

Bourchier leading Lions into opening weekend

By James Nicol
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The men's tennis team is hoping to bounce back from a disappointing season on the shoulders of Eddie Bourchier.



Collegian File Photo

Bourchier chases a ball last year.

Bourchier begins this fall tournament season as the No. 74-ranked player in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's preseason rankings. Bourchier finished last season ranked No. 102, compiling a 15-7 record, including a 5-4 mark against ranked opponents.

Bourchier is the lone senior on a young men's tennis team composed of only three other upperclassmen.

He hopes to make an impression on some of the younger players after being selected as the team captain for the upcoming 2010-11 season.

"It brings its different challenges, guys look up to me a lot I think, so I mean I've always got to be doing the right thing, stuff like that," Bourchier said. "I'm looking forward to taking it on."

The team will get its first chance to test itself this weekend when it travels to the Princeton Fall Invitational in Princeton, N.J. This is the first opportunity for the players to compete in match play and learn about their play from opponents.

Sophomore Bryan Welnetz is one of the younger players hoping to have success as a team in Bourchier's final season.

"I think after seeing how well he did last year, it's just gonna raise all of our levels," Welnetz said.

"He's a senior and we know it's his last year here so we don't want to disappoint him as a team."

Head coach Todd Doebler said the team focused on improving fitness during the summer and also this fall.

He hopes this fall tournament season will be a good chance for the team to build up fitness and toughness.

"I want to try to build on the good year I had last year."

Eddie Bourchier
senior

"I want them to go, compete hard and play well in singles and doubles. Last year we had a lot of success there. I think the guys are looking forward to competing," Doebler said.

"The first tournament in the fall always shows us a lot and helps us know what we need to do better in practice."

Bourchier advanced to the semifinals in singles last year at this tournament, while he and teammate Jason Lee won the doubles title and return this year hoping to defend it.

Among the teams competing this weekend are three teams — Columbia University, Cornell University and Binghamton

University — which finished among the top 75 last season. The University of Buffalo, the defending Middle American Conference (MAC) champions, will also be in Princeton to play Penn State this weekend.

"I want to make the most of it and really try to build on the good year I had last year," Bourchier said.

"For the team, we didn't do quite as well as we hoped to, so I think that's gonna be another thing I'm looking forward to and another good challenge for us, so I'm definitely looking forward to the year."

To e-mail reporter: jsn5049@psu.edu

Lions hoping to gain experience from season opener

By James Nicol
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The Penn State women's tennis team is entering its first tournament of the season with an aura of confidence.

The Nittany Lions travel to Midland, Texas for the Midland Invitational Tournament this weekend. This will be the first chance for the team to compete and test itself in match play against opponents.

Head coach Dawna Denny is glad the team has the opportunity to play this weekend and is hoping to gain experience from the tournament.



Denny

"It's a great tournament to go to," Denny said. "There's going to be a lot of opportunities for the kids, but I would say the biggest thing is just a lot of match play for us right now."

Sophomore Petra Januskova enters the tournament as the No. 81 ranked singles player in the ITA preseason rankings. Januskova was ranked as high as No. 66 last season before she missed the last month of the season with a stress fracture in her right foot. She was the first Penn State women's tennis player to be nationally ranked since 1997. Januskova said was a little surprised to see herself ranked so high in the preseason, but Denny believes the ranking is well deserved.

"I think coaches know that she

"It's a great tournament to go to."

Dawna Denny
women's tennis coach

is a legitimate player and she deserves it," Denny said. "It was unfortunately she was injured last year but, she definitely deserves to be in there."

Marie-Frederique Bedard and Carmen Sandor join the team as freshmen from Canada and are optimistic that the team will be

able to perform well this year.

"I think we are going to be a really good team," Bedard said.

Transfer Fernanda Perrotta will also be joining the team from the University of Arkansas for her junior year. Denny said her time in the SEC should bring experience to the young Penn State team.

"She's been in high pressure situations before," Denny said. "So I think she definitely has some past experiences she could share with the team."

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- Women's Soccer

By Jacqueline Bigar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Sept. 17, 2010. This year, you might be more creative and open than in recent years. You attract people and relationships like you are a cook flipping pancakes. Clearly, your life presents many unthought-of options. If you are single, the question is not whether you will experience a romantic tie but who will be your choice for that type of relationship. If you are attached, you gain a new perspective on your sweetie. Together you are quite the force to be dealt with. CAPRICORN can be more fun than many other signs.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***** Tap into your instincts, and you won't go wrong. Because of your unusual ideas and processing abilities, you might need to take the lead. Others cannot represent concepts that they don't have a full grasp of. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** Keep reaching out. You will want to digest different ideas and get to the basis of a problem. How you handle a matter and the end results could be dynamic. Look to meetings to help create even better ideas and/or gain more support for yours. Tonight: Try a new spot.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** A partner always plays a strong role in your choices and actions. A discussion points to a new direction. Investigate your options with a greater awareness of the impact you have. Deal directly with each person on an individual level. Tonight: A close encounter.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Defier to others and understand the dynamics between you and another person. You have the ability to reach out for new information and ideas. Just give up rigid thinking, and you'll open up to a broad base of opportunities. Tonight: So many options ...

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** A steady pace and understanding can help you. You know what the possibilities are: pick and choose your priorities. A partner comes through for you, explaining what you thought was impossible. Go along for the adventure, and watch the whole plan unfold. Tonight: Even works.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Allow greater creativity, and with it perhaps more spontaneity and fun. Let your sense of humor emerge. Many people seek you out, trying to find out what really is on your mind. Schedule a late lunch as the day merges into the weekend. Tonight: Let your hair down.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** You might want to anchor in and complete a project. Clearly, your sense of direction will help you with associates. You find that everyone is more optimistic than in the recent past. Tonight: Keep conversations moving. Visit with those on your path home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Your imagination knows no limits, and you feel more in the mood to share than you have in a while. Others share their flights of fancy as well. See what gives between you and another person. Tonight: Making the most of the moment, people and fun.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Be aware of the costs of continuing on your present path. You might want to attempt another form of getting down to basics with those close to you. Encourage a brainstorming session. Tonight: Treat yourself; treat others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Allow greater creativity into your thinking. You can be very dry and logical, which works most of the time. Why not be frivolous and a little more creative? See the ideas that trigger from being involved with a full-on brainstorming session? Tonight: Talking up a storm.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** You might want to understand more of what is going on within before jumping to any conclusions or making a decision. The less said and the less done right now the better. Don't delude yourself about a financial matter. If your processing is on and you see a green light now, it will be there later. Tonight: Take some personal time.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Meetings point to a new direction. You see a situation in a different light. Know that anything is possible, especially if you can gain a key person's or two's support. Know what works for you. Emphasize what is positive within your immediate circle of friends. Tonight: Christie the weekend. TGIF!

BORN TODAY
Choreographer Wade Robson (1982), author Ken Kesey (1935), actress Anne Bancroft (1931) ***

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com
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