

## Niness

From Page 10.

The first time the two met, Niness had no clue she was even being scouted.

"Someone had mentioned before the Penn State soccer coach was in the bleachers watching us play and I didn't realize it was for me and I wasn't even thinking about it," Niness said.

"After the game, someone said, 'She wants to talk to you,' and I said, 'Wait, me?' I was really surprised but we went out to a diner and talked it over and I decided it would be awesome

if I could play for this team."

In her first two seasons with the Lions, Niness played as a forward and in the midfield, scoring one goal, which came as a freshman. However, last spring, with the defensive depth depleted by the departure of seniors Tara Davies and Maura Ryan, the coaches moved Niness to the back line.

One of the most athletic players on the team, Niness can play either outside back or centre back, but Walsh and Niness said her height, athleticism and ability to fight for balls in the air fits better at centre back.

Through the spring and the pre-season, Niness said she was ask-

ing questions of her linemates and the other defenders have been impressed at how quickly Niness picked up defending.

"She's done an amazing job coming in and playing a new position, she's learning every single day," sophomore Lexi Marton said.

"I think having me beside her helps her as well because I'm a big talker on the field. I like to organize and talk in her ear telling her where to go and what to do, she listens. And she's so athletic that she's a natural back there."

Niness credited her communication with Marton as being a huge help on the field as she con-

tinues to learn. She said the hardest thing for her is staying in line with the other defenders and preventing attackers from staying onside.

Walsh believes Niness is simply a natural athlete who played a number of sports, but never at the AAU, Olympic Development Program (ODP) and similar levels, which led to her not being heavily recruited. Niness said she picked soccer because she just loved the sport and the chance to play at Penn State was too good to pass.

After two years in State College, Niness said she definitely made the right choice in choosing soc-

cer. Aside from her continued growth as a player, the junior's attitude and personality have endeared her to her coaches and teammates and left a lasting mark on the Lions.

"She's an enormous piece for this program right now. In all ways, I can't imagine Penn State soccer without Carly Niness," Walsh said.

"She makes us all laugh, but she's serious, she trains hard, she's always fit, she's a good student, she was dean's list. We're getting everything out of her right now."

To e-mail reporter: [adr5079@psu.edu](mailto:adr5079@psu.edu)

## Crowd

From Page 10.

State, but also for her entire career. Niness added it would be a great way to psych out the Cavaliers and show the fans how well the team works together.

Sophomore Lexi Marton compared the effort to another big sporting event at Penn State.

"It's kind of like Whiteouts for football, just having a lot of people

there, knowing they're supporting you," Marton said.

Assistant coach Ann Cook said the team has been out in the community spreading the word during clinics and camps to get as many fans to come out and watch Penn State play what she called the "hated Wahoos of UVA."

On top of the team's quest to break the crowd record, the matchup against Virginia is one of Penn State's toughest games on the schedule.

The Cavaliers come in with a 2-0 record and a track record against the Nittany Lions that includes last year's 6-2 win in the NCAA Tournament.

And with this being such a big game, a larger than normal crowd would give the players something to feed off of on the field.

"It's absolutely amazing playing in front of fans," Schaefer said.

"In my eyes, pressure to me intensifies everything and makes me play better. This is the first

home game, it's against Virginia, it's with so many fans and it really means a substantial amount to our season in general so there's a lot of big things going on Friday. It's going to be fun."

This is the second year in a row the team has played its home opener against Virginia with a campaign to break the previous school record. Last season the mission fell short by 110 fans.

As much as head coach Erica Walsh would love to fill the stands

with as many fans as possible and fulfill the program's goal, she is a little more hesitant than some of the players.

"Gosh, I'm hopeful," she said, citing all the hard work Penn State's marketing and sports information offices has put in.

"I don't think it's from a lack of trying. I just think it takes a while to create that type of interest. I think we're getting pretty close."

To e-mail reporter: [ada147@psu.edu](mailto:ada147@psu.edu)

## Spikes

From Page 10.

one run in the fourth inning, State College tallied two runs in the sixth. Maggi walked and advanced to second on a groundout. The shortstop stole third and then scored on a throwing error. The next batter, left fielder Adalberto Santos smacked his third home run of the season to give the Spikes a 4-1 margin, which would be increased to 10-1 after the eighth stanza.

Colton Cain gave the Spikes another solid start from the bump, earning his first professional win. The left-hander threw five innings and gave up just one run on one hit, both of which came in the bottom of the first inning. Cain struck out six and walked just two.

"He looked great," said White, who had two RBI Thursday night. "He controlled the game from the very get go. As hitters you can build off of that. Our pitching staff once again kept us in the ballgame and finally our hitting kind of came around. This is what the ballclub is capable of doing when we combine our pitching and hitting."

Casey Sadler and Ryan Beckman pitched two innings each and held the Scrappers scoreless to finish off the game.

White said having a win like this helps the team bounce back in all aspects of the game.

The Spikes return home to start a two-game set against the Batavia Muckdogs, the short-season Class A affiliate of the St. Louis Cardinals, at 7:05 tonight. The Spikes hope to carry over Thursday night's performance into their final 10 games of the season.

"I think it's exactly what we needed for these last 10 games," White said. "It kind of re-energized everyone on the field tonight. I think we're going to take this game right in stride to the next one and just keep building."

To e-mail reporter: [jyk5142@psu.edu](mailto:jyk5142@psu.edu)

## Volleyball

From Page 10.

However, the Lions aren't without every major player from last year's offense.

Senior middle hitter Arielle Wilson returns after leading the nation in hitting percentage last season, and her .489 career hitting percentage is the best in Penn State women's volleyball history.

Rose has an abundance of talented freshmen to add to the equation.

The coach said Deja McClendon has shown the most consistency among the newcomers during practice.

However, after evaluating his players in practice for the past two weeks, Rose said he's excited to see the Lions play the Tar Heels tonight — and the players agree.

Junior outside hitter Katie Kabbes, a native of Raleigh, N.C., said she's

excited to return home and play but also to see how the young players handle their first match.

"Everyone knows Penn State for their volleyball program so we want to go show everybody what we have with these nine new people," Kabbes said.

"It's going to be exciting. It's always fun to see coach sub in the new people and see how they handle it the first time."

To e-mail reporter: [rml5138@psu.edu](mailto:rml5138@psu.edu)

PUCA 107326  
**Taxi** Taxi  
 By Handy Delivery  
**814-355-5555**  
 PUT THIS NUMBER  
 IN YOUR PHONE  
 NOW!

THE  
 PAPER  
 PLATE  
 PSUCOLLEGIAN.COM

## Morning Prayer & Worship Service

All are welcome!

10 am Sunday mornings  
 Eisenhower Chapel at Pasquerilla Spiritual Center

Prayer ~ Singing ~ Scripture ~ Reflection

Finding Christian Community ~ Living out our Faith on Campus

Sponsored by the Episcopal, Lutheran, and Presbyterian Campus Ministries

# LION COUNTRY KIA

ATTENTION ALL  
 PENN STATE EMPLOYEES

## BACK TO SCHOOL

### INCENTIVE PROGRAM

through August 31, 2010

Employees of academic institutions to receive a \$750 specialty incentive towards the purchase of a new eligible Kia

Starting at \$18,995  
 Stock #K312

All new 2011 KIA Sportage

- 10 Year/100,000 Mile Limited Powertrain Warranty
- 5 Year/60,000 Mile Limited Basic Warranty
- 5 Year/100,000 Mile Limited Anti-Perforation Warranty
- 5 Year/60,000 Mile 24-Roadside Assistance\*\*

\*Warranty is a limited power train warranty. For details, see dealer or go to [kia.com](http://kia.com). \*\*24 hour Roadside Assistance Service Plan provided by Kia Motor America, Inc.

**LION COUNTRY KIA**  
 1334 Dreibelbis St.,  
 Off Shiloh Road  
 Behind Sam's Club  
 State College, PA 16801  
 1-800-768-4112 • 814-308-9041  
[www.lioncountrykia.com](http://www.lioncountrykia.com)  
 \*Not all will qualify. See dealer for details.



Collegian Photo/Mike Ghourdian

## Grab the opportunity to share 1/1000<sup>th</sup> of a second of your college career.

### Photo Department

The Daily Collegian Photography Department is looking for a few photographers to join its award-winning staff. Collegian photographers cover everything Penn State related, from Nittany Lion sports to concerts at the Bryce Jordan Center, and we want you to apply to our staff this semester.

**Come meet us at 7:00 p.m. on Wed., Sept. 1**  
**James Building 123 South Burrowes Street**

(If you have a portfolio or prints, please bring them at this time)  
 (A handful of candidates will be selected and you must be available on Wednesday evenings)

**Any Questions?**  
 Call Photo Editor Steph Witt  
 or Photo Adviser Pat Little

# The Daily Collegian

If you are interested in applying for the Collegian's other staffs, watch for upcoming advertisements.