

Hoosiers drop Lions, 3-1

Dash booters' hopes for Final Four bid

By WILL PAKUTKA
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

The disappointment was there when Penn State lost to Southern Illinois-Edwardsville in an NCAA semifinal game last year. To say it wasn't would be a lie.

There was no chance for a national championship, but there were consolation.

"Once you make the Final Four, you've made your season," Penn State co-captain Kevin Scott said.

It had been a good season. The Lions had surprised everybody but themselves by even making it to the Final Four. There was only one body on the squad and he had a pro career to look forward to.

The disappointment was there when Penn State (18-2) lost to Indiana (21-2) yesterday, 3-1, in an NCAA quarterfinal game. To say it wasn't would be a very big lie.

The consolation is still there, but they don't sound as good as last year. Sure, Penn State had a good year, but that was expected. So was a chance in the Final Four.

"We could have definitely played better," Scott said. "The plain fact was we

didn't. They had improved since we played them in September. We didn't get any breaks today."

Indiana's Bob Meschbach scored the first goal of the game at 5:29 but that didn't matter. The Lions came from behind against Philadelphia Textile in their first-round game a few weeks ago. Penn State had confidence going into this game. The players knew they could come back if they went down a goal or two.

Dan Murphy proved it at 14:28 when he scored an unassisted goal.

The score remained tied until seven minutes into the second half when Meschbach scored again.

"They sent a long ball downfield," Lion defender Dan Canter said. "I went up to hit the ball but I had somebody's elbows on my shoulders. Angelo (Nickas) and I collided and the ball went in. It was a questionable goal. I think that was the turning point."

But it was still only one goal and Penn State had come back from a goal behind before. The Lions even had a strong wind in their backs in the second half.

"Everybody figured that with the wind we'd be able to take it to them," Canter said.

But the wind didn't help. Penn State got off only one shot in the second half.

"We put very few passes together," assistant coach Dave Bartels said. "They chased our players very well. It was like a full-court press."

Some players said it was an unusual game. Seventy-six fouls were called and the constant stopping of play made it seem more like a football game than anything else.

"It just didn't even seem like a game," Canter said. "It was strange. There was no passing flow."

With 2:41 left in the game, freshman Greg Kennedy scored the third goal for Indiana.

That was the demoralizing goal. The one that will send the Hoosiers to Tampa on Dec. 13 to play Hartwick in an NCAA semifinal match.

It was also the goal that ended the season for Penn State.

The Lions haven't felt a goal like that since Dave Hummert scored one for SIU-Edwardsville to win last year's semifinal game.

"It's hard to measure which one was more disappointing," Nickas said. "We played hard today, but today they were a better team."

There is a difference, though. When Penn State lost to SIU-Edwardsville last year, everybody but Jim Stamatis could look to next year.

There are a few players who cannot say that again this time.

Nickas is listed as a senior but he might get another chance next year. He has another year of eligibility and is leaning towards playing next season.

However, Penn State will lose Nigel Ngunjiri and Scott to graduation.

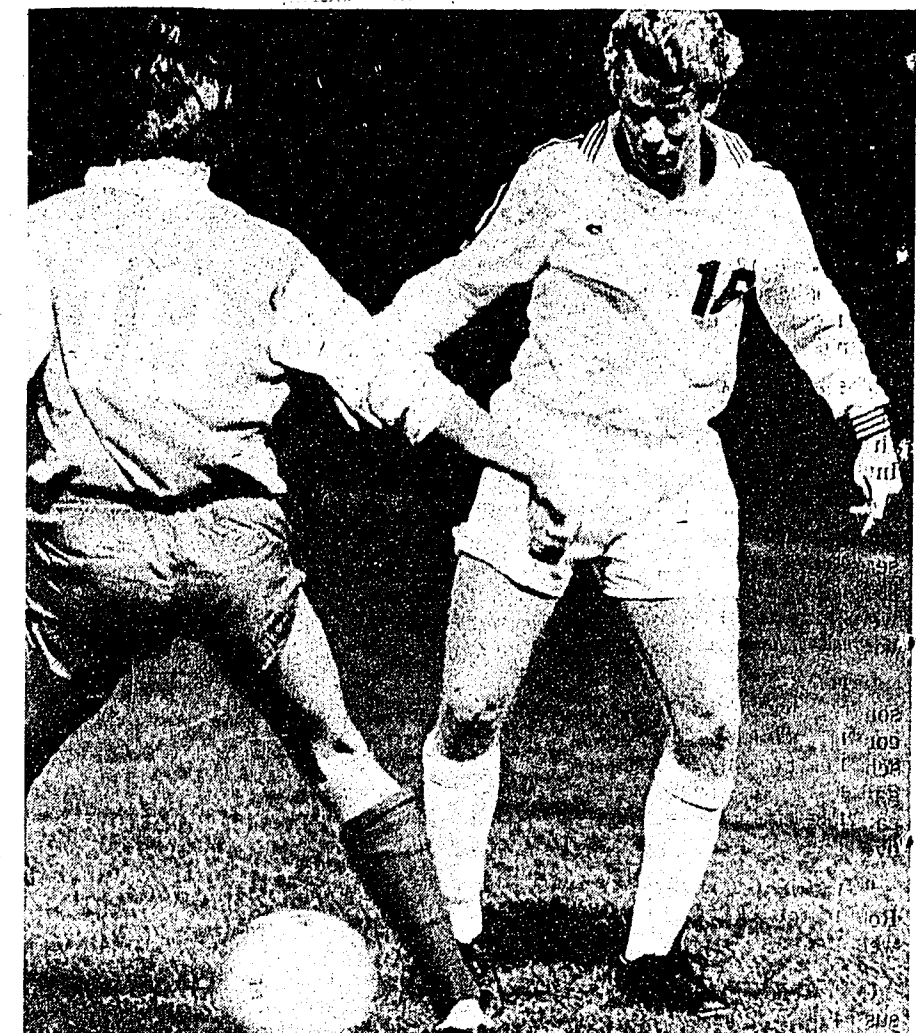
For Scott, a four-year letter winner and co-captain of this year's team, yesterday's loss is especially hard.

"When you're all done, it's hard to take," Scott said. "I think this team next year is going to be the finest team in the last four years here. I think Scotty Gardner will be able to fill in for me with no problem."

It might turn out to be one of the best teams Walt Bahr has had at Penn State. If Nickas decides to come back he will be one of nine starters returning. In all, 14 regulars from this season should return next year.

It might be enough to make a senior wish he was still a junior.

"Definitely," Scott said. "I'd love to be a freshman."



There won't be any trip to the NCAA Final Four for Steve Blumenthal (right, in) earlier season action) or the rest of the Penn State soccer team as Indiana beat the Lions 3-1 yesterday.

Lady Lions fall to Cheyney State

But rebound to finish third at Pitt Invitational

By BOB GROVE
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

As rock singer Meat Loaf said, two out of three ain't bad.

The women's basketball team won two of its three games this weekend to take third place at the Pittsburgh Invitational.

"We didn't shoot all that great against Cheyney," Penn State coach Rene Portland said. "And we didn't get the rebounds."

Penn State was out-rebounded 42-39 by the Wolves, who led by 10 at the half. The Lady Lions shot 46 percent from the floor and 60 percent from the line against Cheyney State.

Sophomore Carol Walderman, averaging 18 points a game, tallied 20 points against the Wolves. Freshman Cindy Davies scored 19 points and sophomore Cheryl Ellison grabbed six rebounds.

Walderman is the team's leading scorer, but Portland said she can play even better, a fact which bodes well for Penn State's offense.

"(Carol) is playing inconsistently right now," Portland said. "I know she can do much more."

Walderman agreed with her coach.

"I can do better," she said. "I just

have to keep control of myself — me and Corine (Gulas) have to keep things running smoothly."

Walderman scored 16 points against Fairleigh Dickinson and was one of six Lady Lions to reach double figures.

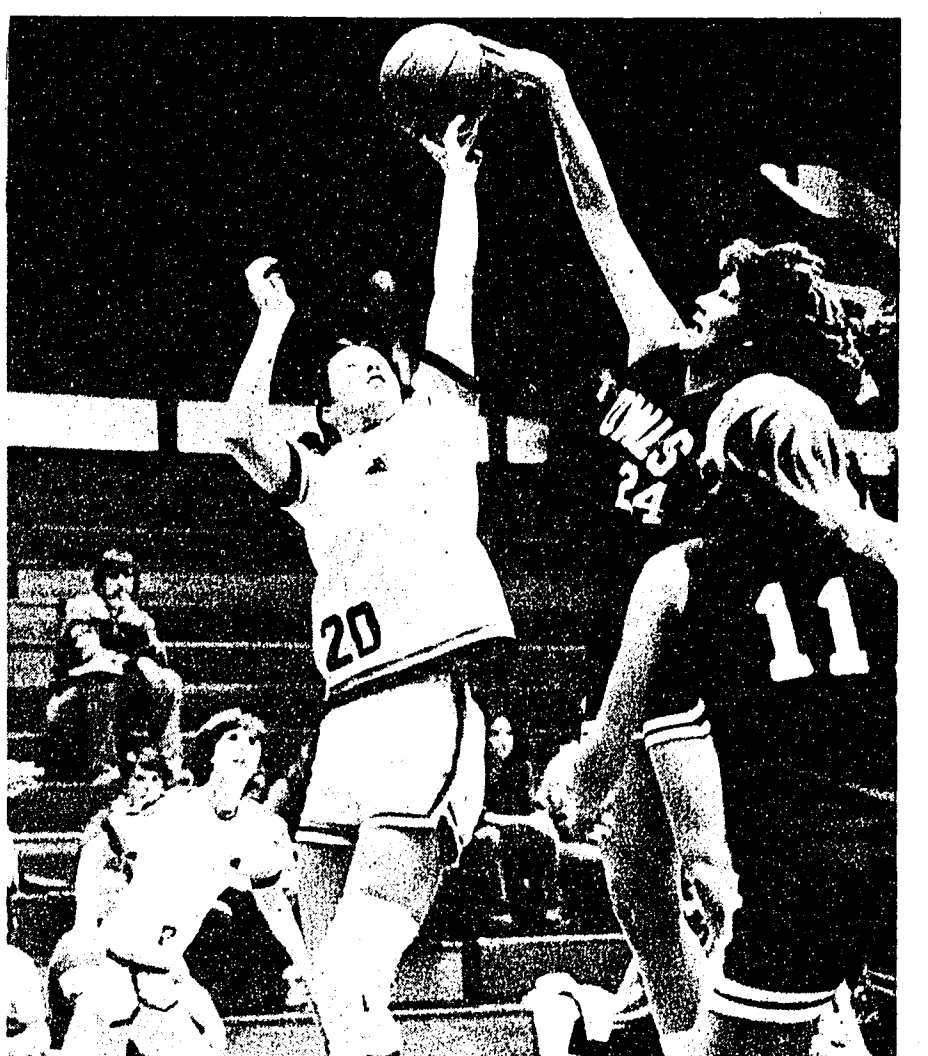
Sophomore Louise Leimkuhler paced all scorers with 17 points. Ellison and junior Deb Christman had 15 each, while Davies added 14 and Gulas 12.

Penn State set new school records for free throws attempted and free throws made during Friday's game. The Lady Lions hit 36 of 45 from the line while shooting 55 percent from the floor. The Penn State running game was helped by the fact that the Lady Lions out-rebounded their opponents, 59-26.

Portland said the Lady Lions' full court press, which the team has spent a good deal of time on in recent practices, began working well in the second half and was the turning point of the game.

Penn State outscored Fairleigh Dickinson 59-29 in the second half after taking a 14-point halftime lead.

Yesterday against DePaul, the Lady Lions also jumped out to a 14-point halftime lead before handing the Lady Blue Demons an 11-point defeat. Penn State captured the victory despite running into foul trouble early. Five Lady Lions fouled out of the game.



Penn State's Louise Leimkuhler, shooting in action last year, scored a game-high 17 points in Friday night's win over Fairleigh Dickinson. The Lady Lions fell the next night to Cheyney State at the Pitt Invitational.

the daily sports

Monday, Dec. 8

Harter's halftime 'licking' spurs Lions to easy win

Corral Mustangs, 72-50

By RICH SCARCELLA
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

The men's basketball team mixed up a cue from the Houston Oilers.

Penn State didn't kick any doors in Saturday against Southern Methodist, like Houston did against the Pittsburgh Steelers Thursday night. But the Lions did knock some screens in.

After a "calm" halftime scolding from coach Dick Harter for a passive defensive effort in the first half, Penn State came out raging in the second half, stampeding over numerous Mustang screens.

The Lions (3-0) held SMU scoreless for the first 7:06 of the second session on their way to a 72-50 trouncing of the Mustangs (2-2) before 6,091 Rec Hall fans.

"Basically, coach gave us a licking," said guard Mike Edelman, who was named TCS player of the game for his defensive performance. "We were playing soft. We let them do what they wanted to do. They were setting a lot of screens. It was the kind of way we played last year."

"The adjustment was team-wise, the minds and desires of the whole team. . . . We only had five fouls in the first half, which has to be some kind of record."

— Dick Harter

Edelman heeded Harter's command well as he blanked the Mustang's second-leading scorer, Dave Piehler, in the final half. After Piehler went five-for-seven in the opening half for 10 points.

"Everybody fought through picks in the second half," Edelman said. "We were letting them have the shot from 15 feet. It's kind of an honor to play the toughest player on the other team. But it was a total team effort to shut them down."

With SMU staying behind by just one point at the half, 31-30, primarily because of the outside sharpshooting of Piehler, Harter lectured the Lions for their puppy-like defense.

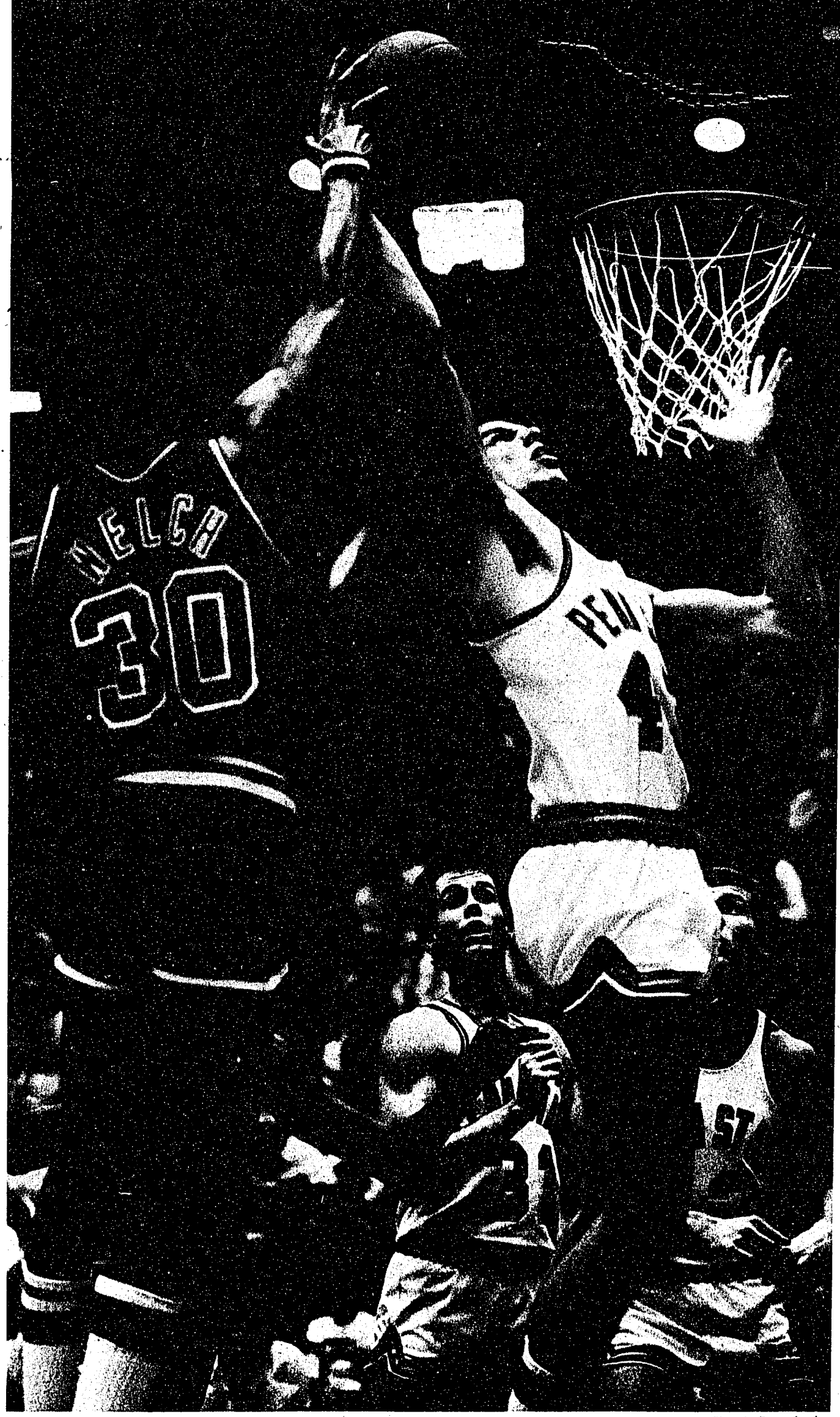
But as the second half began, it looked as though a pack of Dobermans had been unleashed as Penn State attacked and hounded the Mustangs all over the court, limiting SMU to a 21 percent shooting percentage and reeling off 16 consecutive points for a 47-30 lead with 12:54 remaining in the game.

"He (Harter) was a little calm, a little upset," said forward Mike Lang, who again led the team in assists with five.

"It was something we really needed. Putting pressure on the ball changed the tempo."

Harter said. "The adjustment was team-wise, the minds and desires of the whole team. We were giving them too much room. We only had five fouls in the first half, which has to be some kind of a record."

Lion captain Frank Brickowski set a record of his own as the 6-10 pivotman scored a career-high 22 points, including



Penn State center Frank Brickowski pulls a rebound away from SMU's Gordon Welch in the Lions' 72-50 victory over the Mustangs Saturday in Rec Hall.

Fetter success, as a guard not just a tall tale

By WILL PAKUTKA
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

There are only two places left for the short man on a basketball team.

The first, and most popular, is on the very end of the bench, next to the sweaty towels and starters' warm-ups.

The other is at the top of the key.

Basketball may discriminate against short people more than any other sport, but there was always a place for the sub-6-foot-3 guys as point guard.

He might average four points a game and get punched from drawing offensive fouls, but he could stay out there if he was willing — and could come up with 6 assists a game.

Soon all the short guys might be next to the sweaty towels, though. Think Rich Fetter and people like him if that happens.

Fetter is 6-foot-7, which, in college basketball, means forward.

Fetter might not be tall enough to play center for a major college team and by all rights he should be too tall to be a guard anywhere. But that's exactly what he is this season.

Is it working? Fetter scored 18 points Saturday as the Lions won their 10th straight, 72-50 over SMU.

Sorry Willie Shoemaker fans.

"This whole guard thing is not new," Fetter said. "It was recruited by Illinois State and the coach said my best chance to make it was as guard."

That was not the original idea of Dick Harter, though. Fetter was supposed to be a forward for Penn State forever and ever.

Forever and ever ended last spring with the graduation of point man Tim Wilkinson. That left the Lions without a guard and Fetter, who was never above making a behind-the-back dribble or a fancy pass when the opportunity arose, seemed like he might be able to take over.

"I love it," Fetter says of his new position. "I'm going to learn each game because I'm playing against different kinds of players each week."

The move is also a relief to Mike Edelman, who, after two seasons of playing assistant to Wilkinson, can now be called a full-fledged guard.

"Last year Tommy sort of ran things on the floor," Edelman said. "This year, either guard can do it. You feel more part of the game."

And why not? Edelman is even getting more chances to show what he can do on defense now that he's the short man in the backcourt.

"With Rich's height, it's tougher for him to play defense against their toughest guard," Edelman said.

Fetter can play defense. He held SMU point guard Dave Gadsis to four points and one assist Saturday.

Offensively, the move is working even better. Fetter may be 6-foot-7, but he's not a load. At 215 pounds, he can make it down the court quickly. He can pass drive underneath and jam with both hands — like he did twice in the first half against SMU.

"It's all a matter of concentration," Fetter said. "The whole year, if I could keep that concentration, I think I'll be all right."

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