

Field hockey to host NCAA games

By Joe McIntyre
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

When the words "Penn St. (14-5)" came on the screen during Tuesday evening's NCAA field hockey tournament selection show, there was little excitement amongst the team.

FIELD HOCKEY

But then assistant coach Annie Zinkavich noticed something. There was an asterisk in front of

Penn State. The team looked down to the bottom of the screen to see: *Denotes host institution.

What happened next could only be described as pure euphoria.

Sophomore Kelsey Amy was hugging her teammates and pumping her fists in a fit of fury. Zinkavich was on her knees, yelling at the ceiling, trying to hold back tears. And the rest of the team, as well as coach Char Morett's dog Ziggy, were jumping up and down and trying their best to shatter the windows of the East

Area Locker Building with their shouts of joy.

The Nittany Lions are set to face No. 4-seed Syracuse at 11:30 a.m. Saturday at AstroTurf Field, and Morett said the Lions expected to make the tournament for the 25th time in team history but never to be named one of its four host schools.

"Shocking. It was honestly shocking," Morett said. "I thought Maryland would host, and I thought Syracuse. But obviously there are some great teams in the

tournament and now there are some great teams coming to Penn State."

The Lions have already seen some quality opponents in Happy Valley recently. The Lions defeated then-No. 17 Duke 2-1 and then-No. 5 Princeton 1-0 back in October. The victory against the Tigers was the final home game of the regular season for the Lions and it was supposed to be the last home game in the careers of the Nittany Lion seniors.

When it came up that her team

would host its bracket, senior forward Jenny Purvis thought of how her and her senior teammates would get at least one more
See NCAA, Page 10.

If you go

Field hockey's first round NCAA tournament game vs. No. 4-seed Syracuse

When: 11:30 a.m. Saturday
Where: AstroTurf Field

Offense thriving under McGloin

By Audrey Snyder
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Joe Paterno could do nothing but laugh when asked why the Penn State offense has come alive with Matt McGloin at the helm.

FOOTBALL

Not wanting to hype the fact McGloin threw seven touchdowns during the past three games, Paterno shook his head and said he's tired of trying to answer the same question.

Though the 83 year old eventually said it's a matter of the entire offense finally getting better, his decision to start McGloin against Ohio State comes at a time when the offense hasn't looked better.

With McGloin leading the way for a unit that posted 35-plus points the past two games, the quarterback's play has helped the offense set up scoring opportunities on its past 11 red zone chances. With 10-of-11 conversions being touchdowns, the offense has come a long way since it had just seven red zone touchdowns on 22 tries when Rob Bolden was the starter.

See MCGLOIN, Page 10.



Chloe Elmer/Collegian

Defensive end Sean Stanley (90) goes after Northwestern quarterback Dan Persa during the Lions' 35-21 win Saturday at Beaver Stadium.

Stanley moving on from problems

By Andrew J. Cassavell
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Sean Stanley had Dan Persa in his sights.

After weeks of personal unrest following a suspension that led to him wondering whether he'd get another chance, the sophomore defensive end wasn't about to let Northwestern's quarterback escape. On a crucial third quarter third down Saturday, Stanley beat the right tackle on the edge, and

took Persa down eight yards in the backfield.

For Stanley, the sack — his first of the year — represented closure, finally, for all the turmoil he's been through in the last month. Now, he said, he's ready to move forward.

"It was a great feeling," Stanley said. "To finally get my first sack of the season, I'm just trying to put everything behind me, so it felt real good."

Stanley was suspended, along

with cornerback Derrick Thomas, before Penn State's Big Ten opener at Iowa. He didn't make the trip to Iowa City, and two weeks later it was learned police had searched his apartment that week, resulting in a marijuana possession charge.

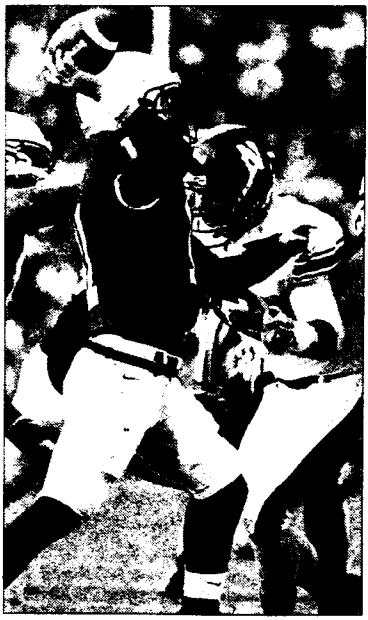
Stanley, who was reinstated to the team the week of the Minnesota game Oct. 23, said he was unsure of his future with the team following the incident. Even when he was playing again, he

still didn't know if he'd get a chance to get back into the rotation.

"When it first happened, I didn't know what to think or what my career would come to," Stanley said. "Now that I'm back out there, playing all these plays a game, it's a great feeling."

All those plays Saturday were almost out of necessity for a defensive line that's been missing Jack Crawford (foot) and Eric

See STANLEY, Page 10.



Lexi Simchak/Collegian

Matt McGloin throws a pass.

Slay providing change

By Ryan Loy
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Last Friday's match at then-No. 15 Michigan had all the makings for a close contest to determine which team could make a run at the Big Ten title.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

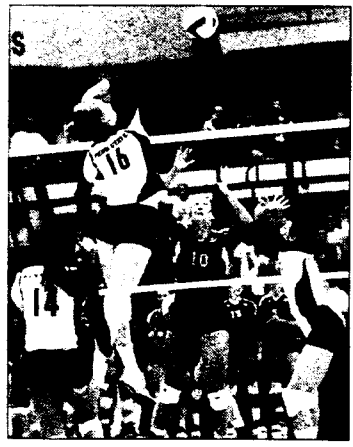
But early in the match, freshman Katie Slay established herself as a force along the net — smothering several Wolverine hits — helping the No. 8

Penn State women's volleyball (21-4, 11-3 Big Ten) team defeat Michigan (21-5, 10-4) and take sole possession of second-place in the conference.

The 6-foot-6 middle hitter excelled offensively and defensively in both weekend contests. Slay registered 17 kills in the victories against Michigan and Michigan State, while contributing 16 blocks.

Slay was named the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week, as

See SLAY, Page 10.



Chloe Elmer/Collegian

Katie Slay (16) goes for a kill.

Alton wins spot

By Brandt Gelman
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After last Thursday's intrasquad match, the Penn State wrestling team had locked in a starter for each of its weight classes except for the 141-pound class.

At 141 in the intrasquad match, senior Adam Lynch defeated freshman Dylan Alton 14-10.

while freshman Andrew Alton pinned his opponent, freshman Kyle Moran, in 62 seconds. With no definitive representative at 141 pounds, coach Cael Sanderson held a wrestle-off in Saturday's practice between



Alton

Lynch and Andrew Alton.

See ALTON, Page 10.



NBA

Philadelphia at Oklahoma City
8 p.m., CSN

Q: What town in Pennsylvania is Cowboys interim head coach Jason Garrett from?

Monday's answer: Bing Crosby once partially owned Major League Baseball's Pittsburgh Pirates.

Coach loses bet to team

Waiting until the very last 17 seconds of a game to score the goal that would crown Penn State conference champions is enough to give even the calmest of coaches gray hairs.

As a matter of fact, the way the entire season has played out for the Lions should have already done the trick for coach Erica Walsh.

The four-year women's soccer coach shouldn't be too worried though with a date with the hair stylist coming up on the calendar.

That's because Walsh decided to make a little deal with her players in hopes of saving the team's season, which was floundering only a few weeks ago.

To read the rest of Alex Angert's story, check out psucollegian.com

Club basketball wins tourney

The best team on the court this past weekend at the Duke Dog Classic was quite possibly the loudest, as well, as the Penn State men's club basketball team clinched the tournament title in overtime.

"One thing we have going for us that maybe other teams don't is that we're so close. We're a very vocal team on the court and off," said club president George Marshall, a senior. "Our bench is very loud, very involved. Other teams may not like it, but that's who we are."

The play on the court, however, was every bit as loud as the talk.

To read the rest of Robert Quinn's story, check out psucollegian.com

Hawkins firing: About time

It took awhile, but the administration at Colorado finally decided to pull the plug on the Dan Hawkins era for the once-proud Colorado Buffaloes football program.

Hawkins' four-and-a-half year tenure with the Buffs might be historically one of the worst stretches for a BCS-conference team. The program never had a winning season, going 2-10, 6-7, 5-7, 3-9 and 3-6 so far this year. The Buffs' record in the Big 12 was even worse: 10-27.

Far from the successes of the days of Rashaan Salaam and Kordell Stewart.

So what exactly went through athletic director Mike Bohn's mind during those putrid seasons?

We're about as confused as you are.