey Field. Despite the close defeat, the Lions made a number of critical mental errors that prevented them from coming back.

For full stories:
psu.collegian.com

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Lions fall to Florida

The Gators' freshmen and sophomores were too much for Penn State to handle, resulting in a 13-11 Florida win.

WOMEN'S RUGBY

Reserves propel PSU to pair of wins

The Lady Ruggers got their reserves plenty of experience in their sweep of Clarion and Salisbury in a pair of short-ened games.

MEN'S TENNIS

Penn State falls to two Big Ten teams

Penn State followed its Friday loss at Minnesota by falling at Iowa Sunday.

GOLF

Tiger Woods arrives at Augusta National

Tiger Woods arrived without warning on a lazy Sunday afternoon at Augusta National, as quiet as it will get for him the rest of the week at the Masters.

For a while, it looked as though nothing had changed.

He greeted two reporters whom he had not seen in five months with a playful jab. When he strolled onto the new practice range, no one stopped what they were doing. He chatted with Paul Casey before hitting balls, Jim Furyk when he was done. But when he was looking for a game and ran into Mark O'Meara, the enormity of the week began to sink in.

They have never shared such a long embrace before playing nine practice holes.

MLB

Hope springs eternal with baseball's start

What's the over/under on those red Phillies ball caps across campus today?

Even Bucco fans can feel no shame in rockin' the yellow and black today.

Twenty-nine teams are in first place, and there's no reason to think one team has no chance to win the whole thing.

After all, a tiny school named Butler is playing for college basketball's national championship tonight.

Expectations are higher for some than others. Just remember this Bill Veeck quote.

"There are only two seasons — Winter and Baseball."

TRIVIA

NCAA BASKETBALL
Q: Aside from Duke, which is the last private school to win the national title?

Friday's answer: The Yankees and Red Sox split last year's season series at nine games apiece.

Familiar blips doom Lions

Bill Landis
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Down by one with five minutes to play, Penn State had a chance.

With the Nittany Lions cycling the ball around the Massachusetts goal, senior midfielder Brian Shea broke toward the net. Instead of getting to the goal, he found himself lying on the ground in the UMass crease.

Shea's crease violation gave possession back to the No. 18 Minutemen, who held on for a 10-8 victory against the Lions Saturday at Jeffrey Field in Penn State's first men's lacrosse game in the Colonial Athletic Association.

While some of the Lions (1-8, 0-1 CAA) thought it was one of their better games this season, it was still marred by the same mistakes that have plagued them all year.

After Shea's crease violation, the Lions made a defensive stand as the Minutemen attempted to run the clock down. After defender Billy Davis knocked the ball from a UMass attacker, the Lions picked it up and took a timeout.

Out of the timeout, Penn State took the ball into the offensive zone, but the first pass from Shea missed.

See **ERRORS**, Page 12.

Baker's play keeps game close

By Mike Still
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Dave Baker's teammates couldn't ask for any more from him.

Though it lost the game on Saturday, the Penn State men's lacrosse team received a stellar performance from its freshman goalie in the 10-8 loss to No. 9 Massachusetts.

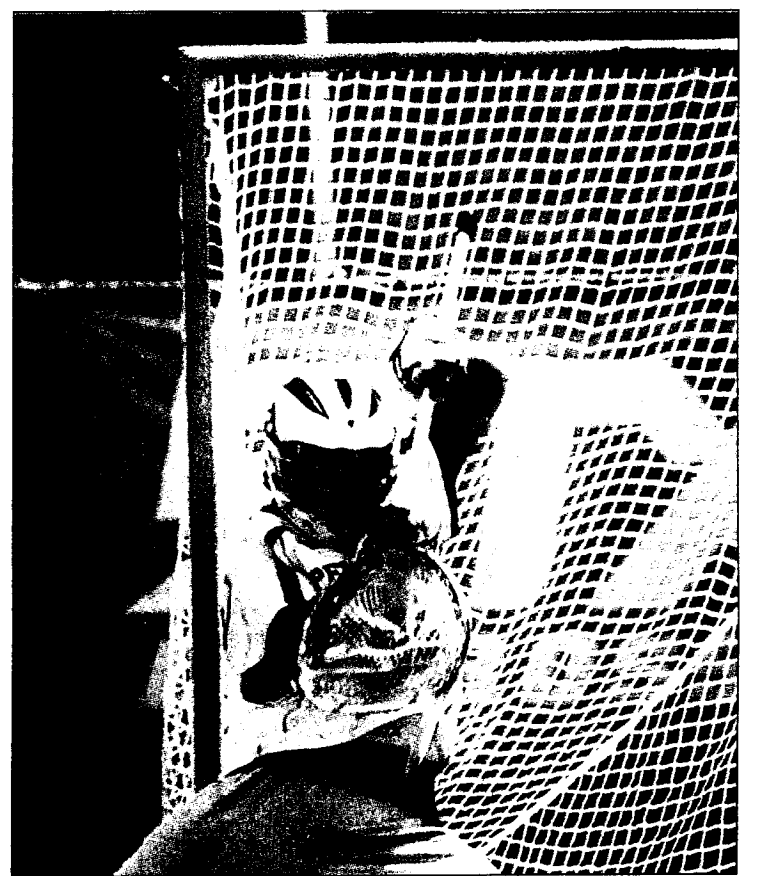
"Baker's just growing every game, and he's a kid that's eager to learn. He wants to help us win, and he's doing just that," senior co-captain Joe Britt said of his goalie. "No one can complain about a single play that he made."

Baker made 12 saves in Saturday's loss, including four crucial stops in the final quarter to keep the Lions in contention. The freshman also allowed just 10 goals to a UMass team that averages more than 13 goals a game.

And though the stat sheet will show he gave up 10 goals, UMass' final score of the fourth quarter came when Baker was out of the net in desperation, playing defense and double-teaming Minutemen attackmen.

Though the Lions lost, the freshman realized the high-level of talent he faced in the Minutemen.

See **BAKER**, Page 12.



Chris Donadio/Collegian

Penn State goaltender Dave Baker makes a save in Saturday's loss to UMass. Baker made 12 saves, including four in the fourth quarter.

PSU lacks timely hitting, gets blown out

By Alex Angert
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The opportunities were there all game long.

The bases were loaded in the second inning. There were runners on the corners in the fifth.

And in the seventh, Penn State had men on second and third.

What weren't there the entire game were the hits when the opportunities came up during Sunday's 15-3 loss to Illinois in the team's Big Ten opening series.

After putting up 16 runs in

Friday's victory and eight in Saturday's loss, the Nittany Lions couldn't find ways to capitalize on their 11 hits in Sunday's deflating loss and lost their conference-opening series to the Fighting Illini.

"Friday night we got the hits when we needed them, and they were falling in," designated hitter Bobby Jacobs said. "Saturday and Sunday we were hitting the ball well, too. It's just that big hit. One bounce here and

there and it's a different ballgame."

Through the first five innings, Penn State was in the game and down only 4-3. However, it was only a matter of time before Illinois made Penn State pay for so many missed opportunities.

That time came in the sixth and in a big way. In an inning in which Penn State stranded runners on first and second, Illinois hit two home runs and

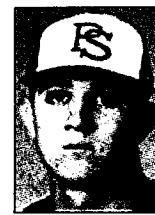
scored five runs to bury its opponent 9-3 at that point.

The way things were going Sunday for Penn State, it would be way too big of a hole to dig itself out of.

"I think today we had a lot of situations where we had runners in scoring position and we're putting good swings on, but we're just not getting the breaks," outfielder Sean Deegan said. "A lot of good guys hit balls hard, but you're going to have days when you're not going to put up 10 runs."

Deegan's performance was one of the few bright spots in an

See **BLOWOUT**, Page 12.



Deegan