

Sidelines

A brief look at the world of sports

Scores

Baseball

Florida Marlins 5, University of Miami (Fla.) 4

NBA

Boston 121, Charlotte 116
Orlando 116, Miami 112
Atlanta 90, Portland 88
Seattle 94, Detroit 80
Phoenix 117, Minnesota 93
Utah 115, Washington 93
L.A. Lakers 99, Vancouver 80
Sacramento 90, New York 85

NHL

Edmonton 4, Hartford 4, tie
Buffalo 3, Ottawa 2
Boston 3, N.Y. Rangers 1
Philadelphia 4, Dallas 4, tie
Winnipeg 4, Toronto 3
Tampa Bay 5, Los Angeles 1
Anaheim 5, Montreal 2

Schedules

Mmm, baseball

Minnesota vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla., 1:05 p.m.
University of Georgia vs. Atlanta at West Palm Beach, Fla., 1:05 p.m.
Cal St.-Fullerton vs. California Angels at Tempe, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
San Diego vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.

NHL

Washington at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Vancouver, 10:30 p.m.

NBA

Orlando New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Toronto at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Dallas at Denver, 9 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

In brief

Padres, Mets to play in Mexico in August

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Padres and New York Mets are going south of the border for major league baseball's first regular-season venture outside the United States and Canada.

Their Aug. 16-18 series will be played in Monterrey, Mexico, because of scheduling conflicts at Jack Murphy Stadium.

"What began as a scheduling problem evolved into a real opportunity for us to break new ground for major league baseball," Padres president Larry Lucchino said Wednesday.

Frazier reportedly hospitalized again

LINCOLN, Neb. — Former Nebraska quarterback Tommie Frazier is in the hospital.

Suzanne McMasters, spokeswoman at Bryan Memorial Hospital, confirmed Wednesday that Frazier had been admitted but would not disclose details.

The Omaha World-Herald quoted Frazier's mother, Priscilla Frazier, as saying her son was undergoing tests to determine if another blood clot had formed in his right leg.

Frazier was admitted to Bryan on Monday for a sinus infection that worsened during a weekend autograph session in Norfolk, Mrs. Frazier said.

Quote of the day

"I had a chance to sit down and talk and have breakfast with my hero, and we talked hitting and it was just a blast."

Dante Bichette

Colorado Rockies outfielder on his meeting with hitting legend Ted Williams.

Compiled from Collegian staff and wire reports.

Three-Pete tames Wildcats

By MICHAEL SIGIORA
Collegian Sports Writer

With guard Pete Lisicky connecting on a barrage of three-point bombs, Penn State's offense was too much for Northwestern, as the No. 12 Lions turned in a solid performance, winning 78-62 last night before 14,008 at the Bryce Jordan Center.

Lisicky was magnificent throughout, pouring in 29 points on 11-of-14 shooting, including a 7-of-10 effort from downtown, breaking the school record for most three pointers in a season.

The stellar sophomore missed his first attempt of the night but then drained 10 straight, getting off quick shots from various spots beyond the arc.

"It seemed like we were getting great looks off screens," Lisicky said. "I don't know whether to credit our guys with setting good picks or if they just weren't concentrating on stopping me."

But looks are one thing and baskets another. Lisicky had no problem with either category, consistently shooting from long range or driving to the hole.

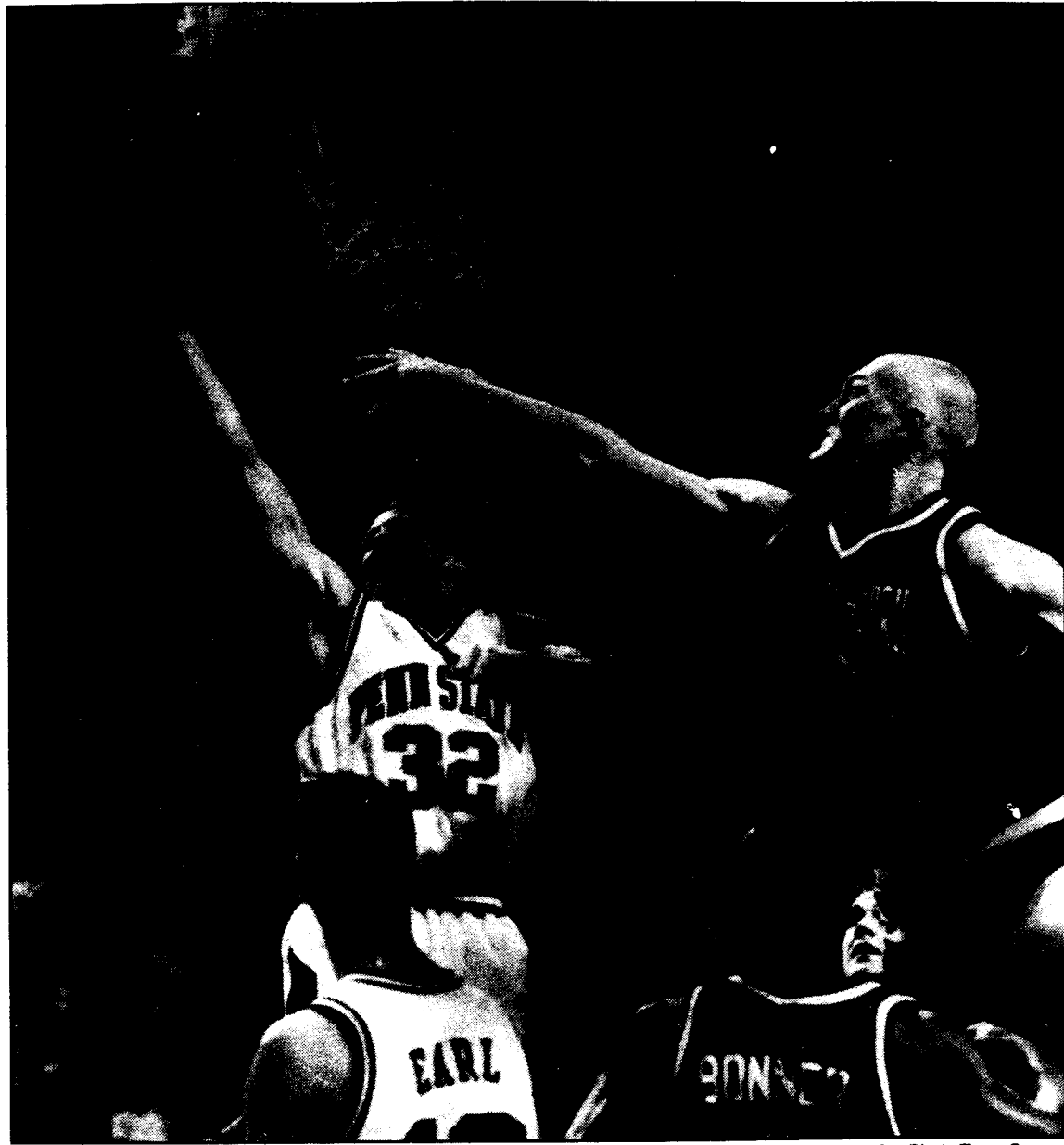
With Penn State (20-4, 11-4) nursing a 12-6 lead early in the first half, the Whitehall native scored 11 consecutive points, first slashing to the basket for a layup and then nailing three consecutive three pointers.

Lisicky headed to the hoop more often than in recent games, but admitted it is not his strength.

"It's something I'm working on and I have been working on," Lisicky said. "If I feel I can do it against a certain player or a certain team, I will. That's not my forte at all. If it's there I'll take it, but I'm not looking to drive."

Northwestern (7-18, 2-14) had no answer for Lisicky, and guard Geno Carlisle, the Wildcats backcourt star, was a non factor. Carlisle entered the game averaging 20 points per game, but Lisicky and teammates bottled up the sparkling shooter, holding Carlisle to just 11 points.

Lion coach Jerry Dunn was pleased with Penn State's defensive intensity, noting that when his team mounted a sizable lead, defenders stayed tough.



Collegian Photo/Tracy Senycz

Lion man-of-the-hour Pete Lisicky lays one off glass and out of the reach of Northwestern's center Dan Kreft (55). Lisicky poured in a game-high 29 points while setting the team season three-point record.

"As a coach you don't want to see mistakes because if done enough, they become a habit," Dunn said. "I thought our guys played very solid defense and for the most part kept Carlisle out of the game."

On the rare occasion when Northwestern's deft guard maneuvered past his initial pursuers, center Calvin Booth proved

a formidable foe. The redshirt freshman recorded five blocked shots, often inspiring the crowd with his defensive antics. Booth also pulled down a career high 12 rebounds.

Wildcats coach Ricky Byrdson credited Penn State for an outstanding effort, and said the combination of Lisicky's scintillating shooting and stifling defense was

just too much to overcome.

"I thought their team defense was excellent. They were intimidating at times and we couldn't get anything going inside," Byrdson said. "We had our drives rejected and Lisicky's three-point shooting broke our backs."

Penn State hopes the combination continues with the NCAA tournament on the horizon.

Cager offense exudes Flex appeal

By DAVID COMER
Collegian Sports Writer

The coaches put in long hours of preparation, often into the wee hours of the morning studying film to learn an opponent's tendencies, for a situation like last night.

Before the Lion basketball team's game against Northwestern at the Bryce Jordan Center yesterday, which Penn State won 78-62, coach Jerry Dunn saw something on tape he thought his team could take advantage of.

It was the way the Wildcats switched on screens in their man-to-man defense that Dunn and his staff noticed. Running the Flex offense, a half-court set involving a series of picks that often produces opportunities in the post or open jumpers from the elbow, would exploit the Northwestern defense. And it did.

Penn State guard Pete Lisicky was the biggest benefactor, finding himself wide open for medium-range jumpers or three pointers. He netted 29 points to help the Lions to their best offensive showing since a 95-point outburst six games ago at Iowa.

"That's something just by scouting we noticed," Lisicky said. "Credit to the big men that were coming down and setting the screens for me and the guys that were getting me the ball in good position. They weren't guarding it well."

Though the Lions got a lot of easy opportunities in transition and out of their regular motion offense, each time the game got sloppy, it seemed as if they turned to the Flex. It settled them down. They would get into the Flex, set their crisp screens, make their sharp cuts and get their open looks at the basket.

At its basic level, the Flex relies on back-screens set on the baseline to get open shots in the paint, preferably layups. But the offense can cause confusion for defenses because the player who sets the back-pick then has a down-screen set for him. Defenders can get lost in the barrage of screens, as the Northwestern players often did.

"I thought we did a nice job executing the Flex," Dunn said. "A guy like (their leading scorer) Geno Carlisle, we want to wear him down and make him guard screens."

The Lions' plan worked. It was devised in the days before the game, when the coaches were in their offices staring at a TV screen watching tape after tape.

"That was a good scouting thing," Lisicky said. "We knew we'd be able to run the Flex against them."

Hall can't hyde both sides of her fiery persona

By GEOFF MOSHER
Collegian Sports Writer

When Ohio State's Katie Smith missed the game-tying freekick on senior night in Columbus, Ohio, it was a freshman who grabbed the last rebound.

Lady Lion freshman Shauntai Hall ripped the board from the air and protected it like a mother does a newborn, preventing the Lady Bucks from winning their final game in St. John Arena.

"No one is getting this thing," the freshman Hall said of the final rebound enabling Penn State to prevail 72-69. "Nobody is taking this thing from me."

It was the biggest game in the freshman's career, yet she played like a veteran who's been there before. Not only was in the game during crunch time, she produced. "I was really happy to be in there in such a big game like this," Hall said.

That's just the attitude the freshman has brought to the Lady Lion basketball program since day one in Happy Valley. Every time her 5-foot-11 frame walks onto the floor, the opponents aren't aware of what lies ahead — but soon feel the wrath.

In only the second game of the season, against St. Francis, Hall played 22 minutes. She lead the team with 19 points on 7-of-10 shooting, including her first three pointer of her collegiate career.

"She came in the game and just took it too 'em," Lady Lion Angie Potthoff said. "That's just an added bonus to her game."

Hall's success hasn't given her supreme confidence yet. She still believes she is a student of the game, surrounded by the best professors.

Hall attributes her clutch composure to being a spectator of those who have lived to tell — namely Potthoff and the seniors.

"I have a lot of work to do, I'm still learning," Hall said. "The college game is a lot of information for a freshman to digest. The seniors have had a big impact on all of the freshman. Without them, I don't think I would have made the transition as well."

Her high school coach, Kamela Meikle, agrees that

Hall has hasn't reached her full potential, which is awfully odd considering she broke almost every school record.

Hall dominated the waxed floors of Albert Gallatin High School in Masontown as a four-year starter. When it was over, she was the school's leading point scorer (1,937) and rebounder (1,193). But she played defense too, compiling 171 steals, 137 blocks and 134 assists to add to her overstocked resume of hard-court accolades.

"Her first step is deadly," Meikle said. "And if you had to play her man to man — you're dead."

Added to her billboard of basketball honors is a 1995 USA Today Pennsylvania Player-of-the-Year, Western Pennsylvania Coaches Player-of-the-Year and Nike All-American status. In her senior year she averaged 30.5 points, 16.7 rebounds, and shot 61 percent from the floor. But even more impressive — she can grab rim.

A player with so much air-time and talent could talk all day about how she dominated this and that, but Hall is the complete opposite. Almost like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde — she's unstoppable in a game, yet subdued off the floor.

"She's a very quiet individual," Meikle said "But she became an absolute terror on the court."

It's no magic potion that gives Hall a split personality, just a campus of 30,000-plus strangers. "I have always been that way. I would be nervous speaking in front of people," Hall said, mentioning her fear of taking Speech Communications 100A. "I'm determined to get out of it."

Hall is destined to become a star and Lady Lion coach Rene Portland said she'll do it the way past Lady Lions have reacted to superstardom — with class.

"She will be one of our great stars," Portland extolled. "And she will do it the way the others have done it. She really fits in to what we want done here at Penn State."

Portland wants winning done at Penn State, and what better person to win with than Hall.

Icers freeze Devils

On the road to a second straight ACHA championship final, Icers topple Arizona State, 4-0.

By JIM IOVINO
Collegian Sports Writer

The No. 2-ranked Icers gave what coach Joe Battista called "one of our best defensive performances of the season" en route to a 4-0 shutout of Arizona State last night. Leading the way for the Icers were seniors Rob Keegan, who scored twice, and Derek Lecours, who stopped all 27 shots he faced to get the win.

Penn State's offense started the game slowly, failing to convert on two power play opportunities in the first period. Luckily for the Icers, Arizona State's offense was just as cold. The teams skated to a scoreless tie at the end of the first.

"We were a little jittery," Battista said. "We made a few mistakes and their goaltender played well in the first. But we calmed down in the second period."

The offense finally started to fire on all pistons four minutes into the second period when senior Chad Markowitz tallied a power play goal on a rebound off a Matt Johnson shot. Just one minute, 30 seconds later, Keegan scored on the power play as well. Assists went to Brent Brower and Rich Martha.

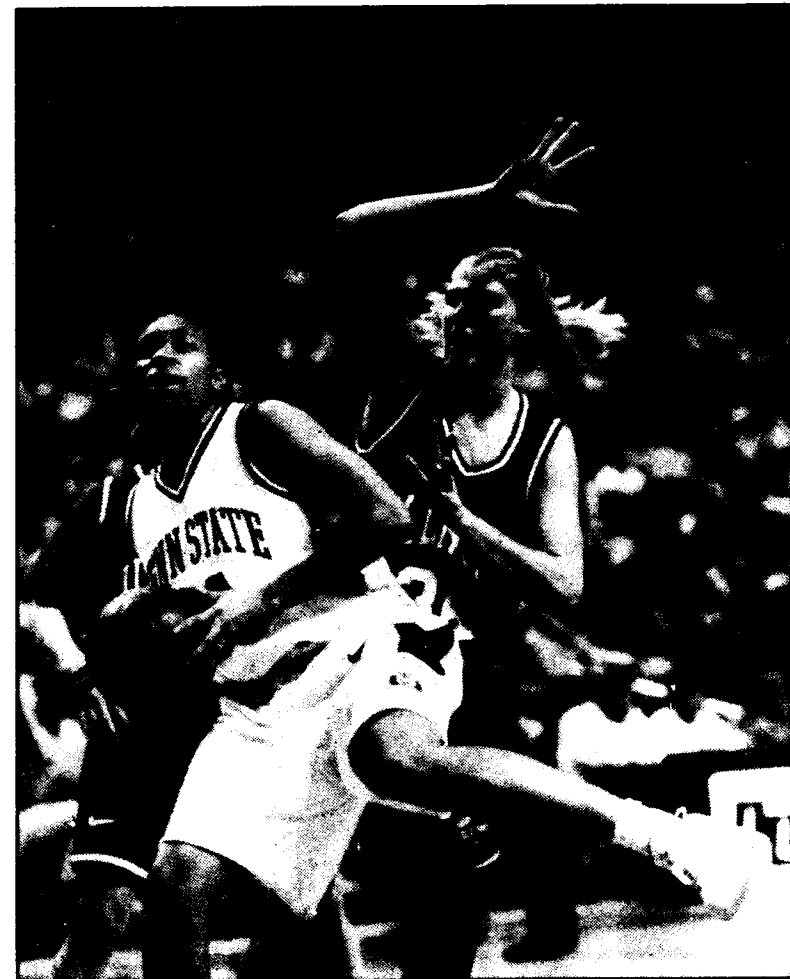
The rest of the second period was controlled by a stingy Penn State defense. Late in the period, the Icers found themselves down by two men, but the penalty killing unit, led by seniors Andrew Barnes and Matt Cavrak, staved off the Ice Devils' attack. Penn State went back to the locker room at the end of the period holding a 2-0 advantage.

"The Crash Line," which was broken up during the second half of the season, returned in grand style at Nationals. The trio of Eddie Kmit, Mike Pietrangolo and Tom Please see ICERS, Page 14.

Seedings for round-robin ACHA National Tournament

- Pool A**
- No. 1 Ohio University (25-2-0)
 - No. 4 Eastern Michigan (24-12-0)
 - No. 5 Michigan-Dearborn (20-15-2)
 - No. 8 Delaware
- Pool B**
- No. 2 Penn State (26-3-1)
 - No. 3 Arizona (22-5-1)
 - No. 6 Iowa State (27-7-2)
 - No. 7 Arizona State

Collegian Graphic/Walter Barrueto



Collegian Photo/Dena O'Hara

Lady Lion Shauntai Hall tears down a board against Illinois on Jan. 26. Hall stepped up at the end of the Ohio State game with a key rebound.