



Photo by Kate Sherman

## A few good men cruise through season with a lot of dedication

Michele Loeper  
Capital Times Staff

Dedication, a commitment to each other, and a strong love for the game are the driving forces behind the 10 young men that make up the Penn State Harrisburg basketball team.

Coached by Gary Markle Jr., these dedicated lions spent much time preparing for the tough schedule they faced this season.

"We usually practiced every night for about two hours," said Pat Henry, senior captain. "We did a lot of running."

Despite their hard work, the PSH Lions had a difficult season which ended with a losing record. With a record of 3 and 5 at the semester break, the lions came back to end the season with only a few more wins.

"It's frustrating," Coach Markle said. "We come out here week after week and can't seem to put 40 minutes together. I guess we're a 'one-half' team."

Unlike many schools, there are no athletic scholarships available to PSH students.

"You don't come here to play basketball," Henry said. "The love of

the game is what motivates me to play."

Tony Calo, another senior captain, said that a love for the game almost wasn't enough to keep him motivated.

"Originally, for myself, after losing over and over, I wanted to quit, but I couldn't let the guys down," Calo said. "We're like a big family. We love each other."

The players hoped the strong bond that held the team together would contribute to a good season.

Despite the disappointing season, the players still enjoyed the time they spent on the court.

"Playing against Division II and Division III teams was tough. But I enjoyed it, and the tough games made me a better player," Henry said.

Team captains, Ed Smith, Pat Henry, and Tony Calo will graduate this semester. At the beginning of the season, these three players expected someone else to fill their shoes once they were gone.

Unfortunately, the athletic programs will be cut next year for financial reasons, which means this year's basketball team may very well be the last.

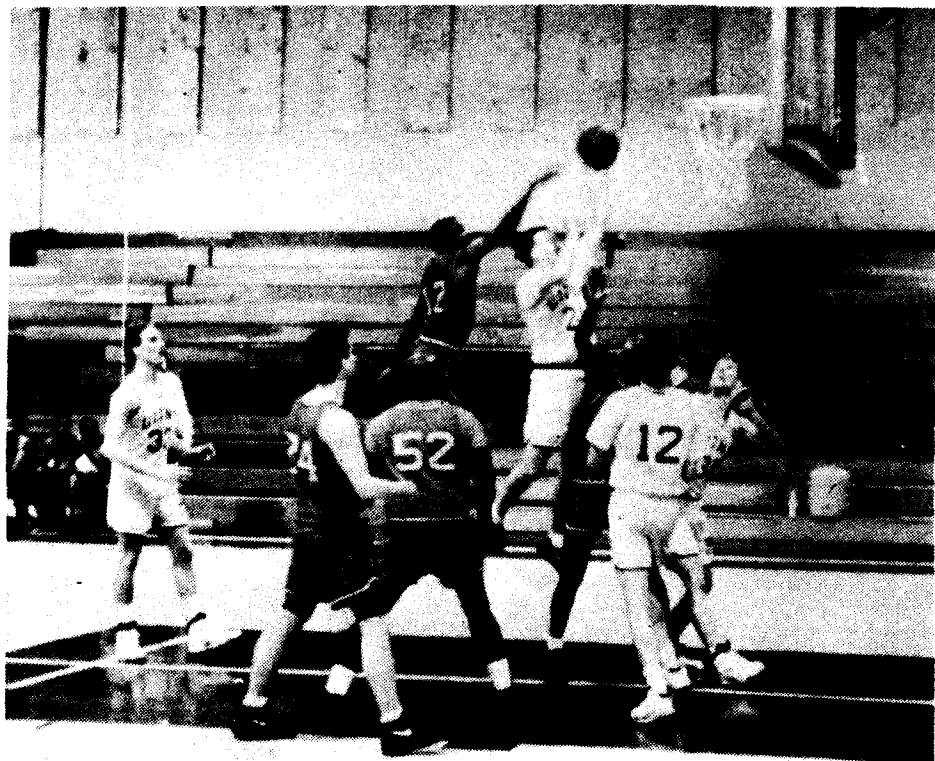


Photo by Michael Starkey

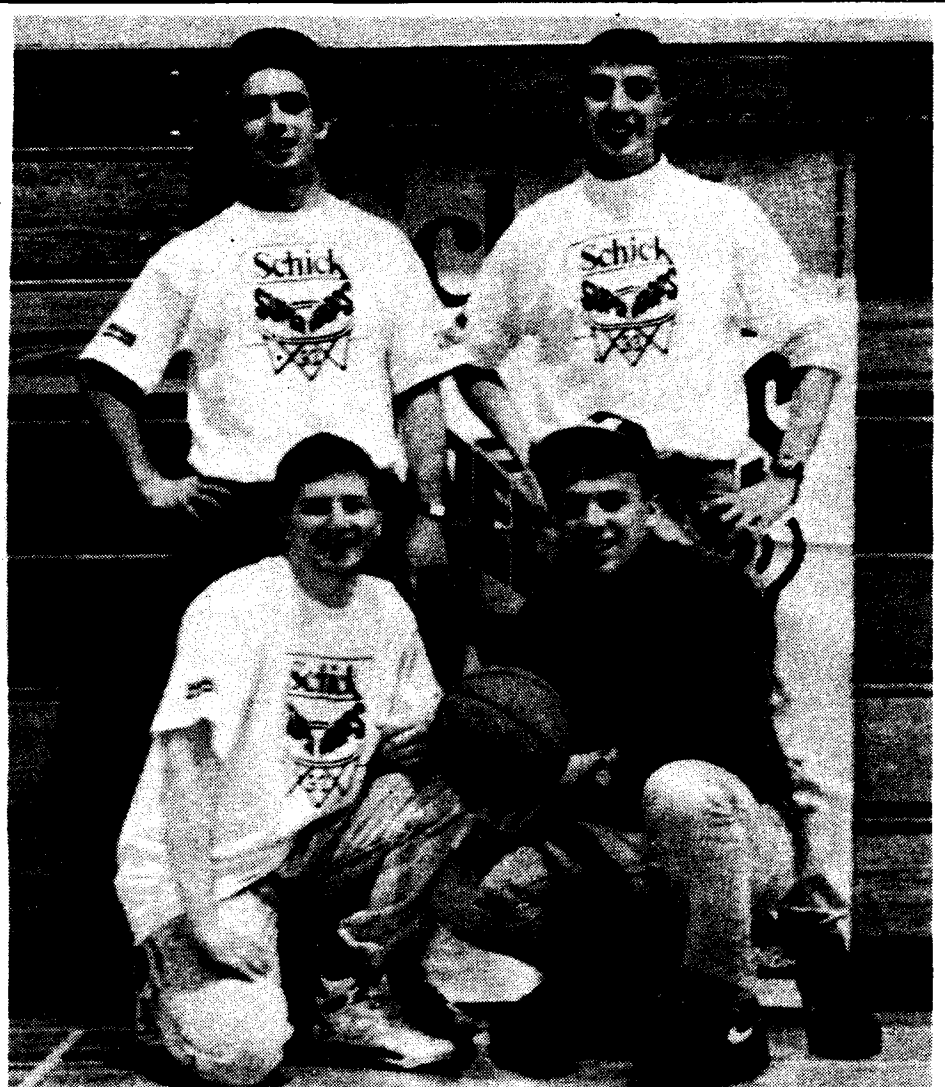


Photo by Kate Sherman

**ON THE BALL --** Kirk Smith, Mic Michalik, Mark Ketch and Carlo Pompei (clockwise from top left)--winners of the PSH Schick 3-on-3 Super Hoops tournament.

## Da Bulls dribble on to Philly in tourney

Hilary Zeiders  
Capital Times Staff

DaBulls proved they were unstoppable as they played like animals to capture the PSH Schick 3-on-3 basketball tournament title held Feb. 2. The tournament ended with the DaBulls 50-22 win over White Men Can't Jump, led by Dan McCarty.

The 36 Penn State Harrisburg students participating in the tournament were among the 250,000 students who competed across the country. All participating schools began by conducting their own on-campus 3-on-3 basketball tournament.

Returning to the court were original DaBulls players, Mic Michalik and Kirk Smith. Mark Ketch and Carlo Pompei added to this solid foundation to give the team balance.

"With the addition of Ketch and Pompei, we gained quickness and power," Smith said.

The playing power of Michalik and Ketch led the team in points, while Smith

handled rebounds. Pompei defended DaBulls throughout the tournament.

Pompei was also beneficial to the team by assisting shots, Michalik said.

Michalik and Smith agreed that the quality of the competing teams was better than last year. They also noted that more fans came out to support their favorite teams.

The tournament still interested players who were eliminated in the first round.

"After my roommate's team lost, he still came to cheer on DaBulls," Smith said.

More hoop action is in store for DaBulls as they travel to Philadelphia on Feb. 20 to compete at the regional tournament.

According to the two returning champions, the game in Philadelphia is much more competitive.

"The game is much quicker and the players are taller," Michalik said.

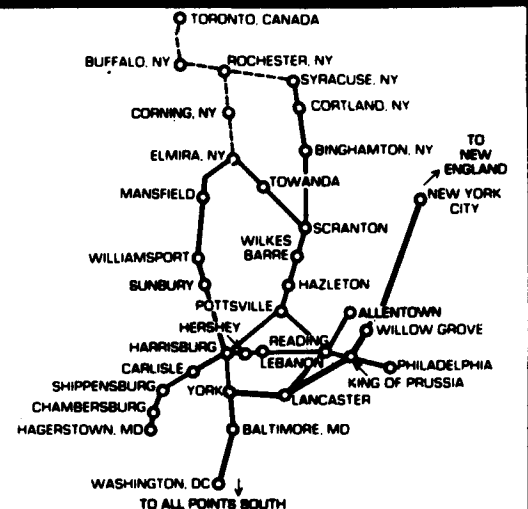
These factors won't stop DaBulls from giving it their all.

"Mark is like Moses," said Pompei. "He will lead us to the promised land."

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