



Amanda August/Collegian

Senior Blair Brown and her women's volleyball teammates celebrate a point in a win vs. St. John's earlier this season in Rec Hall.

## PSU ready for search

By Anthony Barton  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After completing the search for the Penn State ice arena architect and construction firms, Penn State Associate Athletic Director for Ice Arena Operations Joe Battista said beginning in January he will turn his attention to filling the vacant coaching **ICE HOCKEY** positions.

Battista said the next step is putting together a search team with representation from the Penn State athletic, academic, administration and compliance departments, as well as faculty members. He also said players from the current Penn State hockey teams would be present at meetings to give their input.

"Key items we're looking for are their ability to recruit top student athletes, to run the program the Penn State way, and their track record for success at the highest levels of hockey in North America," Battista said. "Those are all the kinds of criteria we'll be looking for as we move forward."

Battista said the university is strongly considering the use of a national search firm to help narrow down the candidates. The firm would be knowledgeable in terms of salaries and other nuances in order to help Penn State find a coach who meets criteria.

"There are a lot of coaches out there, they may want us more than we want them," Battista said. "Our job would be to work with a firm to help us narrow down that list."

Although the coaching search is in the preliminary stages, a construction firm has been chosen.

Battista said the firm Mortenson Construction out of Minneapolis had been granted **See SEARCH, Page 10.**

## Lions excited for NCAAAs

By Jake Kaplan  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The title defense starts tonight. After the last three seasons ended with national championships, the 2010 Penn State women's volleyball team looks to complete its journey for a fourth straight title.

The Nittany Lions host Niagara

in the opening round of the NCAA tournament at 7 tonight at Rec Hall. A Penn State win, which would set an NCAA Division I volleyball record for consecutive home wins at 91, would allow the Lions to advance into the second round against either Virginia Tech or Delaware at 7:30 Saturday night.

"Excitement. I don't think that's even a word that could explain it," said senior co-captain Alyssa D'Errico, the Lions' libero

who has been a part of the last three titles. "All of us are literally like frothing at the mouth. I would say, for a chance to compete for another national championship."

The Lions, who are the tournament's No. 4 seed and would not be forced to leave Happy Valley until a potential fourth-straight Final Four trip, know nothing is for granted. It has been an up-and-down year for the Lions, as they snapped their 109-match winning streak and string of 65

consecutive conference wins earlier in the season.

However, Penn State (26-5, 16-4 Big Ten) finished the season winning 13 of 14 conference matches and an eighth-straight Big Ten title. And though the Lions dropped their season finale at Minnesota, D'Errico said her team is ready to go.

**See NCAAAs, Page 10.**

Women's volleyball ready for upset-minded Niagara. | **Page 9.**

## Hertzog, Nairn named finalists

By Andrew Robinson  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Corey Hertzog's name didn't appear as one of the 39 listed on the 2010 MAC Hermann Watch List back in August.

20 goals and six assists later, the junior forward on the Penn State men's soccer team is one of 15 finalists for the prestigious award, college soccer's equivalent of the Heisman Trophy.

"In college soccer, he's number one as a player and that's going pretty much on stats. The guy's a machine," Penn State senior co-captain Andres Casais said. "Playing with him is awesome."

And he isn't the only Nittany Lion on a Hermann semifinalist list.

Women's soccer sophomore Christine Nairn was also named as one of 15 semifinalists on Thursday, after being named to the preseason watch list the last two seasons. Despite a drop in her numbers from last year, Nairn became a more complete player this season.

"She had a brilliant season and I think her role changed a bit this year," women's soccer coach Erica Walsh said. "Her numbers were down simply because our numbers were down overall, but her leadership was up and her mentality was better and she's really starting to develop into a leader for us."

A year after posting 11 goals, Hertzog outdid himself in his junior campaign, drawing plenty of national attention along the way.

His 20-goal effort, currently tops in the nation, tied the single-season high for the Big Ten, which was set by Indiana's Dema Kovalenko in 1997 and Aleksey Korol in 1999.

The striker also currently leads the NCAA in points per game, at 2.09, and total points with 46. Hertzog scored a hat-trick and assisted the other goal in the team's 4-1 win over Old Dominion in the second round of the NCAA Tournament before the team fell 1-0 to No. 2 seed Maryland last Sunday.

Despite being held scoreless against the Terrapins, Hertzog wasn't a nonfactor.

"Watching the tape against Maryland, he didn't do much in the sense we couldn't get the ball to him much but he was running so much," Casais said. "He didn't stop running and his work ethic is just amazing."

Hertzog said it's exciting being nominated for an award like the Hermann trophy, but at the same time, not being on the preseason list served as a bit of motivation.

"Not being on the radar, I don't want to say it upset me, but it made me try harder," Hertzog said.

"Not being recognized for having a good season [last year], it made me come hard for this season and all my hard work proved it."

Last week, the striker was identified as a possible Generation Adidas target, which is the route for early entry into the MLS. However, Hertzog said Thursday he hasn't given much thought to his future and is **See FINALISTS, Page 10.**



Sarah Finnegan/Collegian

David Jackson (15) looks to pass vs. Maryland Wednesday night.

## Men's basketball ready for Dukes

By Jared Shanker  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

It was supposed to be the coming out party for Penn State basketball, a chance to take a step out of the all-encompassing shadow of Joe Paterno and Beaver Stadium, which stands just across the way.

Maryland, a school that's been to two Final Fours in the last decade, was coming to the Bryce

### If you go

**Men's basketball vs. Duquesne**

**When:** 6 p.m.

**Where:** Bryce Jordan Center

Jordan Center, and with a win, the Nittany Lions would have **See BASKETBALL, Page 10.**

## Lady Lions fall to Eagles in OT

By Ryan Loy  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

At Wednesday's press conference, coach Coquese Washington said she wanted to see her team begin the games stronger.

The Lady Lions developed a habit of starting slow, but they've also come accustomed to

making things interesting late.

Penn State (6-2)

displayed both of those characteristics Thursday at Boston College, but its late-game heroics weren't enough as the Eagles fell to the

Eagles (7-0) in overtime, 113-104.

**Boston College**

**Penn State**

**Eagles (7-0) in overtime, 113-104.**

The Lions had to fight from behind for much of the game, holding short leads just a handful of times in the second half. However, Zhaque Gray hit a 3-pointer with 13 seconds to play in regulation. After the Lions gave up a quick basket to Boston College, Alex Bentley took the ball the length of the floor and hit a game-tying layup with just less than a second to play. **See LOSS, Page 10.**

### Leyritz gets probation, fine

Former New York Yankees World Series hero Jim Leyritz was sentenced Thursday to one year's probation and fined \$500 for a drunk driving conviction, a far lesser penalty than he had faced before a jury decided he wasn't responsible for a woman's death in a 2007 traffic crash.

Circuit Judge Mark Gold imposed the sentence for the misdemeanor on the 47-year-old former ballplayer, who was acquitted last month of DUI manslaughter in the death of 30-year-old Fredia Ann Veitch. Leyritz could have gotten up to 15 years if convicted of manslaughter, but he said Thursday it was no victory.

"I said it from the very beginning, there would be no winners in this case," Leyritz said in a tearful statement to the judge. "This was a horrible, horrible tragedy."

### Cleveland return disappoints

We've been hearing about it since the summer: When the Miami Heat visit the Cleveland Cavaliers on Dec. 2, it will be one of the most-watched NBA games in recent memory.

All because a certain player who left Cleveland for better opportunities in Miami returned for the first time.

So we waited on pins and needles for this triumphant return, but were soon dismayed when this player failed to make any sort of impact in the Heat's rout of the Cavs.

Zero points and just two rebounds in over 16 minutes on the floor?

You disappoint us, Zydrunas Ilgauskas.

### Yankees up offer to SS Jeter

The New York Yankees increased their contract offer to Derek Jeter.

The team informed Jeter's side of the new offer during a telephone conversation early Thursday, a person familiar with the negotiations said.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement was made.

"The ball's in Derek's court now, and his agent," Yankees co-chairman Hank Steinbrenner said later Thursday in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "It's up to them."

Jeter's agent, Casey Close, declined comment.

### NCAAF

Illinois at Fresno State  
10:15 p.m., ESPN2

### Q: How many points did Zydrunas Ilgauskas score in his first career home game with the Cleveland Cavaliers?

Thursday's answer: Before Wednesday, Penn State won the last matchup with Maryland in men's basketball.

**The donor's vision**

At the first meeting between the architectural and construction firms Tuesday, donor Terry Pegula laid out his vision:

A state-of-the-art arena with the fastest surfaces in North America

The ultimate fan experience

A facility that attracts student athletes

A broad base of programs for students, faculty, staff and the community

Source: Joe Battista  
Ashley Rickard/Collegian