

NOTEBOOK

MEN'S SOCCER

Michigan ends PSU's Big Ten tourney run

Penn State surrendered a goal in the first five minutes of the Big Ten championship game Nov. 14, and fell behind by three scores within 30 minutes before ultimately dropping the game to Michigan, 4-1.

The loss was a disappointment following two strong outings in the tournament, including a 3-1 drubbing of Northwestern and a 2-1 victory over perennial contender Indiana in the semifinal match.

Junior Corey Hertzog scored two goals against the Wildcats and added a third vs. Indiana to earn a spot on the all-tournament team with senior Matheus Braga.

Braga assisted the winner against Indiana, pushing his Penn State single-season record to 15 assists on the year.

Despite the loss, Penn State earned the No. 15 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

West Virginia ends Nittany Lions' season

After rallying to win their 13th consecutive Big Ten championship, the Lions saw their season come to a disappointing end, falling 2-1 at West Virginia in the first round of the NCAA Tournament Nov. 14.

West Virginia scored first at the 14:27 mark and then made it 2-0 a little more than two minutes later. Senior Dani Toney took a through ball up the middle in the 35th minute to close the gap to one goal by halftime.

Penn State mounted a frantic attack in the second half, unleashing 10 shots in the period to the Mountaineers' two and finishing with a 17-6 shots advantage. Despite the offensive pressure, the Lions could not get one past West

Virginia's goalie, who finished with six saves, all in the second half.

The Lions finished the season at 11-9-1. The mark was hard-fought, as Penn State opened the season with just one win in its first nine games. That lone victory was the season opener at West Virginia, a feat they could not repeat in the season's final game.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Penn State romps in rematch with Illini

Three Nittany Lions recorded double-digit kill totals, and host Penn State cruised to an easy 3-0 (25-18, 25-16, 25-18) victory over No. 9 Illinois Nov. 13.

The win was symbolic as it came against the team that ended Penn State's four-year unblemished conference record earlier this year. In that match, the Illini upset Penn State in five games.

The victory not only moved Penn State into a tie for first place in the Big Ten with the Illini, but also improved the team's home match winning streak to 88 in a row, besting the team's previous mark of 87 set from Nov. 25, 1995, to Sept. 29, 2000.

Senior Blair Brown led all hitters with 13 kills, followed by freshmen Deja McClendon (12 kills) and Ariel Scott (10).

CROSS COUNTRY

Lane paces Penn State in regional meet

The Penn State men's and women's cross country teams ran a spirited race Nov. 16 at the Mid-Atlantic regionals, finishing in third and fourth place, respectively, and earning spots in the NCAA Championships Nov. 22.

Caitlin Lane led the women, finishing in 12th place overall and pacing five Penn Staters who finished in the top 25. On the men's side, juniors Kyle Dawson and Vince McNally ran career-best races to finish second and third overall.

- E.W.

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the next day and go back to practice," DeChellis said. "Jeff is a great guy, and I can't say enough about him."

And then there was the day Butya had a chance to publicly thank Paterno.

"Sometime in middle of the season, Joe had me out to a Quarterback Club luncheon at the Nittany Lion Inn," Butya, said, "and I thanked him personally for letting me be a walk-on and being part of the team."

Paterno doesn't remember that day, but he does remember Butya. "He was a little guy, and not much of a player," Paterno said a couple of weeks ago. "But he was good guy and now owns a bar out in western Pa."

Actually, Butya, a lifelong bachelor, co-owns the All-Star Sports Bar and Grille with his brother Ken and sister-in-law Mary. It's located in Robinson Township's Heritage Square, just off I-376, close to the Pittsburgh International Airport, and is the head-

quarters for Penn State fans in that area. The place is always packed when Penn State is on television, and the night before the Penn State cheerleaders flew to Iowa this past September, they stopped for dinner.

Greg Gattuso, the nose tackle of the '81 team who is now an assistant coach at Pitt, is a frequent visitor, and some Pitt fans also hang out there. Butya loves it when they all start arguing about the bitter, longtime series that ended in 2001.

"I always say, 'Do you remember 48-14?'" Butya said. "And when I tell them I played in the game they go nuts, and can't believe it. I show them one of my photos in uniform and they just shake their heads."

Butya paused. "I can hardly wait to show them this piece you're writing," he said. "It will drive them crazy." Just like Butya did to Parolvecchio 30 years ago. But it's no more "Weeble's Wobble, but they don't fall down." He can now say, "Hey, did you know I'm Penn State's Rudy?"



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