

Homecoming not missed

Somehow, I can't imagine very many people wanting to exchange a homecoming weekend here for a seemingly endless bus trip to north Jersey and Connecticut to view a couple field hockey games. Last weekend, however, I did precisely that, and with little regret.

With the third ranked Lady Lions taking the road for games with Rutgers and the University of Connecticut, I opted to travel in order to get a first-hand account of the games. Leaving Homecoming behind was painless. All that spirit and nostalgia makes me ill, besides, I made a nice profit on my football ticket.

One may be thinking what a lone male reporter does with a husband of female athletes on a trip such as this. Well, he makes plenty of banal conversation with the assistant coach, in this case Charlene Morett, learns to play backgammon and generally keeps his mouth shut. At night, he rooms with the Saturday's game with Rutgers, a 6-2 victory, was one mix-up after another, the result of poor planning by the host.

Since the Knights' field was holding water like a sponge, the game was moved to a nearby community college. The field there, although in better condition, still featured puddles of water beneath your feet.

The big story of the game was that the team captain, an All-American, and a profligate scorer regained their starting positions over a trio of talented freshmen.

Nancy Deal contributed aggressive defense when needed the most, Jan Snyder helped the sputtering offense get back on track and Jill Van Bodegom-Smith knocked in the game winning goal.

"When you come in off the bench,"

Van Bodegom-Smith said, "I think it's more important to do well right away, even more so than if you started. But it's not easy to come in cold and get into the flow of the game right away."

Sunday's game with fourth ranked Connecticut was no less disorganized. The Huskies' field, too, was saturated and the game had to be played on a badly worn soccer field.



Justin Catanoso

Nevertheless the Lady Lions showed why they are one of the top teams in the nation as they cast aside their weariness from the previous day's competition and traveling to defeat Connecticut 2-1.

Although Candy Finn's two goals provided the winning margin, it was a unit that frustrated the home team's potent offensive attack the entire game to preserve the important win.

Sally Scheller and Mary Sue Patterson refused to be intimidated by the Huskies' rough play and have the bruises to prove it. Goalie Jeanie Finsinger and sweeper Wendy Emery acted like a lock in front of the net that Connecticut didn't have a key to.

"We knew they had a real good attack," Scheller said, "so our plan was to keep them out of the shooting circle as much as we could. We (the backs) usually don't start marking until a team reaches the circle, but against Connecticut, we applied a lot of pressure

at the midfield and concentrated on backing each other up."

Up in the windswept press box above the soccer field, Huskie partisans couldn't understand why their team wasn't producing. One gentleman offered these suggestions: "Every time there is a delay (the game was over an hour late starting)," he said, "the Connecticut girls play poorly in the first half. And this field isn't helping them any."

I kept my suggestions to myself (a wise choice for obvious health reasons), but I couldn't help but wonder if this gentleman actually believed that the Lady Lions didn't suffer through the same delay and were somehow playing on a sleek field of Astroturf. Excuses aside, although Connecticut possesses a talented squad, it was simply outmatched and outplayed by Penn State.

Don't forget, as I often do, that the junior varsity, 8-0-1, captained by Deb Caster and Joyce Holberg, enjoyed the same success as the varsity. Sue Parsons' four goals led the Lady Lions past Rutgers 6-0 and Sharon Tinucci's goal was enough to defeat UConn 1-0.

Defensively goalie Colleen Shannon has given up just one goal all season and has eight shutouts to her credit.

"I'm really impressed with the joyous determination from game to game," Coach Morett said, "especially since they don't get as much attention as the varsity does. There really is a lot of talent on the squad and in practice, they make the varsity that much better."

The four victories, coupled with head coach Gillian Ratray's announcement that Maryland upset top ranked West Chester, left the team ecstatic as the bus rambled home through the dazzlingly colorful Connecticut countryside.

I don't care if I miss Homecoming every year.

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Connecticut, may find overlooking the Rockets, hardly a national power, an easy thing to do.

"They aren't up to the competition we've been facing in the last few weeks," Penn State coach Gillian Ratray said, "but we never take them lightly."

"It's a good physical education school and two years ago when we had (All-American) Chris Larson and Charlene Morett, we lost to them by one goal on their home field."

Fieldwomen battle Slippery Rock

By JUSTIN CATANOSO
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

With top ranked West Chester coming up on Saturday, the women's field hockey team may have a hard time concentrating on this afternoon's game at Slippery Rock State College.

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Connecticut, may find overlooking the Rockets, hardly a national power, an easy thing to do.

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World Series

Pittsburgh 7, Baltimore 1. Baltimore leads series 3-2.

Pittsburgh (Cardinals 199) at Baltimore (Palmers 106), (4)

Tommy's Game

Pittsburgh at Baltimore, (4), if necessary

Jets overcome ABC jinx Stumbling Vikings sunk

NEW YORK (AP) — Quarterback Richard Todd turned a fumble punt into a 3-yard scoring run and safety Shafer Suggs returned an interception 32 yards for another touchdown last night as Minnesota coughed up the ball seven times and helped the New York Jets to a 14-7 victory.

It was the Jets' first victory in eight Monday night games since ABC and the National Football League began it in 1970. And it came in their first Monday night at home.

The Jets, 3-4, ran the ball consistently against Minnesota's defense, while

young quarterback Tommy Kramer passed almost unhindered against New York's secondary.

But it was the turnovers — four interceptions and three fumble recoveries — that enabled the Jets to keep the Vikings, also 3-4, from cutting into Tampa Bay's two-game lead in the National Conference's Central Division.

Minnesota's touchdown came with 6:36 gone in the fourth period, when Chuck Foreman clinaxed a 73-yard drive with a one-yard plunge. It was his 52nd career touchdown, tying Bill Brown

for the Vikings' club record.

New York got its first scoring opportunity with just 2:16 gone in the game when punter Jimmy Edwards was smacked by John Sullivan of the Jets and fumbled. Tim Moresco recovered on the Vikings' 18-yard line and, five plays later, Todd faked a handoff and sprinted untouched into the left corner of the end zone.

Rich Szaro, the former New Orleans placekicker signed by the Jets to replace injured Pat Leahy, kicked the extra point for the 7-0 lead at 4:56 of the first period.

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Driving Costs

- Running an air conditioner decreases gas mileage by:
 - 1-5%
 - 5-9%
 - 9-20%
- Which tires generally produce better gas mileage?
 - recaps
 - radial
 - bias ply
- Gas mileage can be dramatically increased by:
 - anticipating stop-lights
 - braking gradually
 - driving at steady speeds
 - all of the above
- You can increase gas mileage by doing all of the following except:
 - replacing dirty filters
 - cleaning spark plugs
 - under inflating tires
- An automatic transmission can reduce fuel economy by up to 15%
 - T
 - F

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Answers:
1. C 2. B 3. C 4. A 5. B

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