

Leafs trip Pens; Stars fall

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Team Captain Darryl Sittler provided a pair of slick assists and added an empty net goal in the last seconds to lead the Toronto Maple Leafs to a 4-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins last night in the opening game of their National Hockey League playoff series.

The Maple Leafs, who beat Pittsburgh two victories to one in the same best-of-three, first-round playoff series a year ago, fell behind 1-0 in the opening period. Defenseman Bob Kelly put the Penguins ahead with a 45-foot slapshot from a sharp angle while Toronto goalie Wayne Thomas was sprawled on the ice after deflecting a shot by Pierre Larouche.

Toronto tied the score 4:12 into the second period when Don Ashby beat Penguin goalie Denis Herron from 30 feet with a screened slapshot.

Eight minutes later, Sittler provided

his first key assist to put Toronto ahead to stay. He fed Lanny McDonald as he skated alone into the slot, and McDonald easily flipped the puck past Herron from less than 10 feet.

In the third period, Sittler and Penguin defenseman Ron Stackhouse were in a tangle in front of the Pittsburgh net, when Sittler managed to get the puck to teammate Dave Williams.

Williams wound up and drove in a 50-foot slapshot as Sittler screened Herron in front of the net. That gave Toronto a 3-1 lead.

Mario Faubert scored the final Pittsburgh goal with 1:26 left in the game, but Sittler put the game away with eight seconds left when he eased the puck into an empty net after the Penguins had lifted their goalie with 50 seconds left.

The second game of the series will be played Thursday night in Toronto.

BUFFALO (AP) — Jim Lorentz and Jerry Korab scored less than two minutes apart early in the second period and the Buffalo Sabres went on to defeat the Minnesota North Stars 4-2 last night in the opener of the best-of-three National Hockey League playoff series.

Rene Robert, who scored Buffalo's first goal after the underdog North Stars grabbed a quick 1-0 lead, also tallied an insurance goal into an empty net with five seconds remaining.

The Sabres scored two goals in 1:48 early in the second period but the North Stars got one shortly thereafter and trailed 3-2 at the end of the period.

Buffalo took the lead after Minnesota goalie Pete LoPresti blocked a long shot by Terry Martin. The puck stopped in the crease and Lorentz got to it before LoPresti could smother it and flipped it into the net at 2:47.

Spikers in crucial league tilt

By CHUCK BUCHANAN
Collegian Sports Writer

Whether they know it or not, the Nittany Lion spikers will be out to prove something tonight when they host East Stroudsburg in a crucial Eastern Collegiate Volleyball League (ECVL) tilt.

This best-of-five game match, which marks the Lions' last home appearance of the season, is set for Rec Hall at 7 p.m., with the JV's battling each other at 5:30 p.m.

"No," insists Lion mentor Tom Tait, "we're not out to prove anything — we're just out to get a better seeding for the championships."

But to get that better seeding which Tait would like so much for his spikers, the Lions must prove they can defeat the very team that created the battle for the better seed.

East Stroudsburg, 3-1 in ECVL western division play, handed the 4-1 Lions their lone league loss and their only blemish in a 15-1 collegiate match mark. They did that with a 10-15, 15-10, 15-11, 17-15 home-court decision back on Feb. 19.

Since then, Penn State has dealt East Stroudsburg a 15-7, 15-11 whipping in the State of Pennsylvania Championship finals here in Happy Valley.

"But that doesn't mean a whole lot," the Lion coach said, "because it had no bearing on the Eastern playoffs. Tonight's match, though, has a very important bearing."

Indeed it does, for the victors tonight will not only win the ECVL Western Division title, but will also get to face a weaker team in the Eastern playoffs' opening round, the advantage in this is plain to see.

"We're gonna go after East Stroudsburg with everything we got," Tait promises.

"They've had some injury problems all year long, but I hear they're at full strength for tonight. And we wouldn't want it any other way — we want them at their best."

Tonight's match marks the final career appearance at Rec Hall for three Lion seniors. Co-captain and middleblocker Jeff Seavy, setter Dave Evans, and outside hitter John Phillips all will end impressive careers in the blue and white.

OVER THE NET: The Lions are 40-10 in overall match play this season, winning 98 of 119 games. . . The George



Photo by Jeff Pflister

Lion volleyball coach Tom Tait says "we're not out to prove anything" in tonight's match against East Stroudsburg at Rec Hall.

Mason Invitational Tournament this weekend in Fairfax Virginia, is the Lions' next action. . . Tait says he will experiment with his line-up after tonight's match, "trying to find even some more depth". . . All three seniors making their last home appearance say they're used to small crowds for volleyball matches, but they'd like to see a large turnout tonight.

McGinnis, Dawkins key Sixer win

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — George McGinnis and Darryl Dawkins slammed home 20 points each last night to lead

the Philadelphia 76ers to a 119-109 National Basketball Association victory over the New Orleans Jazz.

McGinnis and Dawkins did most of their damage close to the basket as the powerful 76ers awed a Superdome

crowd of 19,236 with 12 slam-dunks from all angles.

Pete Maravich of the Jazz led all scorers with 35 points, including 14 in the third quarter, when the Jazz cut the Philadelphia lead to 76-71.

However, the 76ers then hit eight straight points to pull out of reach.

New Orleans outrebounded the 76ers 59-48 as centers Rich Kelley and Otto Moore combined for 26. But Philadelphia hit 50 per cent of its shots, to 43.4 per cent for New Orleans.

Philadelphia has a 49-29 record. New Orleans is 34-45.

Yankees acquire Dent for Gamble

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — The New York Yankees acquired shortstop Bucky Dent from the Chicago White Sox yesterday in exchange for veteran outfielder Oscar Gamble, minor league pitchers Dewey Hoyt and Bob Polinsky and cash.

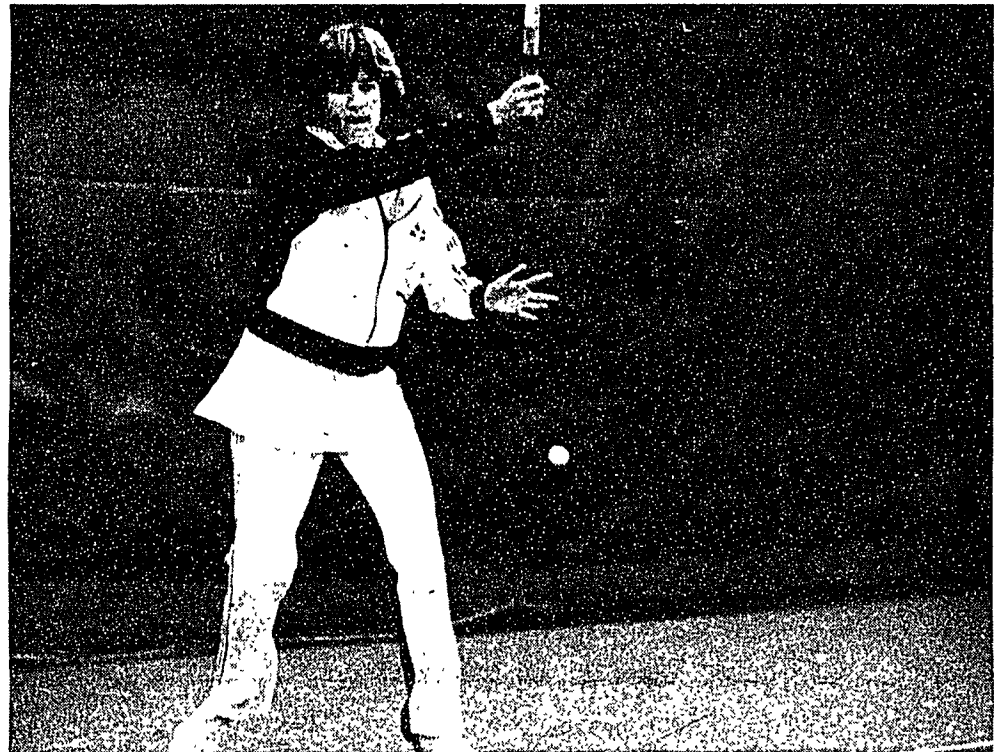
The Yanks also said that Dent, unsigned by the White Sox, had agreed to terms of a three-year contract.

The acquisition of the 25-year-old Dent, whose average dipped a bit last year to .246

with two home runs and 52 runs batted in, apparently ended a search for a top-flight shortstop. Dent was on the 1975 American League All-Star team.

Dent will replace Fred Stanley, who hit .238 with one homer and 20 RBI.

The Yanks had hoped to go with rookie Mickey Klutts, but he suffered a broken finger in spring training and was placed on the disabled list.



Wendy Gavett had a commanding 6-0, 6-1 victory over West Chester's Linda Ritter as the Lady Lions chalked up their second straight win yesterday.

Win second indoor match

Netwomen slam West Chester

By JOYCE TOMANA
Collegian Sports Writer

The Lady Lion tennis team not only won their second straight match on the indoor courts yesterday afternoon, but they had more control of the West Chester squad in this 8-1 win than in last year's 5-4 squeaker.

"We knew what they were like from last year," junior Mon Androsko said after her singles victory. "We knew we had to anticipate the ball coming back every time. Mental preparation made the difference in today's match. With West Chester, the ability is not really there, but the desire makes up for it. They're a very hustling team."

"We were much better today against West Chester," coach Joan Nessler said, "much better than last year when we came home feeling lucky to win."

In singles, Joy McManus launched

a stream of straight set wins that lasted until the final singles match. She beat West Chester's Shirlee Hurst 6-3, 6-2.

"Joy was more relaxed today," Nessler said. "Her backhand was stronger, but her serve was not as strong today as usual."

Meanwhile, Wendy Gavett wasted no time, and surrendered only one game in her 6-1, 6-0 win over Linda Ritter.

"She kept coming in, forcing Ritter to make the shot," Nessler said. "I have to give Micki credit for keeping her concentration when her opponent started to hit soft shots."

Senior Micki Larkin was out for revenge yesterday, with memories of her loss to Sue Storm in last year's Middle States tournament. That revenge came by way of a 6-0, 6-3 victory.

Joan Backenstose also had a near

shutout by beating West Chester's Jody Landis. Mon Androsko handed Lisa Coulson a 6-3, 6-2 loss. Penn State's only singles soft spot was found by Barbara Adams when she beat Lady Lion Jeanne Peterson 7-5, 3-6, 6-4.

"For some reason, West Chester's number five and six players hit harder, and were more aggressive than their other players," Nessler said.

Penn State swept the doubles matches. McManus and Larkin met their singles opponents, Hurst and Storm, and beat them 6-4, 6-3. Gavett and Backenstose came back after a second set lapse for a 6-3, 2-6, 6-0 win over Ritter and Landis.

"Joan and Wendy started with moments of brilliance, didn't attack in the second set, and found the holes and were ready to attack in the third," Nessler said. "Joan, in particular,

came in to the net more, which made for a more aggressive team."

Gail Ramsay returned to the lineup for the third doubles outing with Jeanne Peterson. The pair held out for a 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 win over Coulson and Adams.

"I didn't want to put pressure on Gail by putting her in both singles and doubles," Nessler said.

In JV action, Penn State took all three matches. Sue Fryberger handed Jan Andrews a 6-4, 6-1 loss. Sue Dixon battled Colleen Cosgrove for a 6-2, 7-6 win. Cosgrove and Honduras fell to Fryberger and Dixon 6-7, 3-6.

"Today was a big win for us psychologically because West Chester was so strong last year," Nessler said. "But our toughest matches are to come. The real test starts with the Maryland match."

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