

Stickgals bear down for 4-0 win

By SHARON FINK
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

"A Tale of Two Halves," the story of the Penn State-Ursinus field hockey game. Or, "What Happened When the Bears Went Into Hibernation."

In the first half of yesterday's eventual 4-0 Penn State win, Ursinus (10-2-3), the fourth-ranked team in the country, couldn't have played more aggressively. The Bears played tenaciously and alertly, taking hard shots on goal and beating the Lady Lions to the ball. But they had one problem. They couldn't score.

The Lady Lions (14-9-2), on the other hand, got a lot of tough defensive work in the period. They spent most of the time thwarting the Ursinus offense, while the attack looked a little sluggish and like its timing was off.

Ursinus coach Adele Boyd agreed that the first goal was the key, but she couldn't explain exactly what happened to her team after halftime.

"You saw it," she laughed. "What can you say about a game you think you're going to play very well for and then only do it for half of it?"

"Penn State came out very strong on attack, and they forced us into some errors. And they took advantage of them. Plus they had that first goal, and in a game like this that's very important because it gives the scoring team that extra edge."

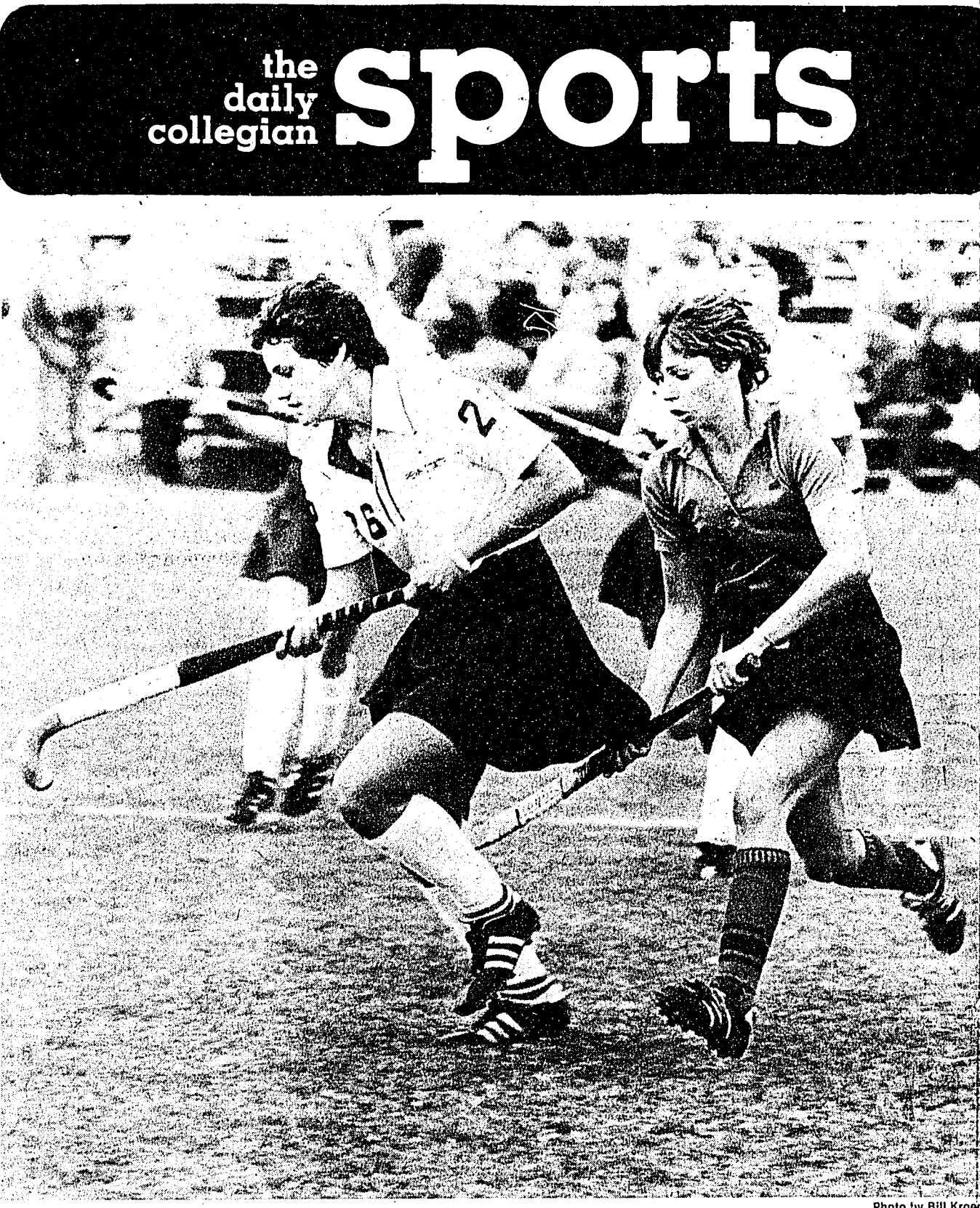
And the extra edge always helps, especially when two teams are battling for regional supremacy. With Ursinus in the same region as Penn State, and with the Bears ranked right below the Lady Lions in the national poll, that theoretically makes them the No. 2 team in the region.

The game was, in effect, a battle for the No. 1 tournament seed and probably assured the Lady Lions the top seed in next week's Eastern Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Middle Atlantic Region 1-B tournament.

When the two teams may meet each other again at regionals. And while Ursinus will be remembering the defeat, the Lady Lions will remember that the first kick of the game was all Ursinus. The Bears just couldn't capitalize on any of their opportunities. Either several of their shots sailed inches past the Penn State goal or were thwarted by the defense or goalie Jeannie Fissinger.

"Our defense really helped us out in the first half," Rattray said, "particularly Jeannie. She made all those saves (four), and they were clean saves, too, meaning when she cleared them out she cleared them to someone to pick up."

"But it was an entire team effort today. When someone looked for support it was there — wherever the ball was. I think we really peaked."



Lady Lion Jo Javens (26) stays a step ahead of Ursinus' Laurie Holmes in a race for the ball during Penn State's 4-0 victory yesterday at Lady Lion Field.

Good, good timing for goalie Fissinger

By STEVE GRAHAM
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

She has the kind of job where she reaps all the praise if she's outstanding and looks like a goat if she's terrible. But lately, for women's field hockey goaltender Jeannie Fissinger, the praise has far outweighed the criticism.

"My timing's really been on the last two weeks," Fissinger said after the Lady Lions ganged up yesterday for a 4-0 wipeout of fourth-ranked Ursinus.

By looking at Fissinger's statistics, you'd think her timing has been on all year. Through last week's game against Cornell, she had allowed only five goals in 15 games and saved nearly 95 percent of all the shots on her. Against Ursinus, she deflected seven shots — including a penalty shot following a Penn State hooking violation — in recording her 12th shutout of the season.

Penn State coach Gillian Rattray had nothing but — you guessed it — praise for Fissinger, a member of the 21-year-old and under U.S. National field hockey team.

"She's just incredible," Rattray said. "She played superbly. She keeps a very good perspective on the players." But Fissinger said the team had trouble in the first half com-

bating Ursinus' fierce offensive threat.

"I thought they were really tough," Fissinger said. "They were beating us to a lot of balls."

Although it took a while for the Lady Lions to get warmed up, they finally got on track by scoring two goals in the first nine minutes of the second half.

Fissinger said one of the keys to Penn State's successful second half defense was its denial of the pass.

"We calmed down," Fissinger said. "Our defense was a lot tougher."

Despite her own outstanding play, Fissinger said the defense played a major role in the shutout.

"They came off the hully really strong," Fissinger said. "They were really talking well, especially in the second half."

Rattray said she didn't like to compare the victory yesterday to the Lady Lions' 1-0 preseason loss to Ursinus because back then she was still experimenting with the lineup. But Fissinger said the return of three starters made a big difference in the game yesterday.

"We had three starters back and it showed," Fissinger said. "We wanted this (game), especially after having lost to them in the preseason."

the daily sports

Lions still No. 13; Texas falls to 10th

By The Associated Press

Despite its 20-15 win over West Virginia last Saturday, Penn State failed to move up in this week's Associated Press college football poll. But then again, neither did Texas.

The Longhorns, who were No. 2 last week, were upset by Southern Methodist 29-9 on Saturday and fell 10 spots to No. 12 this week. But there's still an undefeated team from Texas and the Southwest Conference in this week's rankings — Baylor.

The Bears, 7-0, are ranked 10th in the nation after beating Texas Christian 21-6 last Saturday.

Alabama, a 6-2 winner over Southern Mississippi, remained No. 1 for the seventh straight week with 57 first-place votes out of 65 cast by a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Three other unbeaten — UCLA, Notre Dame and Georgia — moved up to contest Alabama in its quest for an unprecedented third consecutive national title.

UCLA, 6-0 after a 33-9 romp over California last Saturday, received the other eight first-place votes and 1,222 points. The Bruins were in third place last week with four first-place ballots.

Third-place Notre Dame, playing under lame-duck coach Dan Devine, defeated Arizona 20-3 and picked up 1,141 points, while Georgia blanketed Kentucky 27-0 and earned 1,105 points.

Florida State, 7-1, is the highest-ranked of the once-beaten teams, ranking in fifth place, ahead of unbeaten North Carolina, 7-0, and Southern California, 5-0-1. Nebraska and Ohio State, each 6-1, are eighth and ninth, respectively. Baylor rounds out the Top Ten.

The second Ten consists of Pittsburgh, Texas, Penn State, South Carolina, Missouri, Oklahoma, Brigham Young, Michigan, Southern Methodist and Purdue.

Rank	Team	Record	Points
1	Alabama	6-2	1,500
2	Longhorns	6-1	1,105
3	Bruins	6-0	1,222
4	Georgia	7-0-1	985
5	Florida State	7-1	940
6	Baylor	7-0	719
7	North Carolina	7-0	644
8	Nebraska	6-1	623
9	Ohio State	6-1	539
10	Baylor	7-0	493
11	Pittsburgh	6-1	387
12	Texas	5-1-0	310
13	Penn State	6-1-0	297
14	South Carolina	6-1-0	287
15	Missouri	6-1-0	287
16	Oklahoma	6-2-0	287
17	Brigham Young	6-1-0	197
18	Michigan	6-2-0	135
19	So. Methodist	5-2-0	131
20	Purdue	5-2-0	90

Trocano comeback gives Pitt new questions at QB

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Rick Trocano shook his head yesterday and said he still couldn't believe he was back at quarterback for the Pitt football team.

"If I had a crystal ball and could have looked into the future, I would never, ever, have thought this could happen," said Trocano, the former defensive safety who led the Pitt offense in last weekend's win over Tennessee.

But coach Jackie Sherrill of the 11th-ranked Panthers believed it — to the point where he wasn't saying who will open at quarterback when former starter Dan Marino recovers from a knee injury.

"We're gonna do whatever it takes to win," Sherrill said at his weekly press luncheon.

Asked again later, he said, "I think that's bringing ghosts out of the closet right now."

Two week ago against Temple, Trocano started at defensive safety but moved to quarterback in the first half after Marino went down. And Trocano, who had been working as backup quarterback in practice, passed for two touchdowns to lead Pitt to a 26-21 victory.

Trocano started at quarterback last Saturday at Tennessee and hit 14 of 25 passes for 257 yards, while also rushing 10 times for 75 yards, including a 30-yard touchdown on a quarterback draw.

Off that performance, the 6-foot-1, 190-pound senior is no longer an emergency replacement. He's a full-fledged quarterback, just like he was his first three seasons at Pitt before losing his starting job to Marino last season.

Trocano said he hadn't discussed with Sherrill what will happen when Marino returns.

"We really haven't talked about it," said Trocano. "We still don't know how Danny's knee is. We don't know exactly when he will come back."

Might Trocano return to the defensive backfield if Marino mends and wins the job back?

"That'll be a decision for Ricky and myself," said Sherrill.

Marino is listed as "questionable" for Saturday's game at Syracuse, which means he might be ready to play.

Syracuse coach Frank Maloney said that will make things doubly tough for his defense.

"It definitely does — they are both fine quarterbacks," Maloney said.

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