Sloan Downs PSK for A-League Soccer Title

by Bo Light

The Sloan A intramural soccer team successfully defended its A-League soccer championship last week with a 3-0 victory over Phi Sigma Kappa in the finals of the league playoffs.

Phi Sigma Kappa, runners-up in the B-league championships last year, played admirably but were intimidated once again as Sloan, a perennial A-League powerhouse, dominated the game with excellent passing and ball-control skills.

Sloan, the number one seed, advanced easily through the tournament, beating Alpha Tau Omega 2-1 in the semifinals on a late goal by team captain Axel Nielsen. Meanwhile, the 11th-seeded PSK team, with a 2-4 record, concluded with Sloan leading, 2-0.

The winning goal was scored by John Peapong '97, just minutes before the game was to go to a shootout. PSK advanced to the B-league championships last year, played admirably but were injured, eventually tired, and Sloan began counterattacking again.

The third goal came in the 45th minute, when Nielsen took the ball on a run across the mouth of the goal, and shot into the far corner, past the diving PSK goalkeeper. Phi Sig continued to attack for the rest of the game, but to no avail, and Sloan celebrated another championship.

PSK captain Matt McLeod '95 was proud of his team despite the loss. "We made a great run through the playoffs, and our final loss doesn't diminish that," McLeod said. "It's difficult to play a team of that quality, as battered as we were" with only 12 players able to play, he said.

Nielsen, the Sloan captain, said that his team's toughest game was the one against ATO. "But (this) was a good game," Nielsen was quick to add. "Excellent refereeing," he said, referring to the quality of officiating that is sometimes absent in intramural contests.

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