

Officials Thwart Lions' Inactivity

By RON KOLB
Assistant Sports Editor
The 1966-67 basketball season should be remembered as the year of the stall. The last year, that is. And repercussions of the decision that resulted are still being laughed at.

Back in the good old days, the only way a weak team could compete on the same floor with a powerhouse was to slow the game down. Southern Cal did it against UCLA and lost by two points. Scores in the 20's became almost commonplace, and the big bosses of those powerhouses didn't like it.

The controversy went to the NCAA Rules Committee, and on one respect the aristocrats agreed—slow must go. Roughly, the new rule stated that if a player, while closely guarded, does not get rid of the ball or make an active move toward the basket within five seconds a jump ball will be called. It even prescribed a certain area, within five feet of midcourt, in which such violation would be called.

Stall is Obsolete
The law of slow-down tactics obsolete. Stall-ball was a thing of the past. Basketball became a game of speed and constant movement. Little did the NCAA kings know that their excursion into authoritarianism would decide the outcome of close games.

The scene was Annapolis, Md. last Saturday in the Naval Academy Field House. Navy led, 65-64 with 26 seconds left to play and Penn State in possession. Captain Jeff Persson handled the ball, his defender six feet away. Persson wandered into the taboo area out at midcourt, getting ready to set up a drive with eight seconds left.

not his motive.
"The call was correct," coach John Egli said, but he wasn't respecting the referee's judgment by any means. He added, "It's just that the call should have been made six or seven other times in the game, and it really looked bad when it finally was called."
"Besides, it's a poor rule," Egli said, and in this case, he was probably right.

Yet the coach refused to pin the blame on just one decision by the officials, whom he said "called the best game there at Navy that I've seen in years." He rather cited his own players' apathetic attitude to the entire trip.

"I felt after we won the Syracuse game that these boys wanted to win enough to discipline themselves," Egli said. "But instead they became satisfied. They didn't make up their minds that they wanted to win. It seemed they almost felt they were playing just because they had to."

And he added one more comment to the fire. "We didn't lose that game in the last eight seconds," he said. "We lost it in the first six minutes, and on the four line."
That opening phase he referred to was a barren period for the Lions. They managed only one foul shot and fell behind, 8-1. State bounced back later to take a 16-12 lead, one that held for the great portion of the game. Then Navy's John Tomlie, who scored 21 points, tied the game at 62 with 3.42 left.

Stanfield Ties
Guard Hugh Kilmartin put the Middies ahead a minute later with a pair of free throws, and with 1:39 to go, PSU's Bill Stanfield hit a jumper to tie it again, 64-64. Navy controlled the ball until, with 31 seconds left, Lion Bill Young was charged with a foul. (It came before the foul occurred, and after the whistle, the foul wasn't committed anyway," Egli recalled.)
Middie Hank Schmidt made the first shot of a one-and-one, but the second went into Persson's hands, and he called time, setting up the 26-second finale. Though Penn State faltered, it was one of Persson's greatest games. The 6-3 senior became the fifth player in State history to pass the 1,000-point

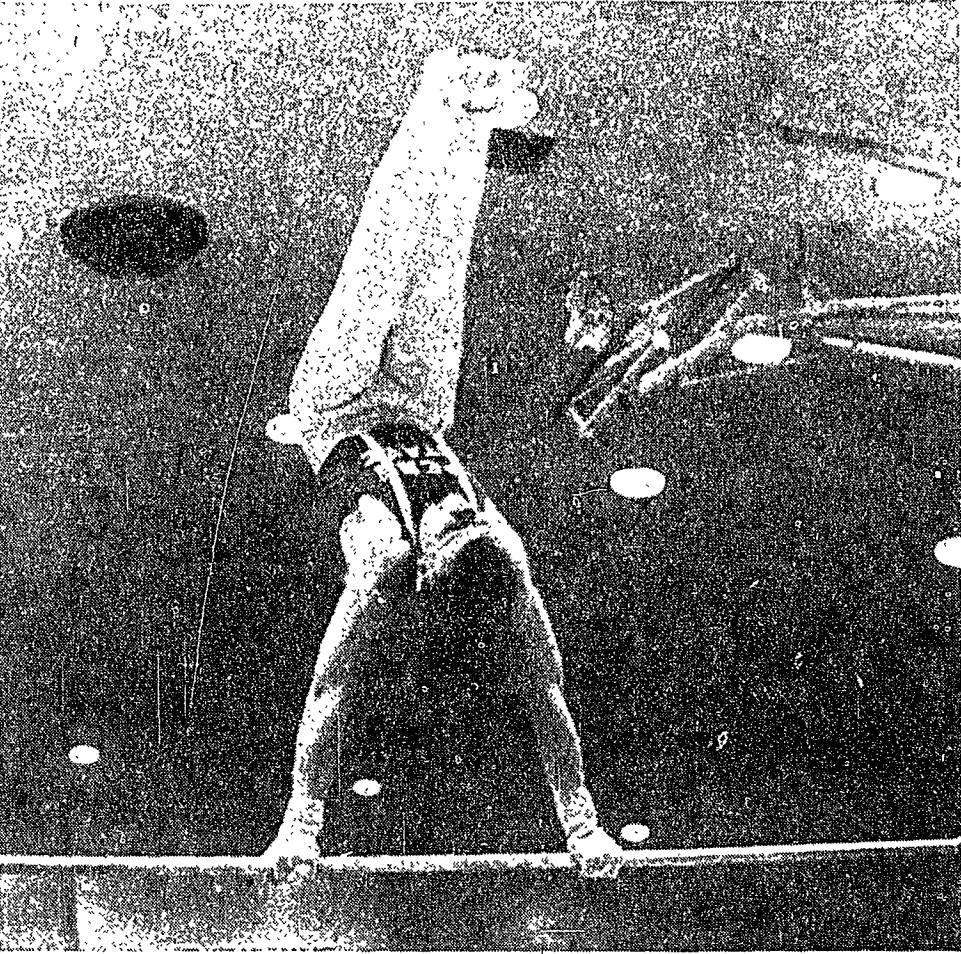
mark (he now has 1,021), joining Jesse Arnell, Mark DuMars, Carver Clinton and Bob Weiss in that category.

In addition, Persson topped both teams in rebounding for the second straight game, hit 9 of 12 shots from the floor (one was a desperation shot at the half) and led both squads with 22 points. Ironically, it was his move that ultimately decided the outcome of the game.
"Jimmy Linden cut parallel to the basket and was free for a turn-around jumper," Egli said. "But Jeff just didn't get it to him and the official made that call."

So what happens? Persson gets chosen on the ECAC All-East squad of the week, and rightly so. Meanwhile, the NCAA Rules Committee gets more documents of proof that its laws and policies get funnier every day.

Shooting percentages: Navy 35.7, Penn State 42.9.
Attendance: 4000

Attendance: 4000



SOPHOMORE DICK SWETMAN swings high on the horizontal bar in last Saturday's gymnastics meet. The Lion star scored 9.30 on the event, ordinarily a good enough mark to win. This time, however, he was outdistanced by two other Lion competitors, Bob Emery who scored 9.45 and Joe Litow who managed a 9.35. Swetman, also competed on the side horse and parallel bars where he scored identical 8.90 scores.

NAVY (65)				
FG-FA	F	Reb.	PF	Pts.
2-7	4-4	6	3	8
3-8	5-8	7	3	11
2-10	5-4	2	3	21
5-12	5-7	4	3	15
0-2	0-0	3	3	0
0-2	0-0	0	2	0
1-1	0-1	0	1	2
1-4	1-1	0	3	3
Totals 25-54 25-33 30 21 65				

PENN STATE				
FG-FA	F	Reb.	PF	Pts.
3-4	6-8	3	4	12
4-13	3-5	3	4	15
9-12	4-5	10	4	22
1-5	2-4	5	4	4
0-2	0-0	1	3	0
0-4	4-4	1	3	6
0-1	1-2	4	2	1
Totals 21-49 22-32 40 25 64				

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Cadets Top State

(Continued from page six)
night action, they were fatigued and flat. But despite the strain of travel and competition on two straight nights, the Lions gave the Cadets a battle before succumbing.

"We made Army fully aware that we were on the track," said Lucas. "In every single event we gave 100 per cent."
Despite the effort, State was beaten by the much more experienced Cadets. The Army track team is now undefeated in eight meets this season.
State's only winner in the running events was Smith, who recovered from his stomach ailments in time to run the two-mile in 9:07.8, a time just .8 of a second off the Penn State record.
Charlie Hull took second place in the 60 yard dash, running the best race of his career. A very fatigued Bob Beam finished third.
Steve Calhoun won State's only other second place in the track events in the 600 yard run.
State fared somewhat better against Army's powerful field event team. Chip Rockwell won both the broad jump and the triple jump and John Cabiati took home first place honors in the high jump.
Rockwell's winning effort in the long jump was 23'1". Sophomore Ray Blinn placed third for State.
Cabiati won the high jump with a just-average leap of 6'3". He has gone as high as 6'8" indoors.
The Lion freshman team also lost by an 84-34 score, but its distance runners completely dominated the opposition.
"We ran the pebles right into the ground in the distance events," said Lucas.
Schurko captured the mile in 4:15.8 and Jim Miller placed second for State.
The two-mile team won in eight minutes flat, just one second off the State record. Schurko anchored that effort with a half-mile run of 1:55.
The Lions' indoor record now stands at 1-1. This weekend the team travels to Annapolis to meet powerful Navy. But nothing for the rest of the year will match the colorful and exhaustive events of the past weekend.

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