

SPORTS

8 | FRIDAY, NOV. 5, 2010

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Lions shutout Indiana, advance

By Joe McIntyre
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The final score was different, but the final result was the same. The No. 8 Nittany Lions field hockey team advanced to the second round of the Big Ten tournament Thursday afternoon, defeating Indiana for the second time this season, this time 4-0, in Evanston, Ill.

FIELD HOCKEY

The Lions are set to face off against Michigan today at 2 p.m., a team the Lions lost to 2-0 earlier this season. Coach Char Morett watched Michigan's 2-0 win over Iowa Thursday and said she was impressed by how the Wolverines attacked the Hawkeyes. Morett acknowledged if the Lions want to beat Michigan and advance to the championship, they're going to need to play even better than they did Thursday. "I think it's going to be really

important for us to make sure we get in our positions early," Morett said. "And that we understand who we're marking and shut them down that way. We really need to take advantage of the counterattack again like we did [Thursday]." When the Lions faced Michigan at the end of September, they had just come off

their first Big Ten win and Morett said they didn't come out with the kind of intensity needed to win a conference game. But the Lions have an opportunity to atone for their regular season defeat and exact a little revenge today against the Wolverines. "I hope that for our team, this is a game where we want to get back," Morett said. "They have an opportunity to redeem themselves. When we played them in [September] we just didn't come

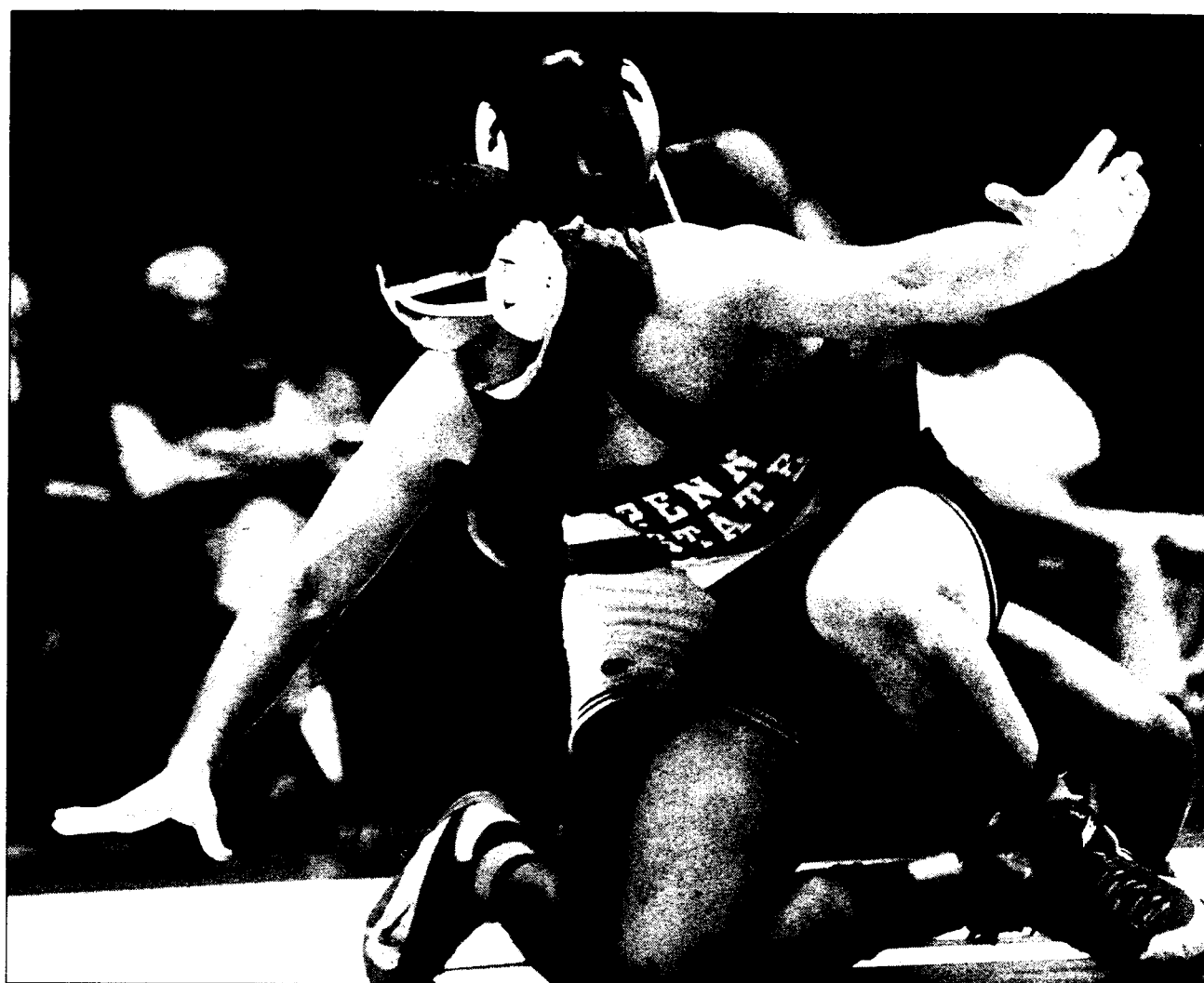
out with a great competitive mindset. And we hope that we bring that [today]." Just as she did in the team's first matchup with Indiana, forward Lauren Purvis got the Lions on the board first Thursday. The freshman's goal came five yards out off a deflection in front of the cage. Sophomore Kelsey Amy also added a goal, in addition to two penalty stroke goals from Jess Longstreth, giving her six stroke goals. See **TOURNAMENT**, Page 10.

Freshmen shine in match

By Brandt Gelman
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Redshirt freshman David Taylor's pre-match warm-up routine alone would be enough to scare away an opponent. While his teammates sank back into their chairs to watch last night's intrasquad match at Rec Hall, Taylor began by putting in his headphones and zoning out. And as if the subsequent body weight squats and pushups were not enough, Taylor ran laps around the gym in order to get warmed up — ordinary only by his standards. "I think that my conditioning is my greatest asset," Taylor said. "I like to push the pace so I can wear down my opponent and get my technique going." Taylor had his technique going last night as he pinned his opponent, redshirt freshman Jim Vollrath, 4:14 into the match. Penn State coach Cael Sanderson said Taylor and Vollrath, who wrestled at 157 pounds Thursday, had wrestled before in what was a close match. After his performance last night, Sanderson said Taylor has wrapped up his starting spot at 157 pounds. Taylor said he has been working on getting out to faster starts in his matches during the offseason. "One of my problems is making sure when the whistle blows I'm ready to go out there," Taylor said. "A lot of times in my career I give up early points and have to come back. So if I can push the pace in the beginning it will be really hard on my opponents." Sanderson said he was impressed with the way his team, and Taylor in particular, really went after their opponents. He said that it starts in practice; if the team can come out fast in practice, the intensity will translate into real match situations. Redshirt sophomore Justin Ortega said he felt Taylor was one wrestler who stood out in the intrasquad match.

See **FRESHMEN**, Page 10.



Ed Ruth (top) grapples with Michael Lorenzo during Thursday's intrasquad dual meet. Ruth earned a 16-1 tech fall.

Ruth impresses with win

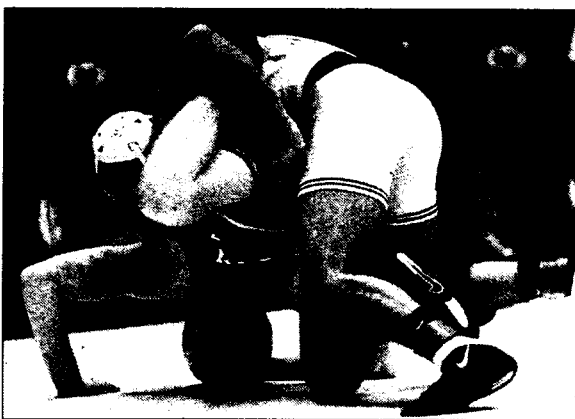
By Mike Still
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Just seconds before Ed Ruth took to the mat for his 174-pound bout against senior Michael Lorenzo in the Penn State wrestling team's Intra-Squad match last night at Rec Hall, the redshirt freshman had to take a phone call. With the pressure of competing against his teammate already on his mind, there was someone Ruth had to talk to first — his girlfriend. Ruth didn't specify what he and his girlfriend talked about before his

match, but whatever she said it worked, as Ruth dominated in front of a crowd of nearly 3,000. "I was just staying on [Lorenzo] and going straight at him," Ruth said. "I want to come at him so fast and so hard that he won't believe that he stayed up with me. Hopefully that's what I'll do with all my opponents." After going up 8-0 on Lorenzo after the first period, Ruth went on to defeat his teammate by way of a 16-1 technical fall just 4:13 into the match. The redshirt freshman used his aggressive style to his advantage and persistently pursued Lorenzo the entire match. "I've said this a few times about

[Ruth], but he doesn't get tired, he gets warmed up," coach Cael Sanderson said. "The longer the match goes, the better he's gonna feel." Ruth — the No. 1 recruit in his weight class his senior year at Susquehanna Township high school — delivered as he was expected to. It was a different story in the 133-pound matchup, however, as two evenly matched grapplers battled it out for the top spot on the depth chart. Redshirt sophomore Bryan Pearsall, a 3-23 finisher in 2010, took to the mat against true freshman Sam Sherlock. In a tense battle, Pearsall grinded out

See **RUTH**, Page 10.



Andrew Alton (blue) and Kyle Moran go to the floor.

WRESTLING

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Men to open season

By Alex Angert
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER



Tre Bowman prepares to pass.

Freshman Taran Buie is far from nervous. Excited, ecstatic and anxious — yes. But nerves are the last thing he is feeling heading into Sunday. Buie, like the rest of his teammates, is eagerly waiting to open up the season against East Stroudsburg at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Bryce Jordan Center after weeks of practicing and scrimmaging against each other. For the more experienced Nittany Lions, Sunday represents one final tune-up before the season starts. For Buie and the other freshmen, it will be the first chance to play in front of the Penn State faithful. But for the entire team, Sunday will simply be a breath of fresh air — a chance to play against somebody not wearing a Penn State practice jersey. "We're just ready to go," sophomore Tim Frazier

See **MEN**, Page 10.



Julia Trogele shoots at practice.

Lady Lions eager to play

By Jake Kaplan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The Penn State Lady Lions may not have a 20-point scorer on this season's 11-player roster. However, Penn State coach Coquese Washington thinks she has a cluster of players who could rack up double-digit points in any given game. "For us, it's going to be about the team and the balance," Washington said at her weekly press conference on Tuesday. "We might not have somebody who has 28 points and 12 rebounds, but we're going to have a bunch of people all hovering around the same spot. "But that's what's going to make us a dangerous team."

See **WOMEN**, Page 10.

THE LINEUP

SPORTS ON TV

NBA
Boston vs Chicago
8 p.m., ESPN
Denver vs L.A. Clippers
10:30 p.m., ESPN

TRIVIA

Q: How many penalty minutes has Sidney Crosby earned in his six seasons?
Thursday's Question: April 10, 2010

QUICK HITS

Enter the Pick 'Em

Despite entering Sunday with a three-way tie, the Collegian's NFL Pick 'Em contest now has one person alone in front. After a 10-3 week, assistant sports editor Paul Casella has taken a one-game lead over Nittany Lion Fund President Jim Regan. Sports Copy Desk Chief Bill Landis made his triumphant return to the Pick 'Em with an 8-5 showing last week. Last week's student contestant, Pete Lagasse, went a mediocre 6-7. To top Pete's record from last week and bring the students record back to respectability, send the answer to today's trivia question to Paul Cassella at plc5032@psu.edu.

Oberto to retire

Portland Trail Blazers center Fabricio Oberto has abruptly retired because of a previously diagnosed cardiac condition that caused heart palpitations. Oberto, in his sixth NBA year, was signed by the Blazers a day before the start of the season to help the Blazers while centers Joel Przybilla and Greg Oden heal from knee surgeries. Oberto experienced dizziness in Portland's game against Milwaukee on Nov. 2. He said Thursday he wanted to put his health and family in front of basketball. The Blazers also announced Thursday that rookie guard Elliot Williams would have surgery to repair a dislocated right patella.

OUR THOUGHTS

Sid almost got fight right

Kudos to Sidney Crosby for almost sticking up for his teammate Kris Letang. In the Penguins loss to Dallas Wednesday night, Crosby squared off with 6-foot Stars' defenseman Matt Niskanen. To be fair, Crosby impressed with his pugilistic abilities. But he fought the wrong person. Crosby said postgame that he dropped the gloves with Niskanen as a response to Stars' captain Brendan Morrow fighting Letang. Morrow had three slashing penalties and was a pest all night, but Crosby's fighting Niskanen doesn't prove anything. Morrow would have been the justified opponent. Maybe next time, Sid.