

Cagers Host Panthers Tonight

Harris Gets High Praise From Egli

By JIM KARL
Sports Editor

Jumpin' Gene Harris, one of Penn State's greatest basketball players in a decade, and silent John Phillips, who over a three-year period was State's best percentage shooter, make the final Rec Hall appearances of their careers tonight at 8 against Pitt.

Harris needs only nine points to reach the 400 mark this year. He has a 19.5 average and leads the team in rebounds with 266.

Phillips, who doesn't take many shots, usually hits more often than he misses. He is fourth in scoring this year behind Harris, John Mitchell and Earl Hoffman with 147 points and a 7.7 average.

LION COACH JOHN Egli rates Harris along with Mark DuMars and Jesse Arnelle as the three greatest athletes he has ever coached.

"They were all great," Egli said last night, "but they were great in different ways.

"Arnelle was big, strong and rugged. He could sweep the boards on strength alone. Gene is more of a slashing, jumping-type ball-player. He doesn't have the weight so he has to get in fast and get out. He has tremendous jumping ability and he's worked hard all year.

"DuMARS HAD exceptional ability. He had what I call the third and fourth dimension of basketball — he thought so far ahead and he had such quick reactions that he won many games all by himself.

"He had the quickest reaction time of any athlete I've ever seen.



GENE HARRIS

In a series of tests here where they gauge your reaction time to a sound or a movement he scored far above anybody else, including All-American football players.

Penn State may need some of that quick reaction time tonight if it wants to beat the Panthers.

THE LIONS HAVE been in a scoring slump of late, and unless they snap out of it soon they may find themselves headed toward another losing season.

State is 11-9 going into the game, with two final road games on tap next week.

In their last five games, the Lions have failed to score more than 68 points a game. They beat Carnegie Tech, 52-45; defeated Gettysburg 60-43; lost to Bucknell 69-68; beat Army 49-36 and lost to West Virginia, 79-60.

On the other hand, State's defense has been just short of spectacular, giving up an average of just 48 points per game in the four games previous to West Virginia.

STATE WILL START John Mitchell, Ulo Kart and Hoffman along with Phillips and Harris against the Panthers.

This is the final game of the season for Pitt, which at 12-10 needs a win to improve on last year's 12-11 record. State beat the Panthers earlier in the year, 74-62, at the Pitt Field House.

Coach Bobby Timmons will probably start Brian Generalovich, Ben Jinks, Cal Sheffield, Dave Sauer and Paul Krieger. All but Jinks are sophomores.

halftime



Mitchell's Dribbling Show Was Ordered From Bench

By JIM KARL
Sports Editor

In a letter to the editor in Wednesday's Collegian, Mr. R. C. H. Schmidt criticized John Mitchell for his display of dribbling in the final minutes of last Saturday's 49-36 victory over Army at Rec Hall.

Said Mr. Schmidt:

"This type of amusement, while appropriate to Marcus Haynes and the Harlem Globetrotters, is out of place in an intercollegiate competition, where the definition of 'sportsmanship' excludes showmanship, comedy, and the ability to draw a foul."

First, Mr. Schmidt hints that showmanship and sportsmanship are not compatible. Sometimes they aren't, but there is no reason why they can't be.

Second, Mr. Schmidt ridiculed Mitchell in print, comparing him to a basketball clown who was simply putting on a show for the crowd. Nothing could be further from the truth.

"I was just doing what the coach told me to do," Mitchell said. "We were trying to get the easy shot."

The incident which brought criticism from Mr. Schmidt was a play sent in by Coach John Egli. Four men line up along the base line (the line under the basket) while Mitchell or Bobby Donato, both excellent ball handlers, dribble by themselves in the backcourt. If the defense uses only one man to guard the dribbler, he keeps dribbling and draws a foul. If the defense sends out two men, he passes to the man left unguarded, who has an easy shot. Good, sound basketball, Mr. Schmidt. An assistant coach Snowy Simpson said, "I haven't found a way to stop it yet."

Which brings up a third point, the ability to draw fouls is a skill that not many ball players have.

It's a skill which is genuinely appreciated by coaches, players and fans, and the player who makes the most of it is not regarded as a poor sport.

"He's entitled to his views," Mitchell said. "Perhaps he was peeved at the game." Perhaps.

MITCHELL HAD A LITTLE trouble bringing the ball upcourt against West Virginia's full-court press Tuesday, losing the ball at least five times on palming infractions and steals by Dick Dubois. This is completely uncharacteristic of Mitchell, who is a good ball handler and a cool competitor under fire.

Coaches and players alike respect Mitchell for his ability to remain calm in tight spots. "I'd feel safe in an alley fight if I had Mitchell backing me up," said Simpson. "He's a tough cookie."

Donato, who teams with Mitchell in the backcourt when he starts, feels the same way. "I rely on John a great deal when I play," Donato said after the Army game. "Just knowing he's there calms me down."

Mitchell doesn't know why he had the bad night against West Virginia, and he'd be the last to make excuses.

"I always have favored my right hand in dribbling," he said on the bus ride home, "but it was more evident on that narrow court at Morgantown. Coach said that Dubois was fouling me, but I really don't know; when you're dribbling like that, it's hard to tell."

Mitchell had the ball stolen from him three times in a row by Dubois. After the third time he had to leave the game when Gale Catlett accidentally kicked him in the head when he came up to help out Dubois. No foul was called.

IM Results BOWLING

Wednesday
FRATERNITY LEAGUE B
Sig. Al. Mu. 8 Phi Sig. Del. 0
Del. Sig. Phi 8 Phi Sig. Kap. 0
Pi Kappa Phi 8 Delta Chi 0
Alpha Ep. Pi 8 Al. Chi Rho 0
Sig. Phi Ep. 6 AL. Gamma Rho 2
High Game—PHIL GAY, Sigma Phi Epsilon, 212
High Series—JIM SIELING, Delta Sigma Phi, 537
High Game (team)—Delta Sigma Phi, 878

Thursday
FRATERNITY LEAGUE C
Sigma Pi 6 Triangle 2
Sigma Tau Gamma 6 Lambda Chi Alpha 2
Alpha Phi Delta 8 Phi Epsilon Pi 0
Theta Chi 8 Beta Sigma Rho 0
Zeta Beta Tau 8 Kappa Delta Rho 0
High Game—DREW BARRON, Theta Chi, 227
High Series—DAVE OLLMAN, Sigma Pi, 556
High Game (team)—Zeta Beta Tau, 878

INDEPENDENT LEAGUE C
Vikings 8 Holy Rollers 0
Lehigh 6 Lancaster 2
Navy Engineers 5 Cottonwood 3
Erzaers 8 Watts 0
Bad Ones 8 King Pins 2
High Game—JIM LANDER, Lehigh, 211
High Series—DICK FOOTE, Vikings, 567
High Game (team)—Vikings, 895

BASKETBALL

Wednesday
FRATERNITY
Theta Chi 35 Zeta Psi 29
Theta Del. Chi 33 Chi Phi 19
Lam. Chi Alpha 32 Alpha Zeta 23
Tau Phi Delta 29 Delta Tau Del. 28
High Scorer—JOE EICHERT, Tau Phi Delta, 16

INDEPENDENTS
Hatchmen 40 Hustlers 22
Nittany 38 39 Sharks 30
Panthers 35 Hejects 25
Gallyrns 32 Hawks 30
Nittany 25 1 Nittany 41 0
High Scorer—FRED TOMPKINS, Hatchmen, 20

Thursday
FRATERNITY LEAGUE E
Phi Mu Del. (5-3) 52 Delta Phi. (0-7) 25
Phi Kap. Psi (5-1) 37 K. Del. Rho (2-4) 34
Del. Th. Sig. (2-4) 21 Phi Kap. Tau (0-7) 14
Phi Sig. Del. (6-1) 45 Beta Sig. Rho (4-3) 18
High Scorer—OTTO BOHMUELLER, Kappa Delta Rho, 21

INDEPENDENT LEAGUE J
Brandywine (5-1) 35 Light Brix. (4-2) 26
Yogi Bears (3-4) 36 Northerners (3-3) 31
Navy (2-4) 25 Newm'n Club (1-3) 15
High Scorer—FRED LIGHT, Light Brigade, 35

INDEPENDENT LEAGUE A
Poplar (4-3) 29 Cedar (1-4) 16
Cottonwood (7-0) 33 Walnut (4-3) 15

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