PENN STATE ICE HOCKEY

Greenberg Ice Pavilion
University Park, PA 16802
Phone: 814-863-2037
Fax: 814-863-7906
www.pennstatehockey.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sean Frey PHONE: (484) 942-5710
Marci Palmer PHONE: (814) 863-2037
FAX: (814) 863-7906

Distributed: Feb. 27, 2008

It's Go Time: Icers Off to Rochester for ACHA National Tournament

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – The five-month journey has finally reached its conclusion. The Icers are going to the ACHA National Tournament.

For the 17th consecutive year, No. 3 ranked Penn State (31-3-4) will compete as one of the league's 16 finalists. The Icers open their tournament run on Saturday at Rochester's ESL Sports Center against No. 14 West Virginia. The game is set to begin at 2:30 p.m.

In the history of the ACHA, the Icers have never missed the National Tournament. In fact, since 1998, they have played in every National Championship Game; they are 5-5 in that span, including losses in their last four appearances.

Penn State has not played since Feb. 16, an 8-3 victory over No. 4 Delaware in the ESCHL Championship Game. The Icers were scheduled to play Feb. 22 against No. 16 Stony Brook, but that game was cancelled due to inclement weather.

West Virginia (19-12-3) enters the tournament off a loss to No. 19 Washington & Jefferson. The 2008 CHMA champions faced off with Penn State at the Ice Pavilion in early December, losing 5-1 and 6-2. The Mountaineers are just 4-6-1 since then, but are looking to pull off the upset and send the Icers packing early.

Meanwhile, the Icers have won 8 of their last 10 games, including two playoff games to win the ESCHL title. The two games they lost were on the road against Delaware, a team Penn State cannot play until the semifinals at the earliest.

Should the Icers defeat West Virginia on Saturday, they would play the winner of the 11-6 matchup between Kent State and Liberty. The Icers split their only weekend against Liberty this season, winning 7-1 and losing in overtime 5-4; they did not play Kent State this season. That game would be at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Following the second round, the final four teams re-seed to form the final bracket. Those games would fall on Tuesday evening, with the National Championship Game on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, visit www.pennstatehockey.com, or the Penn State Team Sports Ice Hockey blog at community.centredaily.com.