

3rd ECAC XC Championships
Penn State University, University Park, PA
November 10, 1984

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

1. Desiree Scott, Rutgers, 17:12.5; 2, Margaret Wynne, Yale, 17:14.8; 3, Lauren Searby, Villanova, 17:16.1; 4, Kathy Brandell, New Hampshire, 17:23.7; 5, Michele Hallett, Boston College, 17:27.3. 6. Jenny Stricker, Harvard, 17:31; 17:31; 7. Mary Ellen McGowan, Villanova, 17:32; 8. Alicia Hauber, Syracuse, 17:33; 9. Ann Fallon, Boston College, 17:39; 10. Heidi Gerken, Penn State, 17:43. 11. Moira Teevens, Dartmouth, 17:46; 12. Meredith White, Penn State, 17:48; 13. Ellen O'Neil, Dartmouth, 17:51; 14. Paula Renzi, Penn State, 17:53; 15. Kim Mitchell, Delaware, 17:54; 16. Donna Adamoli, Boston U., 17:56; 17. Charyl Haversat, Boston U., 17:58; 18. Kate Wiley, Harvard, 18:00; 19. Cabi Czajan, Bucknell, 18:01; 20. Lisa Ross, Penn State, 18:01.6; 21. Anne-Louise Shafer, Penn State, 18:03.1.

Team scores

Villanova 81, BC 111, Harvard 128, BU 145, Dartmouth 172, Penn 229, George Mason 231, Yale 244, New Hampshire 267, James Madison 312.

Women Qualify for NCAA's - Win ECAC's

By MARY AGNES MATYSZEWSKI

The women's cross country team traveled to Penn State last weekend to run in the ECAC Championships and the NCAA Regional II Championships. Due to their outstanding performance, the Cats qualified for the NCAA's.

In the ECAC standings Villanova finished first with a score of 81. As this was the first time that these championships were held, coach Marty Stern was extremely pleased that his women were the first ones to bring home a trophy.

As he stated, "We're proud to be the first team ever to win the ECAC Cross Country Championship. This was our seventh meet, and technically we won all seven of them. We brought home seven first-place trophies in seven meets."

"For the girls who ran, I told them the ECAC was like the ICAA's, a first place doesn't happen a lot — although it does around here — it's just a hard meet to win. These women can come back when they are old ladies, and fat, and with kids, and they can say 'I was on the first team that won the ECAC's'."

In the Region II team standings, the Wildcats finished in second place with a score of 54. However, there was irony in this second-place finish because the winning team, Penn State, was one which the women have beaten more than any other team.

Stern reflected upon the Region IIs. "As far as I know, there's no one connected with our team who feels bad that we didn't beat Penn State. And no one should because



Photo by Coskey

Lauren Searby the idea was to go there and qualify for the NCAA's and we did that. The only talking we are doing now is looking forward to the Nov. 19 NCAA's."

Additionally, Stern also talked about his women in general. "This is probably the best women's cross country team in the history of the school. It is the most talented as far as people and winning goes."

"No matter what we do now, there is only one meet left — our meet at Penn State, which will be our fifth time against them. But, we are not going there just to beat Penn State. We are going there to be ranked, to finish top in the country. We don't think that Penn State stands in our way for that, we feel that there are other schools better than them."

Stern also talked about the team individually.

Mary Ellen McGowan, who placed sixth in the ECAC standings and third in the Region IIs,

finished in a time of 17:32.7. "Mary Ellen has given us consistent high-quality races all year, and she is kind of like a hero in my mind."

Lauren Searby, with a time of 17:16.1 finished second in both ECAC's and the Region IIs. "This past weekend Lauren ran her best race of the year. Like Mary Ellen, she always runs well when there is a lot on the line. She was a hero this past weekend."

Vickie Brown finished 29th in the ECAC's and 19th in the Region IIs with a time of 18:22.5. "Probably the biggest hero of the meet was Vickie. She had severe stomach cramps while she was running, and a lesser person could have dropped out or slowed up. But, she ran through her pain and made it possible for us to advance to the NCAA's."



Photo by Coskey

Melissa Grubb

"The average person would have probably dropped out of the race."

she not done that, you'd now be writing an obituary of our last meet, because it would have been our last meet. You don't often talk about a 36th place finish (Vickie's overall placing), but to me that 36th place was a whole lot higher than it appeared."

Melissa Grubb placed 16th in the ECAC's and 13th in the Region IIs with her time of 18:04.7. "Melissa has all year run consistently and has run well in every single meet we've had. She tends not to be in the limelight, spotlight, due to her consistency."

"A credit to her is that she can run so hard every time and that is not an easy thing to do. It shows an unusually high quality of intelligence and high powers of concentration."

Lisa Polzinetti, with her time of 18:22.1, finished 28th in the ECAC's and 10th in the Region IIs. "Lisa has run very well all year and has been very strong in all our meets. She has greatly improved over last year and has improved so much that she's a vital person on our team."

Mary Pat Pardocti, finished 86th in the ECAC's and 56th in the Region IIs in her time of 19:06. "Mary Pat's a freshman, and last year in the New Jersey State Championship she came in so far back in the pack that she, herself, doesn't know where she came in. This year, she came in 11th in the Big East Championships. She's the kind of person that the more important the meet is, the better she performs."

Colleen Gallagher, who placed 34th in the ECAC's and 24th in the Region IIs, had a time of 18:38.7.



Photo by Coskey

Colleen Gallagher

of late."

Head Coach Dr. Charles Jenkins was also very much pleased with his women's fine performance.

"The women's meet was at a different place than the men's meet, and it wasn't until the evening that I learned the women had continued with their perfect record."

"The thing that makes me feel really good about the women's win and continuous wins, is that shortly before I came here they were at a Division II level and were not winning at the caliber they are winning at now. I am happy that the women are not only at the Division I level, but that they are winning at that level."

"It should be clear that they are running against some very tough competition. Last year, we were invited to Boston College and Penn State, and we are beating those teams now."

"They have to be credited with a great deal. It is a heck of a way to start off the athletic track season."

Lady Lions Run into NCAA Championships

By DOUG McDONALD
Times Senior Sports Writer

Penn State, running at full strength for the first time this season, placed five runners among the top 21 overall and five among the top 10 in the NCAA District 2 cross country qualifier and upset Villanova at the Blue Course yesterday.

Coach Teri Jordan's team scored 37 points (5-6-7-9-10) and earned a spot in the NCAA Championships which will be staged at the same course a week from tomorrow. Villanova, which had knocked off State in four previous meetings this season, had 54 (2-3-12-18-19) and earned a wildcard spot.

District 1 honors went to Boston College, which scored 65 points. The Eagles also will return to the Blue Course for the nationals a week from tomorrow.

"We've been working toward this for six weeks," Coach Jordan said after the 5,000-meter race. "We've added speed training and we're peaking at the right time. We've come around at the right time. Now we still need one more peak."

"We've been pretty consistent. We played it smart and didn't go out too fast today. We've had good balance all season. I could have flipped a coin for several positions. Just watch. We should do well in the B race, too."

Heidi Gerken of Penn State finished 10th overall and fifth within District 2. Her time was 17:43. Meredith White, the former State High runner, was 12th and sixth, respectively, in 17:48.

Paula Renzi of the Lady Lions, running cross country for the first time in over a year (she had been sidelined because of a stress fracture in the shin area), placed 14th and seventh, respectively, in 17:53.

State's other scorers were Lisa Ross (20th and ninth, respectively, in 18:01.6) and Anne-Louise Shafer (21st and 10th, respectively, in 18:03.1).

The five scorers gave Coach Jordan's determined team a 20-second grouping.

"I'm proud of all seven runners," Jordan said.

Holly Loht, ex-Chief Logan High standout, was 24th overall in 18:05.2 and Cindy Stearns was 57th in 18:39.

"You can count on Heidi being No. 1," Jordan said. "And what can you say about Paula. She was tremendous. She has a lot of heart. She sacrificed a lot for the team. We had to gang up on Villanova."

CROSS COUNTRY

Some people told Jordan that Penn State would do better on the course because of Friday night's heavy rain.

"I guess we are mudders," she said, "but I'm glad the course was in good shape."

Coach Marty Stern of Villanova praised Penn State for a job well done moreso than criticizing his team.

"We felt we could win today," he said. "We had beaten Penn State four times. But Penn State was better than we wanted it to be. The pressure was on them coming in and Coach Jordan and the team did a super job. This is the 10th straight year Penn State has won."

"But we're not crying or moaning. We're just looking forward to the NCAAs (Nov. 19)."

"On paper, we were the favorites. But that's why they run the race. You win some and you lose some. Penn State had a good pack today."

"Without even looking at the scores, I think Penn State would have won had Paula not run. I admire Coach Jordan for being so patient with Paula."

Desiree Scott, the senior from Rutgers, captured individual honors, but she had to wait several hours before being declared the official winner. Her time was 17:12.

Officials observed that Miss Scott didn't adhere to the rules — straying too far from the chalked course — while running the course.

"I love to run on golf courses," Desiree said immediately after the race. "I just ran and felt the sky was the limit. I ran 17:31 here two weeks ago. Today's time was the best in my life. I love the grass. It's just a great feeling."

Looking ahead to the NCAA meet, Desiree said: "I just want to do my best. I'll just go with the flow."

The Rutgers coach appealed Miss Scott's disqualification and the games committee later voted to reinstate her.

"She's a great athlete," Coach Jordan said. "I have mixed feelings. I'm just sorry it happened."

In the B race, Judi Cassel of Penn State won easily.

Penn State Qualifies For NCAA Women's x-Country Championships

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. (UPI) — Penn State's cross country team was the top qualifier from districts I and II Saturday for the NCAA national women's cross country championships.

Penn State, in District II, hosted the qualifying meet for districts I and II.

The other teams qualifying for the national championships, to be held Nov. 19 at Penn State, were Boston College from District I; and Villanova, which received an at-large bid.

The individual qualifiers were Alicia Hauber from Syracuse and Gabi Czajan from Bucknell from District II. Qualifying from District I were Margaret Wynne from Yale, Kathy Brandell from New Hampshire, and Jenny Stricker from Harvard.