

Lady Cubs hit rough stretch

by Joe L. Magnu
Collegian Contributing Writer

Coach Karin Sobotta's Lady Cubs own a record of 5-8 with 12 games remaining. However, the women cagers will be without the services of leading scorer and rebounder Karen Yurchison.

Yurchison, who was averaging 14.6 points per game and 11.8 rebounds per outing, is sidelined with mononucleosis for the remainder of the season. "We miss her alot," said Sobotta. The coach continued, "she was a quiet leader and we will miss her leadership very much." When you lose fifteen points and twelve rebounds per game it puts a big dent in the offense." Sobotta is alternating junior Chris Huff and freshman Kim Erikson at Yurchison's position.

The Lady Cubs are adjusting quite slowly without Yurchison. The team has posted a 2-2 slate

after returning from the semester break. "We are making the adjustment slower than we should be," said Sobotta. She continued, "psychologically, we don't have the confidence in our ability as a team and that hurts."

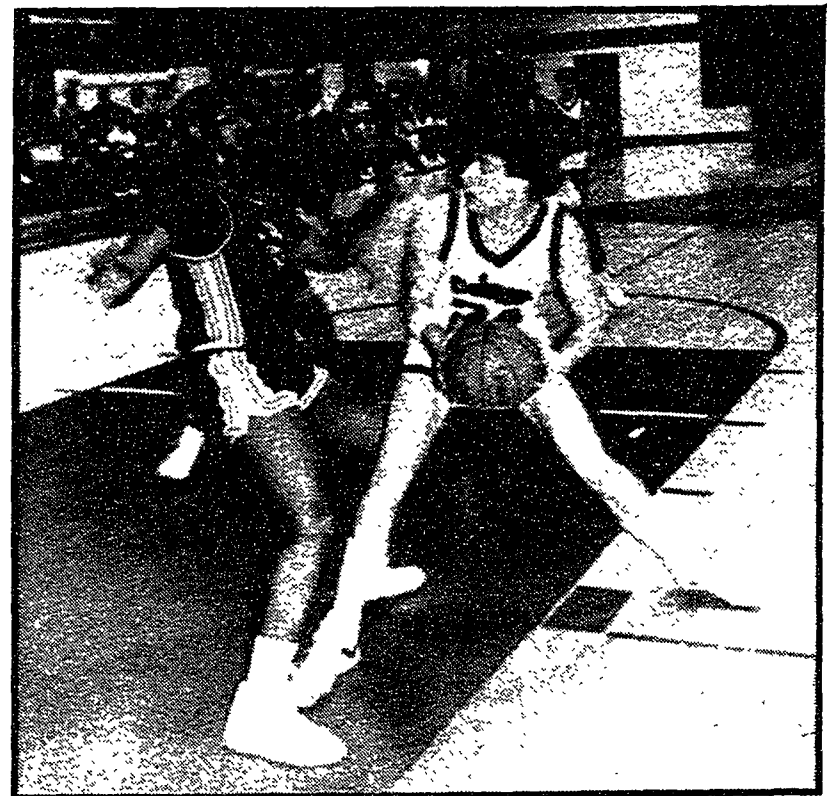
Sobotta's Cubs returned to their schedule at the State University New York at Buffalo, January 8, only to lose a hard-fought 54-62 decision to the Royals. The Lady Cubs fell behind 11-38 at halftime, but battled back to come within four points with five minutes remaining. During that surge, the Lady Cubs showed much character as they outscored Buffalo 29-4 in the fourth period. "That was an incredible comeback, especially as we were down by 27 at halftime," said Sobotta.

"It's real easy to throw in the towel and give up, but we showed tremendous character, fighting our way to within four points. If

we believe in ourselves like that all the time, then we're going to give everyone a run for their money," said Sobotta.

Behrend's second defeat of the semester was a 30-88 decision to powerful Gannon squad. The Lady Cubs got their offense going with wins over Pitt-Bradford (63-46) and Daemen College (69-24).

Leading the Lady Cubs are the junior trio of Paula Skaggs, Toni Lumley and Sue Holmes. Skaggs is averaging 7.8 ppg and 10 rpg, while Lumley is adding 9.6 ppg. Holmes is contributing 11.5 ppg and 9.5 rpg. Freshmen, Lisa Butch, is running the offense, while sophomore Michele Williams and freshman Sue Walachack and Alicia Gray are providing much added support. Saturday, the Lady Cubs will host Point Park College at 6 p.m.



John Sargent sets up for a shot against LaRoche College on Jan. 18. The Cubs took a 99-75 loss.

Cub's Scoreboard

Basketball
Wednesday, January 8
Men

UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO (64) - James 6-3-15, Calangelo 1-0-2, Florczak 2-1-5, Bell 5-0-10, Bruton 1-0-2, Latour 2-0-4, Pawlak 1-3-5, Summers 0-2-2, Etopia 7-5-19, Sepi 0-0-0. Totals: 25-14-64.

PENN STATE-BEHREND (63) - Siggins 3-0-6, Gorniak, R. 3-1-7, Gorniak G. 7-2-16, Meanor 5-4-14, Manuel 6-3-15, Weed 0-1-1, Sargent 1-0-2, Irr 0-0-0, Green 0-2-2, Cwalina 1-0-2. Totals: 26-11-63.

Saturday, January 11
Men

PENN STATE-BEHREND (78) - Manuel 3-2-8, Weed 1-4-6, Gorniak, G. 7-0-14, Meanor 9-2-20, Borniak 2-1-5, Siggins 1-4-6, Green 0-0-0, Cwalina 2-0-4, Sargent 4-3-11, Irr 2-0-4. Totals: 31-16-78.

BETHANY COLLEGE (70) - Yankovich 8-6-22, Christman 5-1-11, Asake 1-0-2, Allison 3-5-11, McGinnis 5-10-20, Doak 0-0-0, Henderson 2-0-4. Totals: 24-22-70.

Monday, January 13
Men

MERCYHURST (66) - Moncrieff 3-0-6, Nesser 6-7-19, Harris 7-0-14, Moss 2-0-4, Davis 1-0-2, Mindach 0-0-0, Lee 2-0-4, Carns 5-1-11, Brower 2-2-6. Totals: 28-10-66.

PENN STATE-BEHREND (64) - Gorniak, R. 3-4-10, Manuel 3-1-7, Green 0-0-0, Gorniak, G. 3-4-10, Cwalina 2-3-7, Siggins 0-6-6, Weed 1-0-2, Meanor 5-4-14, Irr 1-0-2, Sargent 1-4-6. Totals: 19-26-64.

Running Season Totals (Through January 15, 1986)
Women

Butch 35-12-82, Erikson 10-8-28, Walchack 11-18-36, Huff 7-0-14, Nudette 7-2-16, Williams 2-0-4, Lumley 40-34-116, Skaggs 36-22-94, Holmes 54-31-139, Gray 10-6-26, Yurchison 47-23-117. Totals: 259-152-670.

Football commentary

Lions, tough loss to tackle

by T. McGee
Collegian Staff Writer

The college football season is over. I am going to try to write this article without sounding like a wimp, but I may stain the paper with my tears.

Few things affect me as deeply as Penn State football. Joe Paterno and the Nittany Lions have been part of my life for so long that I feel as if I've actually worn the Blue and White on the playing field.

As a student at University Park for the last three-and-a-half years, I never missed a home game (or happily, a tailgate). I cheered hoarsely as the 1982 National Championship team stomped its way to glory and cried in my beer after 1984's dismal shuffle through the collegiate basement.

This year's team was a curious mixture of new talent, clumsy inexperience, and disciplined tactics consummated by an unadulterated will to win. Though most of the Lion's eleven victories were nothing to write home about (although a 31-0 trouncing of Pitt is always worth a laugh), the team showed spectacular poise and perseverance in the face of adversity. The young players improved with each game, emerging as the only major college team with an undefeated regular season.

And then...

I'm sorry but I don't have the courage (or the ability to eliminate profanity) to talk about anything that may have happened in the post-season.

Turning to professional football, the Chicago Bears figure to be two touchdown favorites over the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl on Jan. 26.

The Bears are spectacular to be sure, but I think the media hype over the arrogant Jim McMahon and tubular William Perry is a lot harder for opposing teams to overcome.

Consider the following information. Tommy Kramer, quarterback of the lame Minnesota Vikings, threw for nearly three-hundred yards and four touchdowns against the "mauling" Bear defense (The Bears still won). This event occurred before the Refrigerator became more than a household appliance.

Now consider that, after videotapes and commercials hyping the Bears 'Super' qualities, Chicago met the New York Giants and the Los Angeles (i.e. Anaheim) Rams in the playoffs.

Phil Simms of the Giants was one of the NFL's leading passers; incidentally Tommy Kramer of Minnesota was in the bottom third. During the game against Chicago, Simms played as if he were twelve-years-old again, appearing nervous and worried as he threw passes over his open receiver's heads into the arms of Bear defenders. The psyched-out Giants blew several opportunities and could not score a point.

Enter Dieter Brock and the Rams. Through most of the season, Brock was the league's top-rated quarterback.

Unfortunately, Brock seemed to choke on the same piece of refrigerated pride as Phil Simms. Brock couldn't buy a complete pass as he flipped errant tosses by the truckload.

It's almost as if these players forgot how good they were once the shadow of the Bear's media cloud blew over them. It may be easier said than done, but I think the players would perform better if they could just ignore the hoopla and concentrate on being confident in their abilities. After all, that's what got them to the playoffs in the first place.

And what of the New England Patriots? Perhaps they have an advantage. No one expects them to win (though no one expected the Giants or the Rams to win either).

The Pats have no big-name players, no multi-million dollar contracts and no T.V. commercials. They've been lurking in the brush all year long, calmly disposing with most of their opponents in a similar fashion: grinding, fundamentalist football.

If their front line can block, as they have been all year, the Patriot running game will work no matter how many cameras the Bears have strapped to the Fridge's back.

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