

SPORTS

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

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Streak puts target on Lions' back

By Emily Kaplan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A few hours before each Colgate women's volleyball game, there's a distinct buzz in the Red Raiders' locker room. The players — some taping sore ankles, others stretching fatigued muscles

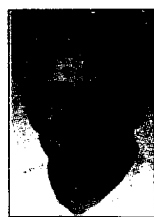
— try to psyche themselves up, chatting about the opponent they're about to face.

But when Colgate travels to Rec Hall on Sept. 4 to face the three-time defending national champions Penn State, Red Raiders coach Ryan Baker is expecting something different from his team — silence.

"I'm not expecting anyone to say much before that game

because I don't know if there's even anything that needs to be said," Baker said. "Our girls know what kind of program they're going at, and they know what they want to do."

What they want to do, of course,



Rose

is what no team in the country has done since September 2007 — beat the Nittany Lions.

No. 1-ranked Penn State opens its 2010 campaign with an active 102-match winning streak, the longest current winning streak in any NCAA sport. And every team who gets an opportunity to play the Lions this season seems to have one thing in mind: Kill the streak.

"I'm sure everybody wants to be that team," University of North Carolina coach Joe Sagula said. Penn State opens up its schedule against the Tar Heels on Aug. 27 in Chapel Hill. "For sure we would love to be that team. But I think what we're more focused on is getting out there and competing, not necessarily on doing something historic."

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 20.

Spikes blank Scrapers

By Jake Kaplan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Tyler Waldron showed once again Sunday why he was the Pittsburgh Pirates' fifth-round pick this past June.

His bullpen's performance didn't hurt either.

Waldron and three Spikes' relief pitchers combined to hold the Mahoning Valley Scrapers to just three hits en route to a 4-0 win at Medlar Field at Lubrano Park.

Waldron (4-5, 2.89) threw the first five innings, allowing just two singles up the middle. He struck out four and walked just one, facing just two more than the minimum number of batters.

"Today all four of my pitches were working," Waldron said. "That's kind of been the thing the last few outings. I've only usually been able to have two or three pitches, but tonight I was able to use all four."

Jonathan Ramos, a left-handed pitcher and the sole New York-Penn League All-Star on the State College (30-31) pitching staff, entered in the sixth inning and continued where Waldron left off, throwing two quick innings of no-hit ball. Ramos, who earned his second hold of the year Sunday, improved his ERA to 1.72.

"He's huge," Waldron said of Ramos. "Every single time, I'm sure I can speak for the whole entire team, that when Ramos gets on that mound, he's going to throw shutout innings for how many he's going to go. We call it closing the door and it's always nice to have a guy like that in the pen."

Justin Ennis and Jason Townsend each pitched a shutout inning to close out the game. As a whole, State College pitchers struck out eight and walked just one.

The Spikes gave Waldron a cushion early on, tallying two runs in the first inning. The scoreboard read zeros until the seventh, when State College left fielder Pat Irvine led off the frame with a solo home run over the right field wall. The Spikes added another run that inning on a wild pitch.

See SPIKES, Page 20.

More coverage on the State College Spikes. | psucollegian.com



Andrew Dunheimer/Colegian

Bob Warming (right) and Andres Casais talk after the Lions 3-1 exhibition win over Hartwick Saturday. The game was Warming's first as head coach of the Lions after he replaced the 22-year coach of the Lions, Barry Gorman. Warming perviously coached at Creighton.

Players impressed with coach

By Andrew Robinson
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Mark Fetrow has played soccer all his life, is a starting center back and was named to the All-Big Ten Freshman team in 2008, but first-year coach Bob Warming has managed to teach the junior a few things he never knew.

"He's a really smart guy. A real-

ly smart guy," Fetrow said. "He gives all these pointers and we go over all these things that I've never learned as a player. I've been playing my whole life and I've never heard these things, a lot of body positioning stuff, a lot of stepping and pressing, little things that just make your game that much better."

Warming, the new head coach of the Penn State men's soccer team, has already earned the praise and trust of his players. With the Nittany Lions' first week

of preseason training and their first exhibition game under their belt, Warming also has an idea where his team can go this season.

Penn State rallied from a one-goal deficit to defeat Hartwick, 3-1, Saturday night at Jeffrey Field in Warming's first game as head coach of Penn State. After Saturday's game, the coach said he was happy with what he saw from his players.

"They're capable of really big things and a lot of that starts with

attitude," Warming said. "Their attitude is they believe they can be great and I'm not going to discourage that at all because I think the same thing. But we've gotta keep making progress every game."

Senior co-captain Andres Casais said his first feeling entering into camp was enthusiasm, not just from Warming but also first-year assistant coach Jason Mims and assistant coach Jacob, who enters his second season.

See SOCCER, Page 20.

Rugby honors former player in ceremony

By Brandt Gelman
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The Penn State men's rugby team took the field Saturday with heavy hearts as it played its first game of the fall season against its alumni.

This past June, Andrew "Schweppe" Keim, a former Ruggers player, passed away. While playing softball, Schweppe collapsed from what doctors referred to as a "cardiac event."

He was pronounced dead a short time after the incident.

Losing a member of its family caused a lot of mourning within the rugby team.

"It was very unexpected," said Joe Pullara, assistant coach of the rugby team. "He was a big member of our family, and we are one big rugby family."

Schweppe transferred to Penn State's main campus in 1998 and played three years for the Ruggers.

After his playing career, Schweppe

taught world history at State College Area High School, and played with the men's club team, the Happy Valley Barbarians.

To honor his memory, the Ruggers had an oak tree planted just outside the west pitch, where the team holds most of its games and practices.

"A former coach and alumni has a tree farm, and thought it would be a

See RUGBY, Page 20.



Brandt Gelman/Colegian

Rugby players plant a tree in Keim's memory.

More coverage on women's rugby. | SPORTS, Page 27.

THE LINEUP

SPORTS ON TV
MLB
Philadelphia vs. Houston
7:05 p.m., CSN
Pittsburgh vs. St. Louis
7:05 p.m., FSN

QUICK HITS (AP)

MAJOR LEAGUE Pirates make money despite losing

Don't feel too sorry for the cellar-dwelling Pittsburgh Pirates. The Pirates made nearly \$29.4 million in 2007 and 2008, according to team financial documents, years that were part of a streak of

futility that has now reached 18 straight losing seasons. The team's ownership also paid its partners \$20.4 million in 2008.

The documents offer a rare peek inside a team that made money by getting slightly less than half its income (about \$70 million) from MLB sources — including revenue sharing, network TV, major league merchandise sales and MLB's website. The team also held down costs, keeping player salaries near the bottom of the National League.

BASKETBALL

U.S. holds on to beat Spain

Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim called for a switch to his trademark "Orange" 2-3 zone with the United States clinging to a one-point lead.

Kevin Durant did the rest, blocking shots by Ricky Rubio and Rudy Fernandez in the final seconds in the Americans' 86-85 victory

over Spain on Sunday in a warmup game for the world championships.

"Jim Boeheim said, 'Let's go orange,'" U.S. head coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "So we did. It was his suggestion and our guys did a good job with that."

Durant led the United States with 25 points.

The decision to go to the zone defense for the last play caught Spain off-guard after Derrick Rose put the Americans ahead with two free throws.