

Coaches excited for possible D-I team

By Anthony Barton
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Michigan State coach Rick Comley remembers starting Division I men's varsity hockey at Northern Michigan University in 1976.

ICERS

Four years later, his Wildcat team squared off against North Dakota for the 1980 National Championship.

With reports indicating Penn State could announce the addition

of men's and women's varsity hockey programs as soon as Friday, Comley believes if the speculation is true, the Nittany Lions could follow the same path his team did.

"I think they can get pretty good, pretty quick," Comley said. "Now that may mean three or four years, but I think it can happen relatively quickly."

A source close to the Icers who has knowledge of major gifts to the athletic program said information will be made available

Wednesday about when the announcement will come.

On Sunday, Inside College Hockey reported a pending Penn State announcement that it will add an NCAA Division I hockey program, a move that's been anticipated for decades in State College. The Icers currently are not recognized as a Division I program by the NCAA, and instead play as an ACHA Division I club team.

Comley said Penn State would be a tremendous addition to col-

lege hockey, and Michigan coach Red Berenson agreed.

"It's definitely great for college hockey," Berenson said.

"I mean you've got a major school making a commitment to compete at that level, and I think the good competition just makes everyone better."

The Altoona Mirror reported Penn State is planning on building a new rink that would replace The Penn State Ice Pavilion and increase seating capacity from 1,350 to about 6,000.

Comley believes the new rink could also bolster recruiting at a school known for its prominence in varsity sports.

"I think when you have a school of that caliber, and if the talk about the rink is true and that becomes a reality, it's really attractive for prospective players," Comley said.

The other major question the Penn State addition presents is whether the other Big Ten schools will leave their current respective

See HOCKEY, Page 12.



Chloe Elmer/Collegian

Linebacker Gerald Hodges (6) grimaces in pain after suffering an injury to his leg during Penn State's 24-3 loss to No. 1 Alabama Saturday.

Hodges to miss one month

By Audrey Snyder
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Joe Paterno was the first to admit he's not a medical guy.

He couldn't quite figure out the specific terminology to describe linebacker Gerald Hodges' hariline fracture in his left fibula, an injury he sustained during the opening kickoff of Saturday's game at Alabama. But, Paterno

FOOTBALL

knows one thing: He will be without Hodges for quite some time.

"It's gonna be awhile," Paterno said. "Whether it's four weeks, six weeks, eight weeks, I couldn't tell you, but he's got a split break there so he's gonna be out for a while."

Hodges was on crutches and had a boot on his left leg after the game, but Paterno learned the linebacker wasn't the only one who left Tuscaloosa a bit banged up.

Cornerback Stephon Morris didn't alert Paterno about a foot injury until the team returned Sunday. Morris was able to complete the game but said he was held out of Monday's practice with soreness at the base of his foot and expected to return to the field Tuesday.

The status of tight end Andrew Szczerba was also brought up, as freshman Garry Gilliam continues to play in his place while Szczerba recovers from a linger-

ing back injury. Paterno said Szczerba still hasn't practiced one play and while he knew the team was going to be shallow at tight end, he expected Szczerba to be back sooner.

QB competition closed

After beating out sophomores Matt McGloin and Kevin

See HODGES, Page 12.

More coverage on Penn State football. | SPORTS, Page 11.



Kelsey Morris/Collegian

Blair Brown (9) spikes the ball.

Loss adds to rivalry

By Emily Kaplan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The schools seem as opposite as East and West.

It's a cross-country trip from State College to Palo Alto, Calif. — 2,736 miles, to be exact.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Stanford has 6,602 undergraduate students — roughly the size of Penn State's freshmen class.

It's also pretty difficult to compare, academically, athletically and culturally.

But size, distance and reputation do not tell the whole story between these two institutions.

See RIVALRY, Page 12.

To see videos of the Lions' trip to the White House, check out the Can You Dig It? blog: psucollegian.com

Marton's injury to MCL

By Andrew Robinson
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State women's soccer defender Lexi Marton will miss at least Wednesday night's game with a Medial Collateral Ligament (MCL) injury in her left knee.

Marton had an MRI on Tuesday but the results were not analyzed by press time, however Marton told team Sports Information Director Jeremy Fallis the initial diagnosis was an MCL injury. Marton did not have a

WOMEN'S SOCCER

See MARTON, Page 12.



Tom Ruane/Collegian

Lexi Marton (4) controls the ball in a game earlier this season.

More soccer | SPORTS, Page 10.

Ruggers prepping for Cambridge bout

By Greg Fernandez
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The thought process with the Penn State Ruggers so far is this — in order to play at its aspired level, play tough competition.

The team won't see much better competition than on Wednesday.

Penn State will play the world-renowned Cambridge University from England at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the West Campus Pitch as the team con-

tinues its preseason this fall.

This is going to be what coach Don Ferrell considers a great learning experience for a young team, which will be without its two All-Americans and its captain, senior scrumhalf Chris Saint.

"It'll be a tough challenge," Ferrell said. "It will be interesting to see how the team does against this challenge, but it's the best way to get better."

For Ferrell, he said this is a great chance for the team to see how rugby is played, watch the ball be moved by Cambridge's

See RUGBY, Page 12.

THE LINEUP

SPORTS ON TV

MLB

Philadelphia at Florida
7:10 p.m., CSN
Pittsburgh at New York (NL)
7:10 p.m., FSN

TRIVIA

Q: Who was the last tailback to win the Heisman Trophy before Reggie Bush?
Tuesday's Answer: 254 tackles

QUICK HITS

Women's golf finishes 13th

Several of Penn State's golfers posted at least one good round during the Cougar Classic hosted by the College of Charleston September 12-14.

However, no one was able to string together three good rounds and the Lions finished 14th in the 21 team field.

"Everybody had their day," coach Denise St. Pierre said. "The encouraging part is that we really have five players that can play well any given day, so if we can get everyone going on the same day we're right in the hunt."

Sophomore Emily Ransone shot the only round under par for Penn State in the tournament with a 71 in the final round.

Packers' Grant out for year

Green Bay Packers running back Ryan Grant is out for the season with a right ankle injury, a significant blow to the team after he piled up 1,200 yards in each of the past two seasons.

The Packers also placed former first-round pick Justin Harrell on injured reserve and signed running back Dimitri Nance and defensive end Jarius Wynn to fill their spots on the roster headed into Sunday's home game against Buffalo.

Grant was hurt in the second quarter of Green Bay's 27-20 win at Philadelphia on Sunday. Packers coach Mike McCarthy said a day later that Grant's injury involved ligament damage. More tests had been scheduled for Tuesday, and the results weren't encouraging enough to try to bring Grant back this season.

OUR THOUGHTS

UF players must behave

For as successful as Urban Meyer has been as Florida's coach — two national championships, two SEC titles and a Heisman Trophy winner in six seasons — the coach's most disturbing stat as Gators coach is the number 27.

That's the total number of players arrested after wide receiver Chris Gainey was charged with aggravated stalking on Tuesday, the newest addition to a list that includes Carlos Dunlap and Brandon James.

Urban, keep in mind you no longer have Mr. Perfect Tim Tebow on the roster to balance out the acts of the misbehaved. Other than that, you're a great coach.