

#6 Peter Sweetland So., Defenseman

Q: What is it like to be part of Penn State's Division I hockey team?

A: For me it is awesome because I grew up watching Penn State football and other Penn State sports, and I came to Penn State hockey games when I was little. It is pretty much a dream come true for me, and I am pretty excited about it.

Q: How big of a deal do you think it is for the state to have a NCAA Division I team here, and what do you think that could mean for the future of the sport?

A: Already, it is blowing up here at school. I can imagine it is a big deal back home in Philadelphia and out in Pittsburgh. There are a lot of teams with a lot of kids who can plan on playing here. It is huge.

#21 Eric Steinour

Sr., Forward

Q: Why did you decide on Penn State?

A: A main reason I chose Penn State was for academics. They have a great engineering program here and my major is mechanical engineering. That was a main factor and hockey was a secondary benefit to that.

Q: When you guys heard about the opportunity to try out for the Division I team, was that any motivation to work harder and put more time into the practices?

A: I would say you always have motivation to do the best you can, but hearing about us going D-I definitely re-emphasized that motivation.

#25 Brian Dolan

Sr., Defenseman

Q: When you guys heard about the opportunity to try out for the Division I team, was that any motivation to work harder and put more time into the practices?

A: I guess a little bit. As a hockey player, you are going to work to progress regardless of the situation. When we heard we had an opportunity to make a Division I hockey team it was a little more added pressure that you are going to put on yourself. So to answer your question I would say yes, at least a little bit more than usual.

#5 Mark Yanis

Fr., Defenseman

Q: What led you to ending up here at Penn State?

A: It was a long process for me. I started juniors when I was 16, just a young kid. It was a tough process. I had Michigan State, Michigan, a lot of local schools talking to me. Coach Gadowsky has a great reputation as a college coach and when I visited, I fell in love with it here. It has been great so far.

Q: What does the experience of juniors give you going into the season?

A: It is a great experience. A lot of kids wait until after high school to go to juniors but I played while I was in high school for two years. I wanted to be a true freshman.

Q: What are your expectations for yourself personally and your team as a whole?

A: I want to get stronger by working close with (strength & conditioning coach Robert McLean). On the ice, I have to get smarter. For me, having the hockey-sense is a big thing to work on. A lot of NHL guys questioned that, and I want to prove to them that I do have the hockey-sense. As a team, it is our first year. You cannot expect much, but we have our expectations and they are high.