

## Spring 2003 Semester & National Tournament Review

By Angie Courtemanche CMT

### ICERS SPRING SEMESTER CLOSE TO PERFECT; ADD ANOTHER NATIONAL TITLE TO THEIR BANNER

Penn State began another semester on the road January 3rd. This time they were on neutral ice when they faced Washington and Jefferson at Mellon Arena for the first annual Collegiate Hockey Showcase (sponsored by the Pittsburgh Penguins). They defeated the Presidents 7-1 and handed W and J their third loss of the season. W&J is coached by former Icer Dave Hornack. The Icers returned home to play West Chester January 7 overcoming a 3-0 deficit to win the contest 7-3. Senior captain Josh Mandel's goal and two assists moved him into fifth place on the Icers' all-time list of points by a defenseman.

They headed west a second time that week to play rival Ohio at Bird Arena in Athens, where the Icers' record stood at 2-6-2 over the last five years. The senior class was desperate to leave Ohio with a win against the Bobcats since their class managed to steal only one win from them in their rink. They proved to be successful when they defeated the Bobcats with a 7-3 win on Friday and settled for a 2-2 tie on Saturday. Coach Battista, Josh Mandel, Neal Price, Curtiss Patrick and Bill Downey departed for the World University Games in Tarvisio, Italy after the weekend contests. The absent coach and players proved to be a big loss for the Icers when they faced second-ranked Illinois the following weekend. The Icers suffered their first two losses of the season: 5-2 on Friday night and 5-4 on Saturday with Saturday's game tied at four until the Illini's Mike Roesch scored with 46 seconds left in the game. The Icers could not capitalize on a two-man advantage to either tie or win the game in the third period. Illinois was missing three top players as well for the World University Games, but it did not deflect their momentum against the Icers. Penn State had their 18-consecutive polls at number one erased in the following poll due to the losses against the Illini.

It was time for the Nittany Lion Invitational Tournament the weekend of January 24. The Icers skated past West Virginia with a 6-1 win, while the Indiana DII team defeated Washington and Jefferson 9-2.

Penn State wished for a rematch with the Hoosiers, the team that handed the Icers their first loss of the season last year at the Big Ten Thanksgiving Tournament. The Icers took revenge on Indiana with a 9-2 win. Paul Crooker, Kevin Jaeger and Brandon Cook were added to the NLIT All-Tournament team, while Glenn Zuck was honored with the tournament MVP.

Road games with Eastern Michigan and Michigan Dearborn kept the Icers' winning streak alive as well as home wins against #4 Delaware. Penn State ended their regular season at home with the defending Ontario College Champion Saints of Saint Clair College in Windsor, Ontario. They managed a one-goal win of 5-4 Friday night, but didn't keep the momentum as St. Clair returned the favor with a 3-2 win over the Icers. The tough games proved to be just what the Icers needed to prepare them for Nationals.

The ACHA DI National Championships didn't play out the way they did the last two years. The top seeds won their games, while lower teams were subjected to early dismissal. The Icers started their pool play with 11th ranked Eastern Michigan, a team they took three wins from earlier in the season. Penn State found themselves with hidden talent as freshmen Luc Walker and Brett Wilson netted a goal and four assists between them, while sophomore Garrett Divins added his own two assists. It wasn't as easy when the Icers took the ice with seventh ranked Iowa State. This was the only game Penn State played ISU this season. The Cyclones went two goals ahead of the Icers, even though the Icers out shot ISU 52-20. Two power play goals in the final 5 minutes of the third period from Kevin Jaeger and Glenn Zuck sent the game into overtime. The team, running on a high from the last five minutes of regulation, skated out and Josh Mandel put the puck IN the back of the net less than three minutes into overtime. This sealed a date with sixth-ranked Delaware (who upset #3 Minot 3-2 in OT) in the semi-finals. Delaware was another team Penn State faced more than once in the regular season. Two goals in the first and third periods and one in the second sent the Icers to their sixth consecutive National Championship game. First-ranked Illinois and fourth-ranked Ohio followed PSU's game. The Icers were shocked to learn they would not play the Illini a second consecutive year in the Championship game due to the Bobcats handing Illinois a 4-1 loss proving once again the Bobcats home ice advantage in Bird Arena. It didn't matter who was the opposing team because Penn State decided they would create the same illusion they did last year in the Championship game—a shutout. Senior goaltender Scott Graham stopped all 31 shots he faced and garnered Tournament MVP for his efforts. This is the fourth consecutive year an Icer won the honor. Senior Paul Crooker scored his 100th career point as an Icer with the fifth goal to win the game. Josh Mandel earned his fourth All-Tournament team with a second-team nomination. Curtiss Patrick, Kevin Jaeger and Glenn Zuck retained first tournament honors. Brandon Cook, Neal Price, Bill Downey and Paul Sealock made the honorable mention all-tournament team. Coach Battista said this was one of the most dominating performances ever in a National title game – “The guys played an almost flawless game to defeat a terrific Ohio team in their own building. The special teams were outstanding and Scott Graham was a wall in goal.”

## 2003 Graduating Seniors

There are nine Icers who are graduating this year with an overall record of 112-18-5 and four national tournament wins in a row. They are: Brandon Cook (Economics/International Business), Paul Crooker (Psychology), Scott Graham (Finance), Dant Hirsch (HRIM), Josh Mandel (HPA), Dustin Martin (Aerospace Engineering), Neal Price (Marketing), Paul Sealock (Mechanical Engineering), and David Tunon (International Business/Marketing).

## 2003 Award Winners

The 2003 ACHA National Champion Icers held their annual Awards Banquet on Saturday April 5 at the Days Inn State College. The Icers captured their 4th consecutive ACHA National Title on March 2 by defeating rival Ohio University 5-0 in Athens OH. It was Penn State's 7th National Title and 5th in the last 6 years. The Ted Cauffman Most Valuable Player Award was given to **Forward Glenn Zuck and Goalie Scott Graham**. Zuck led the ACHA in Scoring with 35 goals and 53 assists for 88 points while Scott Graham earned his second consecutive shutout in the National Championship game and had an outstanding 95% save percentage and a 1.25 Goals against average in the National Tournament to Earn Tournament MVP honors as well.

This year's other award winners include:

The John Shellington Offensive Player of the Year Award: **Kevin Jaeger and Neal Price**

The Joe Battista Defensive Player of the Year Award: **Josh Mandel and Brandon Cook**

The Norm Hutchison Players' Player Award: **Defenseman Curtiss Patrick**

The Rookie of the Year: **Forward Brendan Roache**

The Tammy Smith Unsung Hero Award: **Forwards Bill Downey and Jack Weber**

The John Fredrickson Flannel Shirt Award: **Defenseman Eric Harbaugh**

The Lynn Sipe Leading Scorer Award: **Forward Glenn Zuck (88 Points)**

Best Academic Performance: **Dant Hirsch (4.0 GPA)**

The Jason Niedt Award Most Improved Academic Performance: **Joe Sheridan (3.75 GPA)**

Best Academic Performance By A New Player: **Matt Wallace (3.53 GPA) and Matt Weber (3.55 GPA)**

The John Dufford I.C.E. (Intense, Consistent Effort) Award: **Greg Windsor, Marc Switaj and Brendan Roache**

The Vance McCullough Hockey Award of Excellence (Given to Individuals to recognize their contributions for the long term growth of Hockey at the Penn State University): **Videographer Andy Richards, PSU Division 2 Ice Lions Head Coach Maurice "Mo" Stroemel, Sports Camp Director Richard J. "Dick" Bartolomea**

The Jerry Fry Service Award (Given to individuals who make a superior contribution to the Icers in a given year): **Booster Club Member Linda Jordan and Strength Coach Brad Pantall**

The PSU Hockey Management Association Outstanding Service Award: **Program Editor Dwight Snowberegger**

Icers Booster Club Outstanding Service Award: **Will Rusk**

## Penn State Icers Dominate ACHA All-America and Academic All-America Awards for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Year in a Row;

### Josh Mandel Named to First Team for Record Fourth Time

The 2003 American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) National Champion Penn State Icers have a record tying seven (7) Academic All-Americans and dominated the All-American awards in the ACHA. Four Icers were named to the ACHA first team All-America squad. They are junior forward Glenn Zuck, sophomore forward Kevin Jaeger, Junior defensemen Curtiss Patrick and senior defenseman Josh Mandel, who earned first team honors for a record fourth straight year. Senior forward Neal Price was named to the second team. Senior goalie Scott Graham and Senior Defenseman Brandon Cook were named Honorable Mention.

A team and ACHA record tying seven (7) Icers earned Academic All-America status including: Senior defenseman Dant Hirsch, Senior goalie Scott Graham, Junior forward Glenn Zuck, Senior forward Paul Sealock, Junior defenseman Curtiss Patrick, Junior forward Jack Weber, and Junior forward Brendan Roache. Academic All-America status is given to players with a cumulative G.P.A. above a 3.2 in the junior year who have made significant contributions to their team throughout the season.

The ACHA Player of the Year is Illinois Goalie Tim Danlow. PSU forward Glenn Zuck was the runner-up.

The ACHA Coach-of-the-Year is Chad Cassell of Illinois. Illinois completed a 37-2 season and captured the Central States regular season and playoff Championships. This award was selected by a vote of the ACHA D1 head coaches. The other finalists were Joe Battista--Penn State, Ed Herneisen--Drexel, Dan Morris--Ohio

## 2002-2003 Season Statistics

No.	Player	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	GWG	GTG	PPG	SHG	HAT	+	-	NET
18	Zuck	32	35	53	88	49	4	1	17	0	3	55	13	42
24	Jaeger	34	41	37	78	35	10	0	17	4	4	60	13	47
10	Price	30	24	41	65	32	2	0	8	1	2	55	13	42
21	Mandel	28	12	27	39	18	2	0	7	0	0	47	15	32
11	Patrick	23	8	31	39	64	1	0	3	0	0	31	12	19
8	Downey	30	9	25	34	8	1	0	0	2	0	37	12	25
22	Weber, J.	34	17	16	33	24	2	0	3	0	0	38	14	24
4	Crooker	34	15	17	32	12	3	0	4	1	0	30	14	16
15	Roache	34	13	14	27	28	1	0	6	0	0	25	13	12
17	Martin, D.	34	5	17	22	28	1	0	0	1	0	31	15	16
19	Cook	32	4	18	22	62	0	0	2	0	0	38	17	21
20	Sealock	34	6	14	20	23	1	0	1	0	0	24	16	8
16	Harbaugh	31	3	13	16	34	0	0	0	0	0	46	14	32
5	Walker	25	2	9	11	14	0	0	0	0	0	17	11	6

14	Sheridan	20	1	9	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	33	11	22
9	Divins	25	5	4	9	28	0	0	1	0	0	13	7	6
6	Wilson	28	5	2	7	16	2	0	0	0	0	11	12	-1
13	Hirsch	30	3	4	7	39	0	0	2	1	0	41	20	21
23	Rome	18	1	4	5	13	0	0	0	0	0	15	10	5
12	Weber, M.	9	2	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	5
26	Windsor	9	1	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
29	Tunon	23	1	2	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	8	6	2
25	Switaj	20	1	2	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	-2
7	Martin, B.	12	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	9	2	7
2	Wallace	17	0	1	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	19	6	13
3	Willits-Kelly	2	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2

GOALIES		GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	GWG	GTG	PPG	SHG	HAT	+	-	NET
1	Gratz	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
30	Graham	34	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0			
31	Blackman	10	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			
35	Synkowski	25	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0			
	Bench	0				12								
<b>PSU Totals</b>		0	214	370	584	583	30	1	71	10	9	699	277	422
<b>Opponent Totals</b>		0	84	115	199	717	2	0	28	3	0			

Goalie	GP	GS	MIN	SV	GA	ENG	SH/G	W	L	T	SO	SV%	GAA
Gratz	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0		
Graham	30	29	1620	599	61	1	24.4	25	3	1	2	0.908	2.26
Blackman	5	3	219	78	10	0	24.1	3	0	0	0	0.886	2.74
Synkowski	9	2	206	77	12	0	25.9	2	0	0	0	0.865	3.50
<b>PSU Totals</b>	0	0	2045	754	83	1	24.6	30	3	1	2	0.901	2.44
<b>Opponent Totals</b>	0	0	2046	1319	212	2	44.9	3	30	1	0	0.862	6.22

SPECIAL TEAMS	G/K	ATT	PCT
Power Play	71	193	36.8
Penalty Killing	141	169	83.4

SCORE	BY	PERIOD	1	2	3	OT	F
PSU Totals			63	79	71	1	214
Opp. Totals			27	31	26	0	84
<b>SHOTS</b>							
SHOTS	BY	PERIOD	1	2	3	OT	F
PSU Totals			480	563	485	4	1532
Opp. Totals			274	267	294	2	837

## 2003 Championship Merchandise Items and more

New 2003 Championship T-Shirts, Hats, and Pucks are now available. We also have more new clothing items too. For more information, click on the "Merchandise" box at <http://www.icersboosterclub.org> or email [merchandise@icersboosterclub.org](mailto:merchandise@icersboosterclub.org).

## Raffle Winners

The tickets for the raffle were drawn at the Awards Banquet on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to the following winners: 1st Prize - John Crooker - Mario Lemieux print; 2nd Prize - Meghan McGrail - Icers Jersey; 3rd Prize - Scott Cook - Autographed Hockey Stick.

## Play Golf? The 2003 Icer Open is coming soon!

The Icer Open is coming up SUNDAY August 17<sup>th</sup>. It will be held again at the Penn State Blue Course with a shotgun start at 8:30am that day. The format of the golf tournament is still the same with a 4 Player Scramble (Teams/Singles Welcome) and awards to first 3 places for Gross, Net, and "Super" Net. The entry fee for each player is \$99 and that includes Greens Fees, Cart Tee Gift, Continental Breakfast, and Lunch.

We are also looking for sponsors, merchandise donations for raffles, and volunteers as well. Additional information and forms can be found on the booster club site at <http://www.icersboosterclub.org> - just click on the Icer Open 2003 link.

If you need more information on the Icer Open, you can contact Joe Battista ([jyb2@psu.edu](mailto:jyb2@psu.edu) or 814-863-2037) or Scott Balboni ([scott@salemeinsurance.com](mailto:scott@salemeinsurance.com) or 814-238-8895). If you can volunteer at the Open, please contact Booster Club Vice-President Vaughn Zimmerman ([vishnu888@aol.com](mailto:vishnu888@aol.com) or 814-237-0153).

## 2004 Alumni Weekend

Please mark your calendars now and make your plans to attend the 2004 Alumni weekend to be held on Feb. 6-7, 2004. We want to make this the best turnout ever for the entire Icer family of players, parents, staff and volunteers. This year marks some significant Anniversaries:

- 60th Anniversary of the 1943-44 team
- 30th Anniversary of the 1973-74 team
- 25th Anniversary of the 1978-79 MACHC Championship Team
- 20th Anniversary of the 1983-84 National Championship Team
- 15th Anniversary of the 1988-89 ICHL Championship Team
- 10th Anniversary of the 1993-94 ACHL Championship Team
- 5th Anniversary of the 1998-99 ACHA "unofficial" National Championship Team!

We would love to see as many of you as possible return for a Grand weekend of Penn State Hockey. But we need your help! We have tried our best to track down as many of you as possible by email and want you to help us find others (don't be shy! We are really lacking information from certain years for parents, Club officers and Boosters). If we are successful in getting the largest turnout ever (and we hear from you far enough in advance!) we will simply buy the entire evenings ice slot so we can be sure to have a festive time for all ages!) You can send us your information by going to the [Contact Information](#) page on <http://pennstatehockey.com> (select "Alumni Page", then "Contact Information"), or you can call the Hockey Office at 814-865-2037 with questions.

## Tentative 2003-2004 Schedule

A- Away            H- HOME (IN CAPS)

### October 2003.

10 Fri. A TBA ACHA Showcase, IceLine in Philadelphia, PA  
11 Sat. A TBA ACHA Showcase, IceLine in Philadelphia, PA  
12 Sun. A TBA ACHA Showcase, IceLine in Philadelphia, PA  
17 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. OHIO UNIVERSITY  
18 Sat. H 3:30 p.m. OHIO UNIVERSITY  
24 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. SUNY BUFFALO  
25 Sat. A 4:45 p.m. Drexel  
31 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. TOWSON

### November

1 Sat. A 5:30 p.m. Towson  
2 Sun. A 2:00 p.m. West Chester University  
7 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. DREXEL  
8 Sat. H 3:30 p.m. DREXEL  
14 Fri. A 7:00 p.m. Delaware  
15 Sat. A 5:00 p.m. Delaware  
21 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. MICHIGAN DEARBORN  
22 Sat. H 3:30 p.m. MICHIGAN DEARBORN  
28 Fri. A TBA Big Ten Tournament @ Indiana University (PSU, IU, ILLINOIS, OSU)  
29 Sat. A TBA Big Ten Tournament @ Indiana University

### December

5 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. EASTERN MICHIGAN  
6 Sat. H 3:30 p.m. EASTERN MICHIGAN

### January 2004

9 Fri. A 7:30 p.m. Ohio University  
10 Sat. A 7:30 p.m. Ohio University  
16 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
17 Sat. H 3:30 p.m. WEST VIRGINIA UNIVESITY  
23 Fri. H 5 & 8 p.m. NLIT  
24 Sat. H 5 & 8 p.m. NLIT  
(NLIT Participants: Western Michigan, Penn State, Washington & Jefferson, West Chester)  
30 Fri. A 7:30 p.m. Michigan-Dearborn  
31 Sat. A 3:30 p.m. Eastern Michigan

### February

6 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. DELAWARE  
7 Sat. H 3:30 p.m. DELAWARE (Alumni Game at 6:00 p.m.)  
13 Fri. H 9:00 p.m. ROBERT MORRIS (Illinois)  
14 Sat. H 3:30 p.m. ROBERT MORRIS (Illinois)  
20 Fri. A TBA Washington & Jefferson  
21 Sat. A TBA Washington & Jefferson

### March

3 - 7 (Wed-Sun) A TBA ACHA Nationals @ Iowa State