

WVU CLUB SPORTS

CYCLING CLAIMS 10TH-STRAIGHT CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

BY BRAD JOYAL
SPORTS WRITER

The West Virginia club cycling team went into the weekend with one goal: win its 10th-consecutive Atlantic Central Cycling Conference Championship.

It did just that.

The team beat out programs like North Carolina State and Virginia Tech. This year's conference championship and season races were closer than any of the previous nine, but cycling club President Ryan Post was happy the team was able to accomplish the feat.

"We had been aiming for 10 consecutive for about three years," Post said. "This year was certainly the hardest that I can remember in the past six years, mainly because Virginia Tech wanted to win so badly, and we had to defeat them when we were often significantly outnumbered."

Saturday's races were held at Big Bear Lake near Bruceton Mills, W.Va., which included three cross-country events: short track, time trial and cross country.

West Virginia dominated the Men's "A" short track as Robert Loehr, Ian Beckner and Balaji Seward rounded out the top three, respectively.

Emily Moy continued her season of dominance finishing first in Women's "A."

In Men's "B," West Virginia's



Members of the WVU cycling team celebrate after winning their 10th-consecutive Atlantic Central Cycling Conference Championship last weekend at Big Bear Lake in Bruceton Mills, W.Va.

SUBMITTED

Brock Dennis took first, and Jacob Brown placed third. Although Post said West Virginia put forward a strong effort, Virginia Tech still won the short track event.

At the end of Saturday, West Virginia had a five-point lead over Virginia Tech, 1150-1145, with Virginia Tech taking the short track and time trial competitions.

West Virginia won the cross country and was leading going into Sunday, but Post said the team was still nervous about Virginia Tech's determination to put an end to the streak.

"After the first race on Sunday, when we still hadn't won the title," Post said, "we were all very worried, but there was nothing we could do except race our best just like we had done at every

race."

The teams traveled to Wisp Resort in McHenry, Md., for Sunday's competition. The final race, which would determine the 2009 conference champion was a downhill race comparable to a 2 minute to 3 minute sprint down a rocky hill.

Leading West Virginia's downhill charge to a title were Jon Zerbe and Seward who placed

third and fifth, respectively, in Men's "A."

Moy finished second in Women's "A."

The final downhill push was all the team needed as it added another title to the cycling team's program. Post looks forward to next year but can't wait to take a breather after the long, intense season West Virginia had.

"I'm exhausted, and my fin-

gernails are gone, but I can finally get some rest and get ahead of my other assignments." Post said.

TENNIS

West Virginia hosted a 12-team tournament at the Greenbrier Resort, which is known across the country as a premier tennis resort.

Club President Peter Deremer was the tournament director, which had teams from six different states. West Virginia was in Pool "B," which also consisted of Virginia Tech and Pittsburgh. The team started off strong early, defeating Pittsburgh 23-21.

In its second match, West Virginia was defeated by Virginia Tech 28-18.

On the second day of the tournament, West Virginia beat Villanova 21-18 before suffering a 25-19 loss to William & Mary.

The team reached the silver bracket finals, recording a 2-2 record on the weekend while finishing 8th in the tournament.

RUGBY

The West Virginia club rugby teams continued their success this season during weekend play. The Women's Rugby team topped Cal U of Pennsylvania in a close 6-3 victory, while the Men's team beat Franciscan University 26-14.

brad.joyal@mail.wvu.edu

M. SOCCER

Continued from PAGE 7

icut with a bit of a chip on our shoulder," LeBlanc said. "We are going to be playing for first place in the Big East so we are going to have to come out strong."

LeBlanc did not stop short of saying only his team needs to come out strong Friday.

"I would like to challenge the student body to rise to the occa-

sion and destroy the attendance record that currently stands at Dick Dlesk Soccer Stadium," LeBlanc said. "They responded very well to my first challenge and I think you should be there even if you aren't a soccer fan."

Come out there as a WVU fan."

Action is slated to begin at 8 p.m. on Friday night at Dick Dlesk Soccer Stadium.

brian.kuppelweiser@mail.wvu.edu



BRAD DAVIS/THE DAILY ATHENAEUM

West Virginia's Eric Schoenle battles for a loose ball with a UC Santa Barbara player during the Mountaineers' home opener on Sept. 5.

QUESTIONABLE CALLS

If West Virginia could set up a series with any football program in the nation, what program should it be?

BY BRIAN GAWTHROP
SPORTS EDITOR

Sure, Rich Rodriguez facing his former team would be quite a story line for one game.

Penn State's Beaver Stadium would be cool to visit every two years.

But who are we joking here? Let's bring back a real rivalry - West Virginia versus Virginia Tech.

A series with the Hokies would bring back a lot of history from both programs' pasts.

The 51-game series was all about the goal line stands, punishing hits and play makers all over the field.

It was made historical by the likes of Michael Vick, Brian King, Quincy Wilson and Antonio Freeman.

It was Don Nehlen against Frank Beamer.

So many of each program's greatest moments came within the rivalry that it's too hard to just put it to the side and forget about it.

It's like not playing Pitt. A renewed series with the Hokies would spice up each team's schedule every year and give the fans something to look forward to again.

But not only would it benefit the fans, the game would be sure a sellout for both programs.

It would be one of the best current rivalries there is today. Plus, the Mountaineers will be able to add onto their 28-22-1 all-time record against the Hokies and maybe even have them regret leaving the Big East Conference.

It was a series that began in 1912 and it involves two teams who are just five hours apart.

There's no reason this series shouldn't happen.

BY JOHN TERRY
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

If West Virginia could set up a series with any team, I would want the Mountaineers to go up against Michigan.

Three years ago if West Virginia played Michigan, it would have been just another football game.

But if the two schools were to go up against each other now, it would be so much more than a game.

Ever since Rich Rodriguez left for Michigan, I have thought about just how ugly the atmosphere would be in Morgantown if Rodriguez would return on the opposite sideline.

I would love to see it. It's safe to say that the atmosphere would be like no other game Milan Puskar Stadium has ever seen.

I cannot even begin to imagine the boos, the chants and the signs that would show up at the stadium.

It would be madness.

The storylines associated with the game would go much farther than a top Big Ten Conference team against a top Big East Conference team, the game would be in the national spotlight because of Rodriguez.

He might have received a friendlier reception if it weren't for the way left - trying to get out of a \$4 million buyout clause in a contract he signed just the year before. But, but the way he left and the lawsuits that followed has enraged West Virginia fans.

I've thought about this many times, and every time, it becomes much more intense.

Rodriguez would be standing across the sideline from his alma mater, a program that he built up from the ground, trying to beat the Mountaineers.

BY TONY DOBIES
MANAGING EDITOR

West Virginia should rekindle the competitive series with Penn State.

The rivalry, which ended in 1992, was one in which West Virginia was able to gain a few memorable victories, specifically in 1984 when WVU beat PSU 17-14 at home.

The rivalry wasn't exactly hotly contested every year, as Penn State has a 48-9-2 record, but that never hurt the game.

WVU first played Penn State in 1904. The teams played continuously from 1947 to 1992.

While I was not around for the majority of those matchups in that decade, the stories have lived on through fans, veteran sports writers and even YouTube.

When the Mountaineers went to the Big East Conference in 1991, the Nittany Lions went to the Big Ten soon after and the rivalry just couldn't cut it.

WVU doesn't necessarily have room on its schedule for the Nittany Lions, with Marshall and Maryland among others on the Mountaineers' future schedules.

And let's be honest, no one wants to play - and lose - to a Big East Conference team, especially a team with high national expectations nearly every year like Penn State.

Over time, WVU has become a better program, making this a rivalry set for the national stage.

While it may not happen again for some time - if ever - that doesn't make it less perfect of a series.

Bring back that great rivalry. If history says anything, it's that the Mountaineers and Nittany Lions put on a good show.

BY GREG CAREY
SPORTS WRITER

If West Virginia had its choice of playing a series with any home football program in the nation, the Mountaineers would be wise to select Notre Dame.

Plenty of Mountaineer fans would probably love to get a crack at Michigan and Rich Rodriguez, but West Virginia has played the Wolverines once and that was in 1904.

Despite West Virginia having never defeated the Fighting Irish in a four-game series which was most recently played in 2001, the Mountaineers would have a lot to prove and gain in this game.

Notre Dame has had a big impact in the Big East's bowl picture for several years, and WVU could help the conference gain more respect with a win and select a conference team for one of its better bowls.

Playing against Notre Dame also gives the team more exposure and a chance to help the recruiting process, as the contest is almost guaranteed to be aired on national TV.

The main issue for West Virginia would be getting an agreement on a home-and-home series with the Fighting Irish, who are generally difficult to work that out with.

The Mountaineers play the Fighting Irish in many other main sports including basketball, baseball and soccer and need to start meeting on the football field.

Although Notre Dame does not have the caliber of program it once did, a series with the Fighting Irish would be exciting and special to all of Morgantown and a good test for both teams.

DAVID CROSS
live in concert
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
TODD GLASS
for mature audiences
THIS SATURDAY • 7:30PM
WVU CREATIVE ARTS CENTER
Tickets @ Mountainlair Box Office (M-F 9a-6p) • Creative Arts Center Box Office (M-F 11a-3p)
304.293.SHOW • ticketmaster.com • 800.745.3000
WVU STUDENT TICKETS AS LOW AS \$20.50
Arts & Entertainment
West Virginia University
events.wvu.edu

ALLERGY ASTHMA
IMMUNOLOGYW. THOMAS
CORDER, MDPAUL R.
OGERSHOK, MDPHYSICIANS CERTIFIED BY
THE AMERICAN BOARD OF
ALLERGY & IMMUNOLOGY

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS OF ALL AGES

165 SCOTT AVENUE, SUITE 102

304-554-0440

WWW.MSMSWV.COM

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS
Don't just go to the movies. GO HOLLYWOOD!
STADIUM 12
University Town Centre (Behind Target)
Morgantown • (304) 598-FILM
\$6.00 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM
\$6.50 Student Admission with Valid I.D.
ALL STADIUM SEATING - ALL DIGITAL SOUND
() PLAYS FRI. & SAT. ONLY

Zombieland [R] • • 1:40-4:20-7:35-10:10	Capitoline: A Love Story [R] 1:05-3:55-7:25-10:00	Whip It [PG-13] • • 1:10-4:35-7:20-10:15	Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs 2D [PG] 1:30-4:00-6:45-9:30	Surrogate [PG-13] • 1:15-4:15-7:00-9:25	Sorcery Row [R] 1:20-3:55-7:00-9:20	All About Steve [PG-13] 1:00-3:50-7:05-9:10	Pandorum [R] 1:35-4:25-6:55-9:35	Love Happens [PG-13] 12:55-4:15-6:50-9:30	9 [PG-13] 12:50-3:40-7:30-10:05	The Informant [R] 1:25-4:30-7:10-9:45	Fame [PG-13] 12:45-4:05-7:15-9:55	Encore: Rifftrax Plan 9 From Outer Space [PG-13] 7:30 Thursday only
--	--	---	--	--	--	--	-------------------------------------	--	------------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------	--

NO PASSES • NO PASSES OR SUPERSAVERS
www.gohollywood.com

WARNER THEATRE
147 High Street - Movie Line: 304-291-3939
All Tickets \$5 - www.thewarner.com

THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE
PG-13 7:20

IN THE LOOP
TV-14 5:25, 7:25, 9:25

DISTRICT 9
R 5:20, 9:20

THE UGLY TRUTH
R 7:30

WHITEOUT
R 5:30, 9:30

ZOMBIE WALK
2009 10/16
Please visit thewarner.com for more info