

Clarion 'outscores' gymwomen

By BARB SHELLY
Collegian Staff Writer

After watching her team win the long-anticipated matchup between the top two women gymnastic teams in the nation, Clarion coach Ernestine Weaver said that once people watch a high level women's gymnastics meet they usually come back for more.

Two nights later Rec Hall was filled again. This time the crowd saw the Lady Lions rebound from the 148.75-147.30 loss to Clarion and beat Indiana State 147.05 to 137.40.

Weaver was back that night too, busily taking notes on Penn State's performers. Clarion won the dual meet against the Lady Lions, but still has to keep its women's gymnastics dynasty intact through Easterns and Nationals. Penn State was close enough to the Golden Eagles to establish itself as Clarion's biggest threat.

Penn State coach Judi Avener was quick to dispel any notions that her team might rebound from its vanquished after their only dual meet loss of the season.

"No I'm not disappointed," Avener said. "I don't feel that we lost. I feel that Clarion scored higher than we did."

"We thought Clarion would be awesome," Avener added. Now we know they're just very good."

Good enough to score 148.75 and beat Penn State's best effort of the season so far. Weaver, however,



said Clarion should be scoring higher. "We haven't hit since our first meet," she said. "We aren't up to par yet."

Avener didn't agree. "Clarion's top four scores couldn't be a whole lot better," she said. "I think we could be a lot better."

Regardless of how much Penn State and Clarion plan to improve, the two teams did score the nation's highest collegiate totals so far this season.

The long-anticipated matchup between Clarion's Connie Jo Israel and Penn State's Ann Carr for all-around honors ended in a tie. Both scored 37.60 points. Carr had to recover from a low score on the parallel bars, however, and scored 9.55 on the balance beam and a fantastic 9.7 in her floor exercise routine to tie for the top spot.

Third place all-around honors went to Clarion's Carrie Englert, a member of the U.S. team at the Montreal Olympics.

"I thought after Montreal I would quit gymnastics," the Tallahassee native said. "I didn't want to compete on a lower level. It was a hard decision to start doing college gymnastics."

Englert was not regretting her decision after the Penn State-Clarion match-up. "This was like competing in a national meet," she said. "They were good, strong gymnastic teams."

The Lady Lions dispelled any fears of letdown after the Clarion meet when they romped over Indiana State two nights later.

This night belonged to Penn State's Karen Schuckman. Schuckman scored her highest total in college gymnastics, 36.70 points. While the score for the senior's floor exercise routine—9.5—was being flashed, Schuckman was enjoying a prolonged standing ovation from a crowd which realized her role in building Penn State's women's gymnastics team to its current prominence.

The Lady Lions now have another chance to prove themselves. Tomorrow is the start of the Eastern championships, in Towson, Md., which run through Saturday.

Penn State placed second in Easterns last season, behind Clarion, which went on to win Nationals.

"We're rapidly proving to ourselves that we're in a different league from the rest of the country," Avener said after the Indiana State meet.

"People across the country are going to be watching out for us."

Immaculata next step for cagewomen

By DARLENE HROBAK
Collegian Sports Writer

When the Lady Lion cagers and the Slippery Rock Rockettes took the basketball court yesterday in the Women's Mid-Atlantic district playoffs, it seemed almost traditional.

For the past two years, these two teams had met in

the Rockettes, who humbled them by a 75-58 score.

Penn State connected on a record-high 55 per cent field goal success mark, while the Rockettes managed to send only 29 per cent of their shots through the hoop.

"We were a lot smarter in using the fast break this time," said Lady Lion coach Pat Meiser.

"Nancy Kuhl (a playmaking guard) really controlled the game. She was much more discriminating in letting the ball inbounds."

Sue Martin was the recipient of most of those inbound passes, and as a result led the team on the fast break.

Jen Bednarek, who averaged 15 points per game in the regular season to lead her team in scoring,

chipped in 20 points for the Lady Lions by hitting on ten of 13 field goals. Hallie Bunk, with ten points, was the only other Penn State to hit double figures.

Slippery Rock's Melinda Hale was the game's high scorer with 23 points but she hit only ten of 31 shots from the floor. Hale was the Rockettes' leading scorer during the season with 17 ppg.

Coach Meiser, however, considered another aspect of the game to be of more importance than the scoring percentages.

"We beat them on the boards," she said. The Lady Lions pulled down 56 rebounds compared to 36 for their opponents. Co-captain Mag Strittmatter snatched 13 of those loose balls to come away with top rebounding honors.

In that last regular season meeting of the two squads, which Penn State would probably like to forget, the Rockettes threw a triangle and two defense at the Lady Lions which proved to be more than they could handle.

The triangle and two was on hand last night along with a two-three zone defense, but this time the Lady Lions were prepared. In fact, with three and one half minutes remaining in the contest, the Penn State women had a twenty-point lead.

The Lady Lions will advance to the second round of the Regionals tonight at 8:00 p.m. A loss would eliminate them from the tournament.

Their opponent will be first-seeded Immaculata, the defending district champion last year, which defeated

Rutgers, 83-70, depending last night.

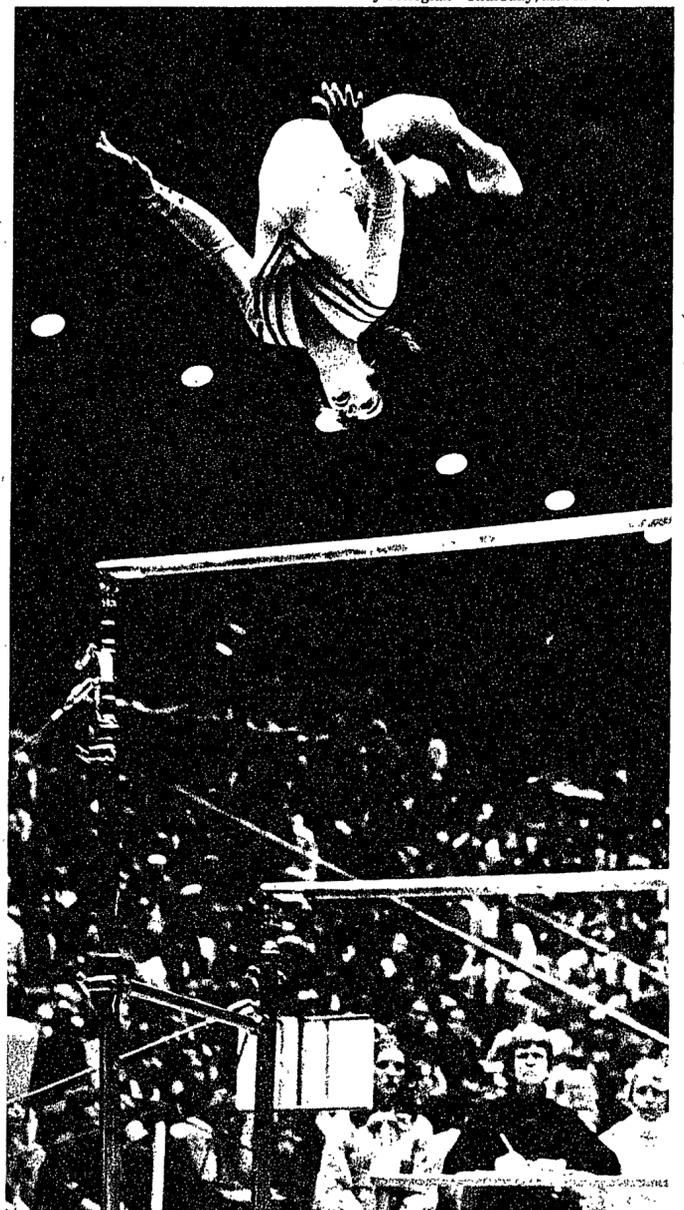
The Lady Lions are seeded eighth in the tournament after finishing the season with a 12-7 record. This is the first year that they have been seeded in the Regionals.

Of the 16 teams competing in the Mid-Atlantic tournament just two can advance to the AIAW national tournament which will be held on March 23-26 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

But for now, the scene shifts back to Temple's McGonigle Hall in Philadelphia, where the Regionals are being conducted.

Penn State coach Pat Meiser already thinks she knows who her opposition will be in tonight's battle, and she thinks her team is ready.

"Bring on Immaculata," said Meiser.



Against Clarion, Lady Lion gymnast Ann Carr performs on the uneven bars, an event which nearly cost her co-all-around honors.

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the first round of the playoffs, which are better known as the Regionals. But there the similarity ends, for the traditional winner did not come out on top.

The score at the end of the game stood at 73-65, but this time the Lady Lions held the upper hand.

The victory might take a little sting out of the Lady Lions' mid-season defeat to

Buffalo's lead now three points

Ramsay, Perreault lead Sabres

BUFFALO (AP) — Craig Ramsay and Gil Perreault each scored two goals to lead the Buffalo Sabres to a 6-3 victory over the Detroit Red Wings last night in a National Hockey League game.

Defenseman Terry Harper scored twice for the Wings.

The victory extended Buffalo's lead in the Adams Division to three points over the idle Boston Bruins.

In other NHL action, the New York Rangers downed Minnesota 6-4, the New York Islanders romped past Atlanta 6-2, Pittsburgh blanked Colorado 6-0, Montreal and Toronto skated to a 2-2 tie, and Vancouver handled Washington 5-2.

The Sabres took a 4-1 lead in the first period on goals by Jim Lorentz, Danny Gare, Perreault, and Ramsay.

Lorentz scored a power-play goal deflecting a long shot by Jim Schoenfeld past goalie Terry Richardson. A little more than a minute later, Gare scored on the rebound of a shot by Don Luce.

Terry Harper cut Buffalo's lead to 2-1 on a shot from just inside the blue line that deflected off a Buffalo player. But Buffalo came back with two goals in thirty seconds. Perreault scored on a breakaway and Ramsay batted in a Gare rebound.

Harper's second goal of the game,

early in the second period, made the score 4-2. But Buffalo came right back again less than a minute later with Ramsay's second goal to give the Sabres a 5-2 lead.

A fight in the second period involving three Buffalo players and two from Detroit resulted in 38 minutes in penalties. Buffalo's Jerry Korab and Dennis Hextall received match penalties, with Korab also receiving a game misconduct.

Walt McKechnie scored a shorthanded goal for the Red Wings in the third period, and then Perreault closed out the scoring.

Erving's 38 enable 76ers to outduel Thompson, Nuggets in double OT

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Julius Erving, waging a personal duel against David Thompson, scored 38 points and led the Philadelphia 76ers to a 129-125 double overtime win over the Denver Nuggets in a National Basketball Association game last night.

In other NBA action, Seattle whipped Boston 114-86, Houston topped Phoenix 105-100, and Milwaukee edged Washington 109-107.

With 1:10 left and the 76ers trailing 105-99, Erving banked one shot, dunked another and added two free throws to force the game into overtime.

The 76ers never led in the game until 4:35 of the first overtime period when Erving put in a field goal to push Philadelphia ahead at 107-105.

Denver tied at 116 on field goals by Jim Price and

Thompson. Thompson's free throw at 0:46 made it 117-116 and Doug Collins' free throw tied it. The first overtime ended after shots by Thompson and Erving glanced off the rim.

Philadelphia went ahead to stay with 2:42 remaining in the second overtime when Collins hit a jumper to make it 121-119. The Nuggets came within two, 127-125, on Mack Calvin's layup but Thompson's long jumper at the 15-second mark missed.

Erving's point total was his season's high. Thompson equaled his season high of 40 points, on 14 field goals and 12 free throws.

George McGinnis had 24, Collins 21 and Steve Mix 17 for Philadelphia. Calvin had 18 and Bobby Jones 18 for Denver.



Chris Erichsen's poor first half was one of many stumbling blocks for the Penn State cagers in their ECBL playoff game against Duquesne.

Cagers should've stayed home

By TOM McNICHOL
Assistant Sports Editor

PHILADELPHIA — Perhaps the Penn State basketball team would have been better off ending its season at Rec Hall on February 23 when senior guard Kevin Cadle capped a 12-point effort with a jumper from the deep corner to give the Lions a dramatic 73-70 victory over Duquesne to close the regular season with four straight wins.

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Instead John Bach's squad was in the Spectrum in Philadelphia a week later in the first round of the Eastern Collegiate Basketball League's (ECBL) first tournament against — strangely enough — Duquesne again. The game started at 1 in the afternoon and the crowd was (in all fairness to the ECBL officials) sparse.

At any rate, the Lion cagers, having one of their poorest shooting games in a long season, ended their campaign on an ignominious note by falling to the Norm Nixon-led Dukes, 65-55.

The plan was simple enough and Bach made no bones about it after the game. "We thought we had to beat them inside," Bach said. "We didn't feel we could match them outside with their strong back-

court of Nixon and McClain, so we went to Jefferson."

And the plan worked — almost. Penn State was able to work the ball inside but, unfortunately, the ball did not end up going into the hoop. While Jefferson missed two layups in the opening minutes of the game, the Dukes, led by Don Maser's eight-point outburst, took a 10-2 lead. Despite a better second half, the Lions could never erase that early deficit.

The Dukes took a 34-22 lead into the locker room at the half and, as for Penn State's effort, the statistics didn't lie. The cagers shot a miserable 23 per cent from the floor and the frontline of Jefferson, Chris Erichsen and Walt Young hit only 2 of 20. Erichsen, the team's leading scorer, had only two points, both from the foul line.

Duquesne quickly upped its lead to 18 points early in the second half at 44-26 and were threatening to blow Penn State into the Delaware River when the Lions reeled off seven unanswered points to cut the lead to 11 with 12:31 to play.

Then with the Dukes still leading by 11, Penn State scored six straight points to cut the lead to five at 54-49 with 2:14 left in the game. It proved to be too little and too late for the Lion cagers, however, as the Dukes' multi-talented guard, Nixon, hit eight points (including six for six from the line) to seal the win.

The win upped Duquesne's record to 13-14 and

enabled the Dukes to advance to the semifinal round of the tourney against Massachusetts — upset winner over Rutgers. Penn State finished its season at 11-15.

After the game, Jefferson sat at his locker in a state bordering on shock.

"We had beaten Duquesne before," Jefferson said. "This was our chance but we just folded. I've never shot that bad. It bothered me. The coach told me to keep my head up." Unfortunately that's hard to do when you're in the midst of a 2-13 shooting performance.

Not far away, Erichsen was equally displeased with his career-ending performance. "I didn't have it today," Erichsen said echoing Jefferson's sentiments. "We had good shots the first 10 minutes but they just didn't drop. We had every opportunity to beat them but we didn't take advantage of those opportunities."

Erichsen paced the Lions with 15 points. Kevin Cadle (14) had his second straight strong game against the Dukes and Jeff Miller (13) was also in double figures.

Nixon's 18 points led the Dukes (Bach: "I'm glad to see number 11 graduating."). Maser (15), Don Cambridge (10) and McClain (10) were also in double figures for the winners.

Starcher to coach World Cup baseball team; Stockton, Roche top seeds in tennis matchup

By the AP
CANTON, Ohio (AP) — Malone College said yesterday that the U.S. Baseball Federation has named Malone Coach Robert Starcher as one of four men who will coach the American team in the World Cup tournament this fall in Nicaragua.

Southern Illinois Coach Itchy Jones was named as head coach for the Nov. 15-30 tournament. Ron Polk of Mississippi State and Dick Groch of St. Clair County Community College complete the staff.

HARTFORD (AP) — Dick Stockton and Tony Roche yesterday were named as the top seeds for the United States and Australia, respectively, for this week's World Cup tennis competition between the countries.

U.S. team captain Dennis Ralston chose Jimmy Connors for the second spot, and Australia team captain Fred Stolle chose John Alexander as his second seed.

The tournament runs Thursday through Sunday.

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Author

James A. Michener will be among the speakers for the Frank McGuire Appreciation Dinner March 22 in Carolina Coliseum.

Other speakers for the dinner honoring the University of South Carolina's head basketball coach include Abe Lemons, president of the National Association of Basketball Coaches of the United States; DePaul University Coach Ray Meyer; St. John's Coach Lou Carnesecca; Ben Carnevale, athletic director at the College of William and Mary, and

former Wake Forest Coach Bones McKinney.

CHERRY HILL, N.J. (AP) — Management of Garden State Park and officials of the union representing the race track's cleaning department workers, truck drivers and uniformed guards, reached agreement on contract terms yesterday.

Local 676 of the Teamsters Union had placed pickets at the track earlier Wednesday in the dispute over the contract's hospitalization terms.