

NFL players, owners debate

NEW YORK (AP) — Once again, management sat down with the National Football League Players Association yesterday in a resumption of contract negotiations.

Wellington Mara, president of the New York Giants and chairman of NFL Management Council's executive committee, headed management's negotiating team along with Sargent Karch, executive director and Terry Bledsoe, assistant executive director.

For the players, Ed Garvey, executive director of the NFLPA, was accompanied by his assistant, Dick Berthelsen, Kermit Alexander, past president of the union, and Doug Van Horn, player representative of the Giants.

The line-ups, of course, are familiar. They should be after three years. What is new are reports that the two sides can see some faint light at the end of the tunnel. There were optimistic rumblings out of Washington where the negotiations were held last week.

But if this long-term debate goes on much longer, it could mean trouble. In six weeks, we'll be in April and the NFL still could hold its college draft then but can't afford to wait much longer than that.

You remember the draft, that annual exercise dividing up the most attractive players in college football's graduating class. Where, for example, will Tony Dorsett and Ricky Bell be playing next year? They'd like to know and so would the NFL teams themselves.

The players association has offered alternatives including a plan that would call for separate conference drafts and a return to the competitive bidding situation players enjoyed from 1960-1966 when the old American Football League was at war with the NFL.

Another possibility is the time-limit option which allows a team drafting a player to retain negotiating rights for a limited time before surrendering them if no contract is reached between the two parties.

The NFL, however, does not want to act unilaterally. It would prefer a bargaining agreement that includes draft guidelines. The players association is less concerned with the draft than other aspects of the contract such as pension, scheduling, benefits and the like.

Lady cagers home from rocky road trip

By DARLENE HROBAK
Collegian Sports Writer

The Lady Lion hoopsters hope to prove the old saying that "there's no place like home" true when they do battle with the Edinboro Fighting Scots in a 5:45 p.m. Rec Hall bout tomorrow.

Their travels, in the form of three recent road games, haven't been too kind. The Penn State women dropped two of those contests by a mere one point.

Tomorrow's game with Edinboro was originally scheduled to be played today but switched to act as the front game of a women-men doubleheader.

This won't be the first seasonal pairing between the two teams; last time the Fighting Scots didn't fight hard enough. Penn State defeated Edinboro, 78-75, when the season was in its youthful stages.

The Fighting Scots, however, haven't fared too badly in this season's wars. They have a 14-5 won-loss record and have beaten a few teams that the

Lady Lions have fallen to. Edinboro managed to humble Slippery Rock twice. The first victory came in an early season contest by a score of 92-75, and a more recent game produced a count of 81-77.

Slippery Rock is the team that gave the Lady Lions that initial push on their downward slide. Just four games ago, the Rockets cut the Penn State winning skein at six only days after the Lady Lions had handily defeated a 13th-ranked Maryland squad. Including the Slippery Rock game, the Penn State girls have dropped three of their last four.

Edinboro, who has also beaten Pitt narrowly and lost in overtime to Maryland, doesn't promise to be an easy opponent.

"I think that they're a very good team," Lady Lion coach Pat Meiser said. "Perhaps one of the finest in the region."

The Fighting Scots' line-up features sophomore guard Barb Moran who is leading her team in points

per game average with 13.3. Sheila Collins is adding 13 ppg, and Kate Kosowicz is leading the rebounders with seven per contest.

One of the Edinboro starters, Tina Krah, is out with an injury and coach Meiser thinks "that may be a factor."

She doesn't plan to try anything new to help her team to turn around. "We won't try anything tricky. That's not the way you do it," Meiser said. "We just need to play good basketball."

The Lady Lions will play their last four regular season contests at University Park. Saturday afternoon at 2, they will meet Millersville at White Building's North Gym. Lock Haven will be in town next Wednesday, February 23, at 5:45 p.m. in the first game of another Rec Hall women-men doubleheader.

In the last regular season game, the Lady Lions will meet Delaware on March 1 in a 6:30 p.m. bout at White Building.

Cornell match caps 'crucial weekend' for spikers

Penn State's undefeated varsity volleyball team opens its home season this Sunday (2 p.m. at Rec Hall) with a crucial league contest against Cornell.

Actually, the Cornell tilt caps what Lion coach Tom Tait bills as "a crucial weekend" for his Nittany spikers.

Not only will the Lions risk their

perfect 9-0 record in collegiate match play, but they'll face all three of their Eastern Collegiate Volleyball League divisional foes. The results of this action will go a long way towards determining what ECVL teams will advance to the championships late in April.

This Saturday, the Nittany spikers hope to improve upon their 1-0 league

record as they'll travel to East Stroudsburg to face ESSC and Nyack, both divisional foes. West Chester will also compete at the quadrangular meet in non-league play.

Penn State has seen ESSC twice before this season in non-league action and has handled them with relative ease. Just three days ago, the Lions swamped ESSC (15-6, 15-7), and

earlier they took two-of-three tightly fought games.

The Nittany spikers, after faltering somewhat in this season's early going, have re-asserted themselves as "The Best in The East." The Lions own a 20-4 record in collegiate match play games to date, and an equally impressive 37-13 overall won-loss mark.

— Chuck Buchanan

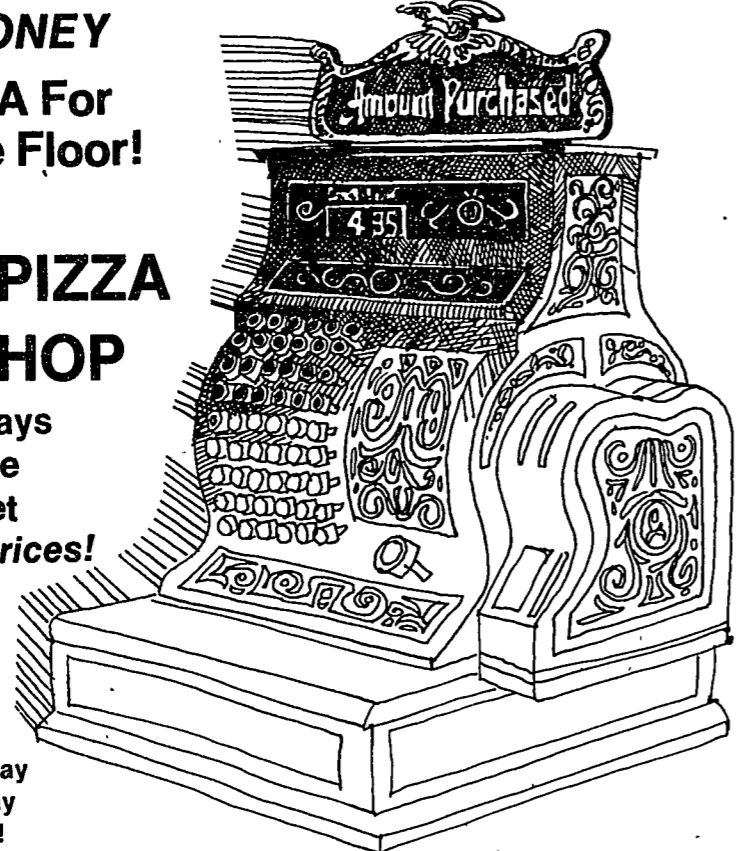
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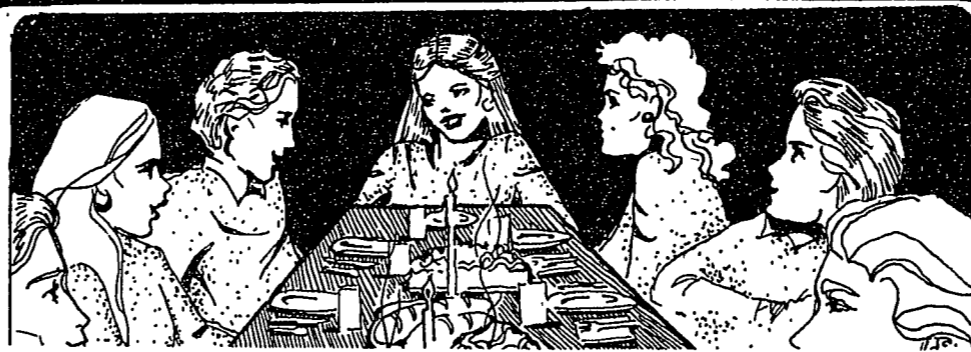
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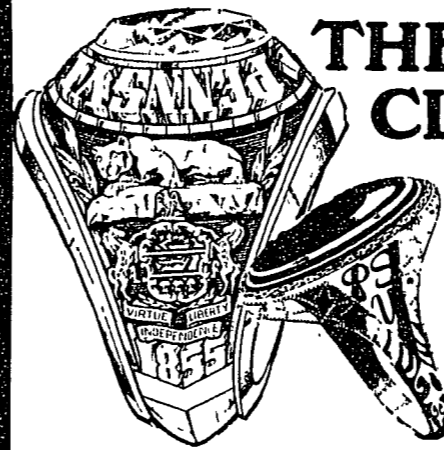
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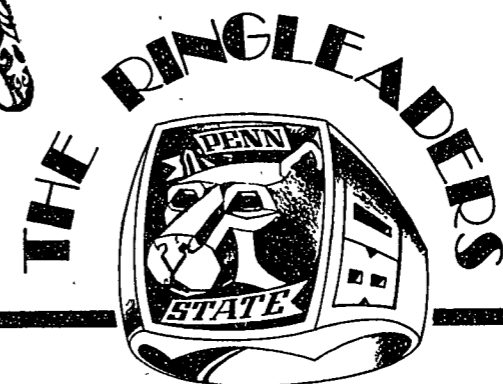
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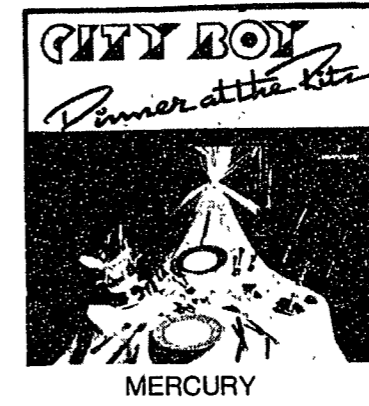
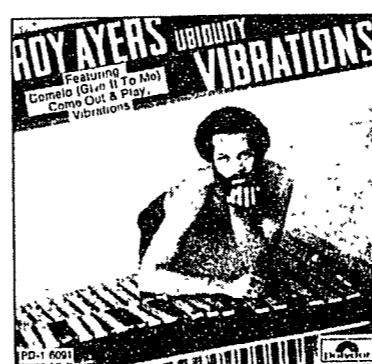
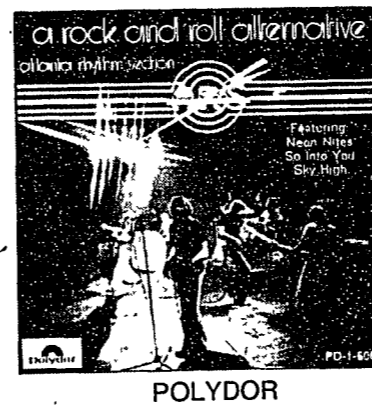
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