

# SPORTS

10 | THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2010

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

## LINEUP

**NBA**  
Dallas at San Antonio  
8 p.m., TNT  
Phoenix at Portland  
10:30 p.m., TNT

**NHL**  
Detroit at San Jose  
9 p.m., Versus

**MLB**  
Pittsburgh at L.A. Dodgers  
10 p.m., FSP

## QUICK HITS (AP)

### DHs to be included in all All-Star games

The designated hitter will be used in the All-Star game every year, and rosters will be expanded again to 34 under changes made by baseball's special committee for on-field matters.

A pitcher who starts on the final Sunday before the All-Star break will be ineligible to pitch in the All-Star game and will be replaced on the roster, Major League Baseball said Wednesday.

Under a change that runs contrary to normal baseball rules, each manager may designate a position player who will be eligible for re-entry to the game if the final position player — at any position — is injured.

### Miami to punish GM for question to WR

Dolphins owner Stephen Ross will "take appropriate actions if necessary" against general manager Jeff Ireland for asking former Oklahoma State receiver Dez Bryant whether his mother was ever a prostitute.

Ireland apologized for the question, and the NFL players union raised concerns Wednesday about discrimination and degradation.

### Howard fined \$35K for criticizing on blog

Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard was fined \$35,000 by the NBA on Wednesday for criticizing officials on his blog, the second time this season he's been penalized for posting such comments.

Howard was in chronic foul trouble and constantly complaining about officiating in the Magic's series sweep over Charlotte. He fouled out in the last two games, played only 105 minutes and committed 22 fouls in four games.

## OUR THOUGHTS

### KENTUCKY DERBY

#### Quirky racing names need a touch of PSU

The early favorites for Saturday's Kentucky Derby are Lookin at Lucky and Sidney's Candy.

Since it's apparently cool to name a race horse after a professional hockey player, we decided to take it a step further and give you our best horse names — with a Penn State twist.

- Aflet Alex Bentley
- Russ Run for the Roses
- Made for Battle
- Smarty Paul Jones
- Kaidanov Pegasus
- Tim Curlin
- Lou O'Prado
- Mine that Herring
- Charismatic Morett
- Alysbea Barber
- Big Blair Brown
- Mr. Ed DeChellis

## TRIVIA

### PENN STATE

**Q:** When was the last time the men's volleyball team didn't advance to the NCAA tournament?

Wednesday's answer: Kevin McHale (1984, '85) and Detlef Schrempf ('91, '92) are the only players to win the NBA's Sixth Man of the Year award twice.

# Rested Lions ready to go

By Eric Book  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

For the past couple weeks the exhausted Nittany Lions got to live by the motto of the "three R's" — rest, recover and revive.

With a March 26 victory over Princeton on Senior Night, the No. 12 Penn State men's volleyball team (21-7, 10-0 EIVA) clinched the No. 1 seed in the EIVA tournament. The regular-season conference champion earned a bye into tonight's semifinals and the right to host the event.

In the week leading up to the Lions regular-season finale at George Mason and again last week the coaching staff gave Penn State two extra days off from practice.

"Our jumps are back," Penn State coach Mark Pavlik said. "We're fresh. We're right where we need to be."

When the Lions take the court at 8 tonight at Rec Hall, they will face a confident Springfield team fresh off winning a Division III national championship and a 3-1 victory over Saint Francis (Pa.) in last week's quarterfinals.

Pavlik knows Springfield will come ready to go.

"They're gonna come in with the underdog role well rehearsed," Pavlik said.

Springfield has played the Lions tough this season. In the teams' matchup Feb. 6 at Rec Hall, the Pride took a set from Penn State. The 3-1 win for Penn State marked

the first dropped set to an EIVA opponent since 2008.

Springfield is in the semifinals for the first time in program history, and coach Charlie Sullivan said his team is just trying to play its best game of the season.

"It's all a new road for us," Sullivan said. "We need to play our A-plus game."

Penn State has not been immune from the upset bug this season. The Lions lost four times this season to teams that were ranked below them at the time, including a shocking defeat at the hands of EIVA Hay Division member Rutgers-Newark. The Scarlet Raiders lost in the conference quarterfinals.

Penn State knows Springfield will come in with the confidence that the upset is possible.

"It's gonna be a dogfight," sophomore outside hitter Ryan Wolf

### Men's Volleyball vs. Springfield

8, tonight  
Rec Hall

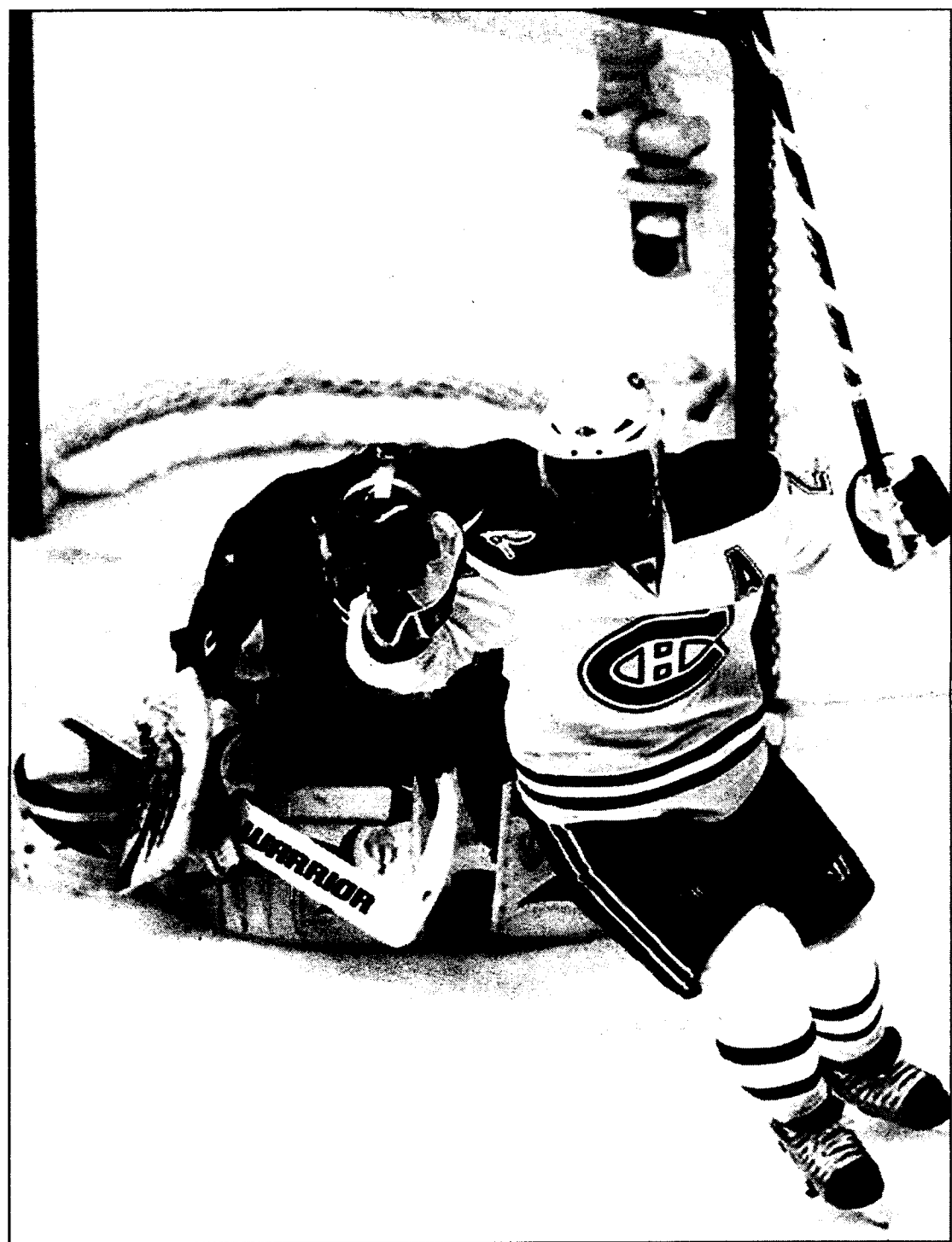
said. "They have nothing to lose." Should the Lions advance past the Pride, they will take on the winner of the first semifinal between Princeton and George Mason. The match between the Tigers and Patriots is at 5:30 p.m. in Rec Hall. The winners will battle for the title and an automatic berth in the NCAA tournament at 7 p.m. Saturday.

"We have four more games," setter Edgardo Goas said. "Our goal is not to win Thursday, it's to win a national championship."

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Pavlik



Montreal right wing Brian Gionta celebrates after teammate Marc-Andre Bergeron scored past Washington goalie Semyon Varlamov in the first period of the deciding game of their first-round playoff game Wednesday. The Canadiens won, 2-1, and will play the No. 4-seeded Pittsburgh Penguins in the second round.

# Habs upset No. 1 Caps

The Canadiens topped the East's top seed Wednesday and will face Pittsburgh in Round 2.

By Howard Fendrich  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON — Led by Jaroslav Halak's spectacular, acrobatic goaltending, the Montreal Canadiens slowed Alex Ovechkin and the rest of the Washington Capitals' high-powered offense to complete an unlikely comeback and eliminate the NHL's best regular-season team in the first round.

Halak made 41 saves. Marc-Andre Bergeron scored a 4-on-3 goal in the last 30 seconds of the opening period Wednesday night, and eighth-seeded Montreal held on to beat Washington 2-1 in Game 7, stunning the Presidents' Trophy winners by reeling off three consecutive victories.

See NHL, Page 12.

# Collett upbeat despite slump

By Tom Kinslow  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Mired in a slump, catcher Danee Collett could have gotten frustrated and hung her head.

Instead, the sophomore's only reaction to her performance was, "That's life."

In her last eight games, Collett is 0-for-18. During that span, she has struck out 12 times and

walked only once.

As the catcher has struggled at the plate, coach Robin Petrini has moved the sophomore from her normal spot in the batting order, third, all the way down to seventh to lessen the pressure in her at-bats.

With her spot in the order



Collett

changed, the catcher doesn't believe she needs to take a new approach to the plate.

"It's still the same pitcher, the same at-bat," Collett said. "It doesn't really affect me. I just need to be more aggressive or just whatever it is."

Collett said the slump is a product of her overthinking things at the plate and trying to guess what pitch was next, a technique she said never works for her and is "bad news."

Another factor weighing on the sophomore is her playing time.

With Ellen McNair still trying to come back from a concussion, Collett is the everyday catcher and has played in all of the Nittany Lions' games this season.

When asked if she was worn down from the constant wear and tear, all Collett could managed was a nod and an "oh yeah."

The fact that the catcher has continued to go out there day after

See COLLETT, Page 12.

# PSU waiting for leaders to step up

By Audrey Snyder  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

In the huddle is where wide receiver Derek Moye notices it most.

Whether it's the clarity of the quarterback's voice, or the look in his eyes, Moye said the wideouts are paying close attention to the signal callers' demeanor.

But the quarterbacks aren't the only position group being magnified.

Penn State football coach Joe Paterno's timeframe to name the team's captains has yet to be determined, and his decision will be formed by what the players do

this summer. With the Nittany Lions inexperienced at several positions, this summer will be the time for the team to figure out what leaders will emerge.

"We'll have some guys that will step forward with their leadership," defensive coordinator Tom Bradley said. "We still have a summer program to go through, a pre-season to go through and I think maybe that's why coach chose to wait to elect captains at this time. He may wait, I don't know when he'll do it."

Bradley said the defense is an "interesting group," and unlike years past, there isn't a clear-cut leader. The linemen, the linebackers and defensive backs are all

See LEADERS, Page 12.



Chloe Elmer/Collegian

Wide receiver Brett Brackett (left) braces himself for a tackle from linebacker James Van Fleet (54, right) in Saturday's Blue-White game.