

Above the Rim with Brian Busey

(The Brian Busey column will run once a week spotlighting either women's or men's Behrend basketball)

This week's guest is sophomore guard for the Lions Jason Paloskey. Paloskey is a solid shooter from the floor. He will be one of the leading returners for the Lions this year. We talked with Paloskey (JP) to get a look at the Lions in preseason.

Brian Busey: Jason, are you excited to get back out on the basketball court this year?

Jason Paloskey: It feels good to be on the court. It keeps me busy and relaxed.

BB: JP, Who are the returners and how will they help the team this year?

JP: We have Matt (Plizga), Jeff (Myers), AL (Andy Lawrence), Ronnie (Derian), Andy (Rife), and Brian (Emick). I feel we're going to be really solid and step up. It will take some time to get used to it, because we're so different from last year.

BB: How do the freshman and new players look?

JP: They're starting to get in and work hard. It's a good recruiting class. They're tough.

BB: You're gonna lose Brian Perkins, Steve Adams, and Anthony Constantini and with them goes a lot of size. How much?

JP: We're kind of small compared to other teams around. We could use more height, but if we work hard, we won't need it.

BB: How much will you miss these guys?

JP: We'll miss them a lot this year. They were exceptional players and we counted on them a lot. They were very athletic and very good performers. It hurts to lose team leaders like them, but the younger guys will just have to step up.

BB: How does your schedule look this year?

JP: I've looked through it. There are a few tough games, but overall it's all right. Allegheny is going to be our toughest game and there is Waynesburg and Fredonia State in there as pretty decent.

BB: Only a few more days are left in practice this year before the games begin. How does the team look right now?

JP: We look good. Everybody is working hard and working with a lot of intensity. The main thing is everybody is working for playing time. There's a great intensity.

BB: Big question for you: Everybody loves your shot. What's the secret behind it?

JP: When I was younger my dad and brother worked with me on my form. As I was growing up coaches from midget league to high school all gave me advice about it. I've been playing basketball since I was four, so sixteen years.

BB: Do you ever miss?

JP (laughing): Oh Yhea, everybody misses a shot. People think I have a great shot, but I think that AL (Andy Lawrence) has one of the best shots on the team.

BB: Everybody has a role on the team. What is your best attribute out on the court?

JP: My role is trying to bring intensity to the court and do my part in scoring as well as putting a lot of pressure on the ball. The team works well together. Last year we had a lot of assists. In fact we set the team record for assists in a year and we hope to break that record this year. No one on the team is selfish.

"Everybody is working hard and with a lot of intensity."

--Jason Paloskey

BB: You have seven returners. Does that make this year's team pretty deep?

JP: We're pretty deep. Our five starters are all returners. Our first two backups Emick and Plizga are also tough returners. The freshman are ready to play, too. They know how intense (college basketball) is from the New Kensington scrimmage.

BB: What is the biggest strength of this year's Lion team?

JP: The outside shots are our biggest strength. Underneath (the basket) we're small, but quick. Our big men can also run the floor well.

BB: We talked about height earlier. Is that the main weakness that you have?

JP: Yhea, the height factor. We have little height. Also, we have only two experienced back-up players.

BB: Have you guys set team goals yet?

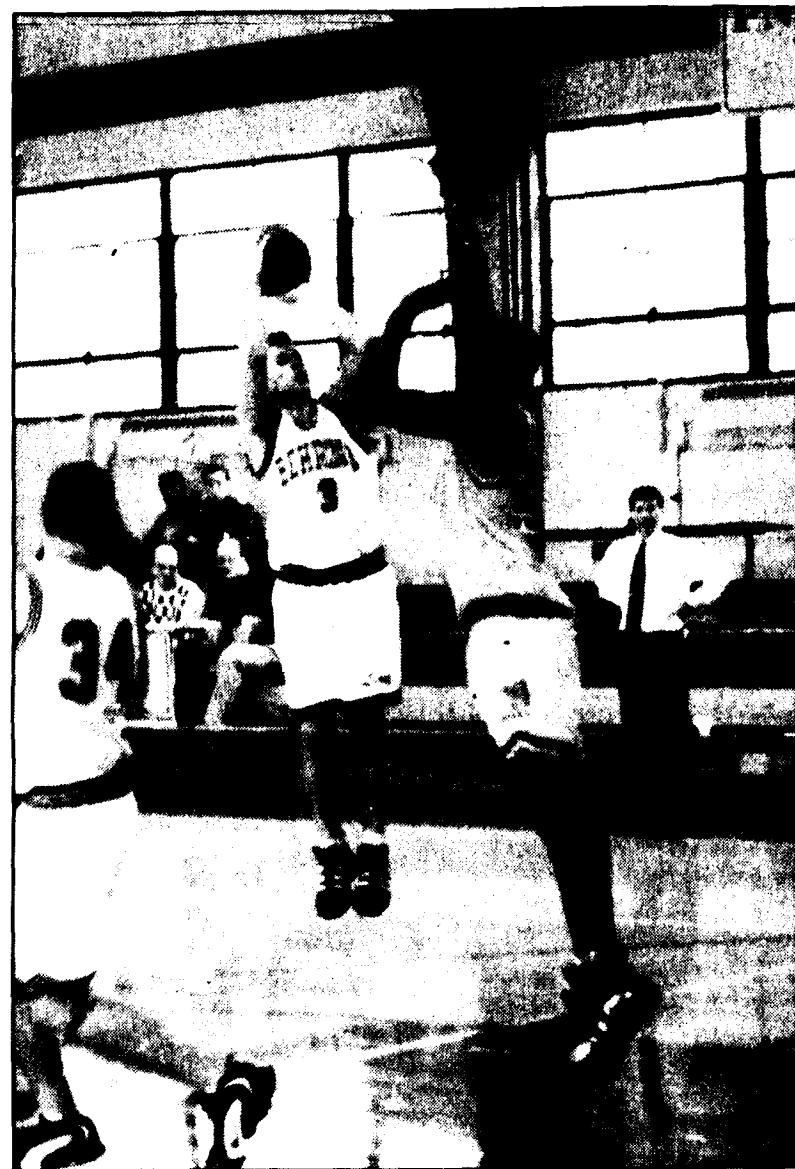
JP: Our goal is to make the NCAA playoffs. It will be tough. It will depend on how we play and stick together. We can't break apart. Last year we lost five games by one point. We can't let that happen.

BB: Last question and you're off the hook. Tell me about the Fan Jam.

JP: The Fan Jam will be fun, because we're going to see how many people we can get down there. Many people don't even know that we have basketball here at Behrend and that's a shame. They should come down and watch, because its going to be exciting.

BB: Thanks for your time Jason and good luck this season. Fans if you don't know basketball exists at Behrend, you will after the Fan Jam. Come on out and feel the INTENSITY of Lion and Lady Lion basketball.

Brian Busey is the pen name of a writer on staff. This column will appear every other week starting 11/14/96 and continuing throughout the basketball season.



Sharpshooter: Sophomore Jason Paloskey will be one of the big guns for the Lion basketball team this year. Last year Paloskey scored 9.6 points per game for Behrend.

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The Sullivan Sheet

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER, 17, 1996

BALTIMORE RAVENS AT SAN FRANCISCO 49ers. Lifetime: The former Cleveland Browns lead the series 9-6-0, and have outscored the Niners 319-279 in their 15 meetings. Last Meeting: In 1993, the then Cleveland franchise upset the Niners 23-13. Spread: 49ers by 12½.

CINCINNATI BENGALS AT BUFFALO BILLS. Lifetime: Bengals lead the series 11-7-0, and have outscored the Bills 414-376 in their 18 meetings. Last Meeting: In 1991, the Bills polished off the Bengals 35-16. Spread: Bills by 14.

DENVER BRONCOS AT NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS. Lifetime: Broncos lead the series 18-12-0, and have outscored the Pats 680-605 in their 30 meetings. Last Meeting: In 1995, the Broncos crushed the Pats 37-3. Spread: Patriots by 2.

MIAMI DOLPHINS AT HOUSTON OILERS. Lifetime: Oilers lead the series 12-11-0, and have outscored the Dolphins 437-427 in their 23 meetings. Last Meeting: In 1993, the Dolphins edged out the Oilers 19-16. Spread: UPSET OF THE WEEK — Oilers by 3.

NEW YORK JETS AT INDIANAPOLIS COLTS. Lifetime: Colts lead the series 31-21-0, yet the Jets have outscored the Jets 1,029-1,012 in their 52 meetings. Last

Year: The Colts swept the Jets 27-24 in overtime. Spread: Colts by 9.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS AT PITTSBURGH STEELERS. Lifetime: This series is tied 1-1-0, with the Steelers outscoring the Jags 40-27 in their two meetings. Last Year: The upstart Jags upset the Steelers 20-16, but the Steelers returned the favor in an easy 24-7 triumph. Spread: Steelers by 10.

CHICAGO BEARS AT KANSAS CITY CHIEFS. Lifetime: Bears lead the series 4-2-0, yet the Chiefs have outscored the Bears 125-111 in their six meetings. Last Meeting: In 1993, the Bears beat the Chiefs 19-17. Spread: Chiefs by 7½.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS AT OAKLAND RAIDERS. Lifetime: Raiders lead the series 7-2-0, and have outscored the Vikings 241-164 in their nine meetings. Last Meeting: In 1993, the Raiders breezed to an easy 24-7 victory. Spread: Raiders by 5½.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS AT SAN DIEGO CHARGERS. Lifetime: Chargers lead the series 6-0-0, and have outscored the Bucs 166-77 in their six meetings. Last Meeting: In 1993, the Chargers, as usual, beat the Bucs 32-17. Spread: Chargers by 17.

NEW YORK GIANTS AT ARIZONA CARDINALS. Lifetime: Giants lead the series 69-36-2, and have outscored the Cards 2,343-1,807 in their 117 meetings. Last Year: The Giants swept the Cards 27-21 in overtime and again 10-6. Spread: Giants by 2½.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS AT ATLANTA FALCONS. Lifetime: Falcons lead the series 30-24-0, and have outscored the Saints 1,172-1,007 in their 34 meetings. Last Year: The Falcons swept the Saints 27-24 in overtime and again 19-14. Spread: Saints by 6.

CAROLINA PANTHERS AT ST. LOUIS RAMS. Lifetime: Rams lead the series 1-0-0. Last Year: The Rams beat the Panthers 28-17 in their first meeting ever. Spread: Panthers by 5.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS AT DETROIT LIONS. Lifetime: Seahawks lead the series 4-2-0, and have outscored the Lions 157-128 in their six meetings. Last Meeting: In 1993, the Lions pounded the Seahawks 30-10. Spread: Lions by 6.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS AT PHILADELPHIA EAGLES. Lifetime: Redskins lead the series 67-50-5, yet the Eagles have outscored their rivals 2,456-2,431 in their 122 meetings. Last Year: the Eagles swept the Redskins 37-34 in overtime and again 14-7. Spread: Redskins by 1.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1996

GREEN BAY PACKERS AT DALLAS COWBOYS. Lifetime: Cowboys lead the series 12-10-0, and have outscored the Pack 520-463 in their 22 meetings. Last Year: During the regular season the Cowboys beat the Packers 34-24 and beat them once again in the NFC Championship Game 38-27. Spread: Revenge for the Packers by 7.

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