

Bucknell outruns Harriers, 21-40

By DEBBIE FRANKEL

To Hen cross-country coach Charlie Powell, a loss is not necessarily bad news.

"We may have lost, but we ran a hell of a race," said Powell after his team lost 21-40 to Bucknell, and defeated Lafayette 17-46 in Saturday's tri-meet.

Powell gained some solace after the race since Bucknell's cross-country team is ranked third in the East and seventeenth in the nation.

Rick Sayre of Bucknell won with a time of 25:12 over the 5.1 mile course, shattering the old course record of 25:56. Delaware's top finishers were Pat Gahan, who came in third with a time of 25:34, and Matt Kelsh, who finished fourth in 25:40. Eight runners came in under the previous course record.

Conditions were less than ideal on the Polly Drummond course. A steady drizzle had left the bridges slippery and the trail dotted with puddles. One of the toughest hills on the course, nicknamed "the wall," became so muddy that it was nearly unclimbable.

Even though conditions were bad, Bucknell came out extremely fast, setting a record-breaking pace early, and keeping their top four or five runners bunched up in the lead.

"They went out so fast," said Pat Gahan.

"In the second loop they kind of started to croak—I didn't do anything to catch up."

Gahan and Kelsh were able to pass most of the Bucknell pack in the woods, but Bucknell's two lead runners always remained outside of

striking range.

According to Powell, Bucknell's lead runner, Sayre, is one of the best distance runners in the ECC. "He just pulls everyone through," said Powell. "It's an emotional letdown for them when he's not running."

"In order to beat them, we would have had to have put together five perfect races, Powell continued. They had two men (quality runners) for every one of ours."

Most of the Delaware runners were pleased even with the loss. Competing against a nationally ranked team, many ran their best times.

"Even though we lost, we were as competitive as anyone could have been," said Delaware captain Matt Kelsh. "I'm just happy that we made them work for their victory. Now, I'm looking forward to the IC4A's."

Next week's IC4A's tournament which is to be held in Van Cortland Park, New York, is like an East Coast championship meet. More than one hundred schools will run in three divisions of competition. Bucknell is expected to win the championship division, while Delaware is a strong contender for the university division crown.

"If we run like we did today," Powell said, "we should win the IC4A's."

Delaware's next home meet is a tri-meet against Drexel and American, and it will be held October 25 at 11 a.m. on the Polly Drummond Hill Road course. The IC4A's tournament is Monday, October 20.

Delaware's record is now 5-1.

Lady stickers on winning streak

By MARTINA QUILL

For appetizers the women's field hockey team downed eighth ranked Maryland 2-0 Thursday then for the main course they devoured LaSalle 5-2 in an away contest Saturday.

At LaSalle junior Carol Miller led the Hens with her second hat trick of the season. Delaware led by a narrow 3-2 margin at the close of the first half. Enter Carol Miller who opened the second half of play with some superb stick work, a dodge or two and a hard hitting unassisted goal.

According to Miller, offensively Delaware was in the drivers seat of this game. "The offense really took control now we're cooking," said Miller.

LaSalle scored early in the first half. At 11:45 Debbie White came back for the Hens to tie the contest. The Hens and LaSalle battled at the same level for the space of minutes. Then with 16:05 elapsed in the game Miller scored, the first of her trio.

This goal set the tone for the rest of the contest as Delaware never relinquished the lead.

Anne Brooking, a versatile defensive player, scored on a hand stop play which is used on a penalty corner. The ball was shot at the Delaware offense by Susan Samuels. Junior center link Karen Stout stopped the ball with her hand and Brooking blasted it into the net.

According to Brooking the play was a fluke. "The ball was bouncing when it came out, and Karen had to guide it with her hand. I thought the refs would call it, but when it went in they signalled scored, so we were lucky," said Brooking.

"It's a good play on a corner" said Brooking. "The only trouble is when it does bounce like that and you can't stop it cleanly. The ref will call a penalty and that's when it becomes detrimental."

"We've really improved in the last few weeks," said Brooking in light of the Hens

two most recent wins. "We can probably go undefeated for the rest of the season."

LaSalle scored one more goal late in the first half but their fate had been sealed. According to head coach Mary Ann Campbell LaSalle was a formidable opponent for the Hens. "They've had an up and down session but they played a tough game," she said.

LaSalle has beaten eight ranked Maryland 2-1 and on Thursday Delaware shut the Terrapins out. "I was thrilled with a shut out against a team like Maryland," said Campbell after the game.

According to Campbell, the main factor in both wins was speed. "The team is moving to the ball quickly and aggressively. It's a good sign that they can play excellent defense then get back on the offensive," said Campbell.

Thursday Miller scored for the lady stickers on a penalty flick against the Maryland goalie.

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