



FROM PRESIDENT WENDY JO HARTSOCK

I can't believe that we are in the final weeks of the Penn State Men's Hockey season. Those games and pucks certainly flew by fast. We have had a great season, and our FOPSMH membership has had some great gatherings and events this year that we hope to make happen annually for our membership.

For our behind-the-scenes tour of Pegula, Dana Crouse, Director of Marketing, did a wonderful job guiding us through the facility. Seeing "underground Pegula" gave us a new perspective on the players' practice and game day routines. We visited the weight room as well as selected skills/training locations, and of special interest to us was the nutrition bar that is now being created. The FOPSMH has had a financial hand in making this happen, as we gave \$10,000 to Coach Gadowsky's discretionary fund this past December. Our contribution helps support the availability of the food and nutritional supplements our players use regularly. Thanks to you, our members, the hockey program provides the necessary sustenance for our players' training, conditioning, playing, and recovery.

At our virtual February bingo game, Rodney Martin, the Voice of Pegula, acted as MC and several players called the numbers. Everyone who attended the event had a great time, and we ended the night with a player question and answer session; we learned about some unique (and curious?) routines that some of our players follow on game day. These include sitting quietly on the bench, playing video games, or being the last player off the ice. After all, a happy player is a better player.

We held watch parties and pot-luck watch parties throughout the season. These are fun opportunities to gather and support the team while making new Penn State friends.

We are always looking to organize group events such as these, so please share any ideas you have with me and we'll see if we can make them happen.

Earlier in the season, many individuals asked whether the FOPSMH was organizing an away game bus trip. We therefore contacted and received quotes from several bus companies, but ultimately, the cost outweighed the number of individuals willing to attend.

If we try to organize such a trip next season, we must get more fans and members involved in order to bring the cost per person down to an acceptable level. If you wish to join us on a future bus trip, please let us know of your interest



Looking for The Friends of Penn State Men's Hockey on the web?

WEBSITE: <http://fopsmh.org>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/mhbci>

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early next season, and then, if we announce a proposed trip, please respond quickly and be prepared to make a commitment to participate. Our past trips have been loads of fun, and we'd really like to continue this activity.

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A message from the editor: With the publication of this spring's newsletter, I am stepping down as editor. I will be succeeded by Brenda Rudy and Sara Becker. It's been a blast producing the newsletter, but there are many folks who did a lot of the heavy lifting. FOPSMH Presidents past and present gave the guidance I needed, and Coach Gadowsky and his players and staff (Nancy Doyle and Devon Johnson) gave of their time to make this all work. Of course we would have been nowhere without our three stalwarts – radio announcer Brian Tripp, rink announcer Rodney Martin, and "Official FOPSMH Staff Photographer" Stephanie Corcino. They all did this "on their own dime" and always came through; without them there would have been no newsletter. Finally, if you liked the way the newsletter looked, that's because of Mark Zehr, ProCopy's designer extraordinaire, and a great guy as well.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

photos by Stephanie Corcino

Even when no Big ten clashes were scheduled, Penn State's men's hockey team kept busy, as the pictures below demonstrate. Early in January, the team hosted its annual Free Skate, giving fans young and old alike the chance to interact with some of their favorite players (pictures 1 and 2).

During their "bye" weekend in February, the Lions held what they hope becomes an annual charity event – the "Sled Hockey Classic" - with the Happy Valley Coyotes, a team providing opportunities for individuals with cognitive or developmental challenges to play hockey. With many Roar Zone members in attendance, the Coyotes came away with a hard-fought 6-5 victory on an OT buzzer-beater (picture 3). Penn State sophomore forward Dylan

Lugris was the driving force behind the event, which raised over \$20,000 for the Happy Valley Special Hockey Association. Coach Gadowsky was impressed and proud; "I never thought he (Lugris) would have pulled it off, and he did. He was able to do it because every single guy participated somehow."

Coach Gadowsky must have also been impressed and proud of his team in, of all places, the Bryce Jordan Center. At halftime of the cagers game vs. Illinois, Penn State honored its athletes who attained a 3.0 GPA or higher; a whopping 20+ players from the hockey team were so honored (picture 4).



Ryan Kirwan has an attentive audience of possible future Nittany Lions.



Dylan Lugris makes sure this young skater is ready to go.



The 'Yotes gave Penn State's Simon Mack (4) all he could handle in their exciting victory.



It takes more than athletic ability to be a Nittany Lion.

ASK COACH GADOWSKY

Editor's Note: The 2022-23 season marks the tenth season in Pegula Ice Arena, and not coincidentally the tenth of Big Ten men's hockey. A lot has happened to Penn State hockey during that time, almost all of it good, but Coach Gadowsky's views show that not everything needs to change.

Question: How are players different today from 10 years ago? To what do you attribute these changes?

Coach Gadowsky: With so much emphasis on individual skills and individual training I do feel the overall skill of players today is better. However, I still feel the differentiator is how you think the game and how

speed over brawn, however it seems in the playoffs for some reason the game settles back a little towards the past.

Question: How have your coaching actions/philosophy/style changed to adapt to the above-mentioned changes?

Coach Gadowsky: We have always been a very fast offensive team, so we feel that the trend is moving more toward how we like to play. That being said, you always have to try to stay ahead of the curve, and our staff has tried to adapt to rule changes to benefit our



PSU Athletic Communications



Special delivery to the Roar Zone (Fall 2016).

competitive players are, so in that sense some things never change.

Question: How has the play on ice changed in this time period?

Coach Gadowsky: Usually college hockey mirrors the trends of the NHL, which is also seeing an uptick in skill players as opposed to bigger, tougher, stronger, meaner players. Recent rule changes are also geared towards more room on the ice resulting in a desire for



When the going gets tough, Coach G gets going (Fall 2015).

productivity. As far as our basic philosophy, we are here to prepare student athletes for success in life, and that will never change.

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THE VOICE OF PEGULA, RODNEY MARTIN



Editor's note: In thinking about the last 10 years of PSU hockey that I witnessed, my mind started wandering – from Penn State varsity hockey to club hockey, and then to hockey outside of Penn State. And I remembered not just the games and players, but the oddities, the things that you see once in a lifetime. I thought I'd check with my favorite rink announcer to see how his memories compare to mine.

Question: What's the oddest coaching move you've ever witnessed?

Editor: This is not just the oddest coaching move, it's really the oddest incident, period. During the club hockey days, there were 2 or 3 teams that were the Lions' biggest rivals. Weekend series against these teams in Greengburg were special. Well, one Saturday afternoon, Penn State was really laying the wood on one of these teams - from the opening face-off, it was no contest. Penn State had to have been up by at least 5 goals heading to intermission. The horn went off, and Penn State headed towards the locker room. Not their opponents – they just sat, and sat, and sat. Until the next period began. Good thing for them that there were no public seating areas on the side of the arena where the player benches were.

RM: I do indeed remember that. And as I recall, it didn't do anything as we continued to dominate that game. I have also heard, though cannot confirm first-hand, that sometimes coaches don't let their players shower before getting dressed to get on the bus after a game. That is down-right brutal, in my opinion. Doesn't the coach also have to ride that same bus to the hotel/airport?

I remember a shootout we had in the first couple of years at Pegula. One of Penn State's defenseman came out to take a shot and I thought "What is he doing out there"? Of course, the player goes out there and pulls one of the silkiest shootout attempts I have ever seen. Obviously this wasn't an odd coaching move, it was the right move. It (once again) made me realize that I just talk into a microphone - what do I know about coaching?

Editor: Yeah, you and all of us fans.

Question: What's the most embarrassing player moment you can recall?

RM: Going back to the club days, I can share an embarrassing moment for some visiting players that happened in the

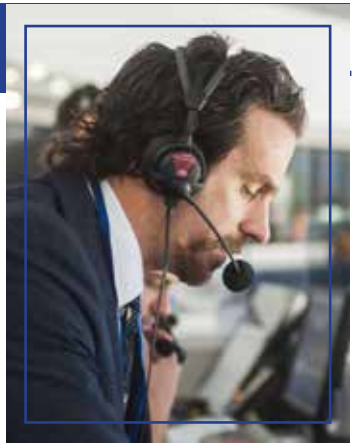
penalty box. My announcing position used to be between the penalty boxes in Greengburg. We used to have members of the Hockey Management Association serving as off-ice officials and in charge of opening/closing the door for the players. More often than not we would have a female as the official in the away team box. I can remember a few times when an opposing player was more interested in talking with her than getting out on the ice when the penalty expired, and that led to not getting back in the action right away.

Editor: That is what is referred to as a "teaching moment." I remember attending a lopsided ACHA tournament game when a penalty was called and the goalie skated off the ice. Trouble was, the penalty was called on his team and not the opposition. Ooops!

RM: I have yet to see a goalie leave the crease thinking the penalty was on the other team - typically they are very wary of that and err on the side of caution.

Question: Has anything happened at a game where you thought "Now what happens?"

RM: The Icercs had a December game against a team that had been dealing with some significant injuries. The rules state that a team must have two goaltenders available and dressed at the start of a game and the opposing team did indeed have two. However, midway through the game, the starting netminder was injured, and this is where the confusion set in. The team had dressed a forward who would have been a scratch due to injury as their "backup" goalie, not thinking that their starter would eventually have to leave the game. So now the referees and coaches get together to try to figure out what to do. Turns out that one of the starting defensemen for them had goaltending experience, but was obviously dressed to be a skater that night. We ended up with about a 20 minute delay in the middle of the second period so that the defenseman could go into the locker room and change into goalie gear. I had to make a lengthy announcement explaining the situation. To the player's credit, he didn't play half-bad.



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

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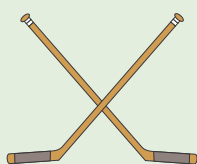
Our annual social with the players and coaching staff was well attended. I want to thank the Pegula staff for making it run smoothly. Jane and Sara of the FOPSMH Social Committee organized it, and were greatly assisted by Brenda, Roxie, Ann Marie, Mrs. Becker, Brian, Heather, Wendy, and Stacey. This is an opportunity to interact with the players and take advantage of numerous photo opportunities.

The "Senior Celly" is one of our last events of the year. We currently have eight seniors, and although it will be hard to lose that many players, our underclassmen are a strong, seasoned group, and we also look forward to another tal-

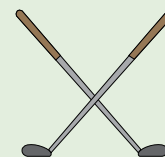
ented incoming class..

If you would like to get more involved with the FOPSMH Club and/or Board, please let me know, as we are always looking for new members. Here's to a great end of the season, playoffs, and, of course, a successful ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF PENN STATE MEN'S HOCKEY GOLF CLASSIC on Friday, May 19 (see the ad below or go to our website for more information).

Wendy Jo



DON'T FORGET!!!



ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF PENN STATE MEN'S HOCKEY GOLF CLASSIC

FRIDAY MAY 19, 2023 – PENN STATE BLUE CROSS

Sponsored by:

Friends of Penn State Men's Hockey
Penn State Hockey Alumni
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To attend, contact:

Brian Shull
(717) 576-5483 or blshull@verizon.net

Activities:

Golf Tournament
Post-Tournament Dinner
Post-Tournament Silent Auction

To play, contact:

Shawn Hinkle
shawnpso01@gmail.com

THE VOICE OF PEGULA: RODNEY MARTIN

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Editor: Something like that happened in the NHL a few years ago. The Carolina Hurricanes grabbed a zamboni driver from the stands in the middle of a game in Toronto. He allowed goals on the first two shots he faced but saved all the rest and WON THE GAME!

I recall early in the Pegula era when Penn State apparently scored but the on-ice officials waived it off and play con-

tinued uninterrupted. We all knew that at the next break the play would be reviewed and justice served. Of course before the action could stop the Lions scored another goal. In the end the first goal was confirmed, the second one was discounted, and the clock was set back to the time of the first goal. I'll bet there was one player whose stat sheet had one less goal than he would have liked.

GAME ACTION

photos by Stephanie Corcino



It's New Year's Rockin' Eve but RIT netminder Tommy Scarfone spoils Connor McMennamin's party in the opening period.



The Lions' Liam Souliere returns the favor by thwarting the Tigers' Simon Isabelle (12).



Alex Servagno (8) scores his first PSU goal with the eventual game winner as corks pop throughout Hockey Valley.



Kevin Wall (21) was a pest all night.



It's Friday night, and Notre Dame's Ryan Bischel makes 52 saves before a record Pegula crowd.



The Lions keep the pressure on in the final period. How does the puck not go in?

GAME ACTION

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Bischel stays locked-in despite the surrounding chaos.



Liam Souliere was no slouch in goal for the Lions, but the Irish held on for the win.



Saturday night brings a 2nd consecutive record crowd, but Bischel is still inepregnable.



Early in the second period, however, Simon Mack (4) ties it at one on a pass from Chase McLane (17).



With the game tied late, Xander Lamma (left) somehow gets the puck to Christian Sarlo (right, surrounded by defenders).



Sarlo may be obscured, but the puck isn't, and the Lions come out victorious.

D-1 ACTION OVER THE YEARS AT PEGULA

photos by Stephanie Corcino



"Rocket" Richard goes one-on-one (Fall 2016).



Kenny Brooks flips-out against Notre Dame (Fall 2015).



Kris Myllari knows only one way to play (Fall 2019).



Andrew Sturtz can skate (Fall 2015).



No way to stop Kevin Wall from a hat trick (Fall 2021).



Peyton Jones stonewalls Notre Dame's shootout attempt (Spring 2020).