NCAA basketball: The A-10

PSU could win, and we're not being biased

by Brad Kane

The Collegian

1. Temple - As usual, John Chaney has assembled a quality unit which is capable of taking the conference title. This year represents the last time around for guard Mark Macon, now a senior, who hasn't regained the shooting touch that had the nation talking about him as a freshmen.

His supporting cast includes sophomore center Donald Hodge, a rising star, as well as forward Mik Kilgore and freshman sensation Johnathan Haynes, Macon's heir apparent at point guard.

2. Penn State - No, I'm not biased. The Lions have a strong team again this season, even with the loss of center Ed Fogell, the team's leader last season.

Returnees include sophomore forward Deron Hayes, who should hit the big time this year, senior forward James Barnes and the backcourt tandem of juniors Freddie Barnes and Monroe Brown. F. Barnes and Brown are both starting for the third year together, which can only add cohesiveness to the club's makeup.

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3. Rutgers - People seem to be taking the Scarlet Knights lightly this season. That's a mistake These guys are tough, so tough that they could surprise everyone and win the conference.

Seniors Keith Hughes and Tom Savage will work up front as senior Earl Duncan will run the floor for the Knights. An added bonus for Rutgers is the addition of center Brent Dabbs, a Virginia transfer who should strengthen up the frontline considerably.

- 4. West Virginia The Mountaineers are not to be taken lightly this year either. They could also take the conference title. Forwards Charles Becton and Chris Brooks, both seniors, will combine with junior guard Tracy Shelton to give WVU more than enough scoring punch. They're a legitimate darkhorse club in the A-10 this season.
- 5. Massachusetts Last year UMass guard Jim McCoy quietly developed into one of the conference's finest players. Now a junior, McCoy is prepared to let the country know just who he is. He doesn't have a whole lot to work with though. Sophomore forward Tony Barbee will help out, as will 7-2 freshman center Jeff Mayer, the conference's tallest player.
- 6. Rhode Island The Rams will have to get by this year relying on the efforts of senior guard Eric Leslie, a 23 point-per-game scorer last year. If he doesn't produce, watch out for a Rhode Island fall. Junior Forwards Mike Brown and Jeff Kent will also have to help out greatly to keep the rams from faltering.
- 7. St. Joseph's The second conference darkhorse, St. Joe's could move up if freshmen Bernard Blunt and Rap Curry, both guards, develop quickly enough. The newcomers are the bright spots for the Hawks, but there are enough returnees from last year to make the season brighter in Philadelphia. Included amongst the returnees are forwards Craig Amos and Richard Stewart, and guard Chris Gardler, seniors all.
- 8. George Washington The Colonials return three key players from last year. Seniors Ellis McKennie, a guard, Glen Sitney, a forward, and sophomore Sonni Holland, also a forward, will be back this season. A dull recruiting class doesn't give GWU much else.
- 9. Duquesne Senior playmaker Tony Petrarca returns -- scoring machine Mark Stevenson doesn't. Enough said.
- 10. St. Bonaventure The Bonnies return little from last year. Leading the way will be senior guard Michael Burnett. To the basement they go.

Slump continues for women's basketball team

(continued from page 14)

most of Behrend's inside game. Freshman forward Heather Shearer and Sophomore guard Darcie Bradley also fouled out.

NOTES: Behrend is making 53 percent of the free throws....The Lady Lions are averaging about 35 rebounds a game while their opponents are getting 42 bounds a game.... Behrend is averaging a high 28 turnovers per contest, which has been one of the biggest problems this year.

Behrend plays Hiram College and Washington and Jefferson College at Erie Hall before the break.

Hiram College was unable to make the trip to Behrend Tuesday night because of the poor weather conditions.

So here I am, my last issue T h efor Collegian member of the editorial staff, we're running late as usual, all anyone in the office has eaten been Oreos. Nutter Butters chips, our former editor (from 1909-1989) is back and he's doing layout, and well, I'm babbling .

Unhappy heroes

Study says college athletes feel isolated

(CPS) Big-time college athletes don't feel much like heroes. Instead, they often feel isolated, frustrated, exhausted and pressured, two sociologists report in a new study.

It is the second major study in two years to find that athletes often have unhappy campus lives.

"The bottom line is, if the coach doesn't win, he loses his job," said University of Colorado sociologist Patricia Adler, who coauthored the most recent study with husband Peter Adler, a sociologist at the University of Denver.

"For all that (a coach) cares about these atthletes as people," she added, "if the team isn't winning, it all starts to go."

In tracing the lives of student members of a Division I National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) men's basketball team at an unnamed Southwestern private university, the Adlers found students were quickly

disappointed upon arriving on campus.

From the moment they stepped onto campus, athletes were treated differently and isolated from the general student population, the study said.

They were housed in an athletic dormitory, ate at a training table and maintained a rigorous practice schedule that interfered with social pursuits and school work.

A 1989 NCAA survey of 1,789 athletes nationwide uncovered similar complaints.

A disturbing percentage of students said they felt isolated on their campuses, had little time to study, and that they often felt physically abused by their coaches.

"Some days the coaches make you feel as though you are a part of a large herd of animals. In other words, they treat you like a piece of meat," said one anonymous football player in the NCAA survey.



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