

Sports



BREAKAWAY... co-captain Kent Arnold eludes Lafayette forward George Tiger in the Hens 2-0 loss to the Leopards Wednesday. The loss ended the booters hopes for the ECC west division title.

Review photo by Bill Wood

Gridders to face 0-8 Mariners

By JONATHAN FEIGEN

You've heard it all before.

On any given day etc. All it means is that the Blue Hens will clobber the Merchant Marine Academy tomorrow, and if Delaware is on their game, they can pick the score.

Merchant Marine comes into tomorrow's contest at Delaware Stadium sporting a futile 0-8 record and were beaten last year by the equally futile score of 65-0. Yet, true to form, coach Tubby Raymond said he is worried.

"Any time 11 guys get together and get a good fit on, anything can happen," Raymond said. "There's been several games we did not play well enough to beat them (The Merchant Marines)."

But Coach, my high school team could give them a good game.

"I hear too much of this stuff," Raymond said.

Even Mariner head coach Pete Charmichael considers the situation desperate.

"When you are 0-8 and going to Delaware, you really don't have much to say," he said. He doesn't have much hope either.

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Delaware is now 6-2 and brings a two game winning streak (against 1A teams) into tomorrow's contest. The victory over Villanova last weekend was possibly the squad's finest defensive effort in years.

"We have been coming together all season," said linebacker K.C. Keeler who leads the unit in tackles. "We're really hard workers and we're really close. That's the key. We're just so close."

The main offensive weapon for the Mariners is tailback Dean Doe. Doe has run for 982 yards this season but managed only 22 last year against the Hens. He averages 122.8 a game for Charmichael.

The key to Delaware's wing-T attack has been senior fullback Hugh Dougherty. Dougherty gained 103 yards against Villanova for his second straight 100 yard game and his third this season. He has picked up 674 yards this year and with three games left has a chance at a 1000 yard season.

"That's the main goal I have (gaining 1000 yards)," he said, "other than winning of course."

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The next three Hen contests will be played at home against three of the weakest teams on the Delaware schedule. The combined record of the Merchant Marine, Maine and Youngstown State stands at 4-21 as Youngstown is also winless.

"I'm concerned about them trying to win all three games at once," Raymond said. "I've seen it happen at the beginning of the season. Everybody talks about going undefeated and then they forget to play."

But according to Keeler, the Hens still have a lot to prove. "At first I thought it was a no win situation (playing Merchant Marine)," he said. "If we kill them everybody says that's what we should do and if we lose..."

"The next three games can prove that we aren't flakes and we can be consistent," said Keeler. "We have to show we're the kind of team that beat Temple and Villanova decisively and not the kind that played against Lehigh and Northern Michigan."

Hens beat Salisbury St.; set for playoffs

By SUSAN HERTEL

Despite the wet, cold and dismal conditions the women's field hockey team faced on Tuesday, the squad rolled over visiting Salisbury State 4-1 upping their record to 7-4-2.

Salisbury got on the scoreboard first at 11:44 of the first half but their lead did not last long as right link Kathy Hudson blasted the ball past the visitors goalie with 9:25 left.

"We adjusted pretty well to the conditions," said coach Mary Ann Campbell. "We came back strong offensively."

That they did, as the stickers capitalized on four of their 22 shots on goal, while the Hen defense allowed only five Salisbury shots.

Tri-captain Carol Miller wasted no time in the second half as she scored 27 seconds into the period.

Sophomore Sharon Wilkie scored the Hens third and fourth goals of the contest at the 4:25 and 9:08 marks of the half.

On Monday the Hens suffered a disappointing 1-0 loss to Ursinus.

"Field hockey's a crazy game," explained Campbell. "You can win on the statistics sheet, but lose on the scoreboard."

The lady stickers outplayed their opponents but the first half remained scoreless. At 11:35 into the second half, Ursinus scored the games only goal.

"They're goal was just a fluke," commented left inside Miller. "We dominated on every aspect of the game. We're better than them, definitely."

Now ranked eleventh in the nation, the field hockey team travels to the University of Maryland today to play in the EIAW regional tournament.

Booters upended 2-0 Hopes for playoffs shot

By JIM HUGHES

Lafayette college downed the Delaware booters 2-0 Wednesday afternoon to capture the ECC Western division soccer crown and a spot in the ECC playoffs.

The loss closed out the Hens conference record at 2-3-0, and left their overall mark at 5-7-1.

Lafayette, who took the title on the strength of a 3-0-2 record, was paced by Hans Van Yperen's two goals. The Leopard forward got his first score nine minutes into the game when teammate George Tiger threaded a perfect pass between the Hen defenses.

"That goal was a gift," said Coach Loren Kline. "It was a mistake to give it up like that."

With three minutes gone in the second stanza, Van Yperen got on the scoreboard again when he outraced defenseman Jeff Pritchard downfield, and beat a lunging goalie Dave Whitcraft to the left.

For the Hens, the loss was doubly painful as their hopes for the division title were crushed, and a three-game winning streak was snapped.

"We didn't play very well," said Kline. "We had trouble passing and trapping. I thought in the first half the wind might have made the difference but we didn't do anything different in the second half."

Indeed the first half was

spent exclusively in Delaware territory, as a stiff wind kept any Hen goal kicks from ever reaching midfield. The one Hen bright spot of the half was a lunging header by midfielder Geoff Daras that stopped a Leopard shot about to cross the Delaware goal line.

In the second half the booters did not take advantage of the wind until 28:33 when defenseman Jimmy Oster knocked a header at the Lafayette goal. Leopard defenseman Bob Craney matched Daras' first half effort by heading a sure goal off to the side.

The Hen offense eventually got rolling with 10 minutes left when forward John Petito tested goalie Bob Morrison with a 35' blast. Six minutes later forward Charlie Dielmann chipped an off-balance shot that spun over the Lafayette cross-bar. Finally, with 1:36 remaining in the game Mike Walters - who was named ECC western division player of the week for his performance against Bucknell - popped a header that Morrison hauled in to preserve his shut-out.

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The booters totaled 12 shots on goal, the Leopards had 19. Whitcraft made 10 saves on the day...the Hens take on Glassboro State Saturday, and conclude their season next Wednesday against Princeton.



Review photo by Terry Bialas

GOALSCORER Sharon Wilkie heads downfield in the stickers 1-0 win over Salisbury State. The Hens begin their regional tournament today.