

Lady Icers score four unanswered goals in win

By Christine Newby
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Elmira saw its early one-goal lead disappear as the Lady Icers scored four even-strength unanswered goals to defeat the Soaring Eagles, 4-2 on Monday night.

The victory, which came at the Murray Athletic Center in Elmira, N.Y., gave the Lady Icers an 8-4 record.

The .667 win percentage marks the highest win percentage during the first semester of any season during Mo Stroemel's four years as head coach.

"[An 8-4 record] is where we need to be going into next semester," Stroemel said.

Junior defender Abby Miller tallied her first goal of the season with 9:39 remaining in the first

period. The Elmira goalie was able to get a piece of the puck, but it was not enough as Miller placed the puck glove-side, tying the game at one.

"I got the puck in the neutral zone and shot it between the blue line and the top of the circle," Miller said.

"It was exciting. I haven't scored since freshman year, so it was pretty cool."

With 7:27 left in the second period, sophomore forward Sam Summers deflected junior forward Denise Rohlik's shot from the point to put Penn State up for the first time in the game. Freshman

defender Allie Rothman also assisted Summers' goal.

Just 5:42 later, assistant captain Dana Heller, a Collegian photo staff member, made the score 3-1 after firing a low wrist shot from Summers and junior forward Chelly Deiling.

With 2:05 remaining in the second, captain Sara Chroman, a Collegian business staff member, scored for the Lady Icers.

"[Sara] got the puck and rushed it up ice," Stroemel said. "She put it in under the goalie's arm. It just squeaked in."

Elmira put the puck past freshman goaltender Katie Vaughan with 5:15 left in the third, but Vaughan shutdown the Soaring Eagles by stopping 25 out of 27 shots, while the Lady Icers recorded 41 shots.

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Abby Miller
junior defender

Stroemel said the team looked a little tired at the end of the game.

"We didn't play the best game we've ever played, but we'll take it," Stroemel said.

Stroemel said he will address the fatigue issue with more conditioning during next week's practice, continuing after winter break, the week of Jan. 3.

"We didn't seem to have speed in the first period," Stroemel said.

"In the second, we were much more energetic, but in the third period, we kind of slacked off again."

The Lady Icers did not practice over Thanksgiving break, but the team was back to its regular schedule this week.

"It was hard to not play [over Thanksgiving break] and then go into a game," Chroman said. "But overall, we played well."

Ex-Cowboys QB, 'Monday Night Football' announcer dies at 72

By Jaime Aron
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — Don Meredith was the happiest, most fun-loving guy wherever he went, whether crooning country tunes in the huddle as quarterback of the Dallas Cowboys or jawing with Howard Cosell in the broadcast booth as analyst on the groundbreaking "Monday Night Football."

His irreverent personality made him one of the most beloved figures in sports and entertainment in the 1970s and 1980s, helping turn the Cowboys and "Monday Night Football" into national sensations.

"Dandy Don" died Sunday after suffering a brain hemorrhage and lapsing into a coma in Santa Fe, N.M., where he lived out of the limelight with his wife, Susan, for the last 25 years.

He was 72. A folksy foil to Cosell's tell-it-like-it-is pomposity, Meredith was at his best with unscripted one-liners — often aimed at his broadcast partners.

His trademark, though, came when one team had the game locked up. Meredith would warble, "Turn out the lights, the party's over" — from a song by his pal Willie Nelson.

Meredith played for the Cowboys from 1960-68, taking them from winless expansion team to the brink of a championship.

He was only 31 when he retired before training camp in 1969, and a year later wound up alongside Cosell in the broadcast booth for the oddity of a prime-time, week-night NFL game.

The league pitched the idea to ABC, the lowest-rated network, after CBS and NBC tried occasional games on Monday nights and didn't think it would click. It became a hit largely because of how much viewers enjoyed the contrast of Meredith's Texas flair and Cosell's East Coast braggadocio.

Friends in real life, they took opposite stances to live on broadcasts with their bickering. Meredith usually took the majority opinion, Cosell the minority. Cosell was playing a role, while Meredith was just being himself.

"Watching him on TV was like being in the huddle with Don again," former teammate Dan Reeves said. "He just made the game fun."

Blowouts were their playground. Folks kept watching because of them.

In a 1970 game from Dallas, the Cowboys were headed to a 38-0 loss to St. Louis when fans chanted, "We Want Meredith!" Said Meredith, "No way you're getting me down there."

The Houston Oilers were on their way to a 34-0 loss to the Oakland Raiders in 1972 when a camera zoomed in on a disgruntled fan at the Astrodome. He made a one-finger salute and Meredith quipped, "He thinks they're No. 1."

Meredith was the life of the party in the "Monday Night" booth from 1970 through 1984, except for a three-year stint playing a detective on NBC's "Police Story." He spent 11 of those years teamed with another former star player, Frank Gifford, a friend before they became broadcast partners.

"To say that Don was an instant success would be a gross understatement," Gifford said in a statement.

"For millions of football fans, he would always be the one who topped Howard Cosell with one-liners or a simple 'Come on, Howard.'"

Current "Monday Night" announcer Jon Gruden spoke for many who grew up during Meredith's time in the booth by recalling how he would "sneak downstairs and watch Don and 'Monday Night Football' when I was supposed to be asleep."

Meredith also appeared in more than a dozen made-for-TV movies, specials or dramas.

He once filled in for Johnny Carson on the "Tonight Show," and was a popular pitchman for Lipton tea.

During his playing days, Meredith recorded his own country music single. Former teammate Walt Garrison pulled it out Monday and proudly read the names of the songs: "Travelin' Man" on one side, "Them That Ain't Got It Can't Lose" on the other.

He was the inspiration for the carousing quarterback in the book and movie "North Dallas Forty," written by Pete Gent, a former Cowboys teammate and good friend.

"He loved life, he loved people, God bless him," Garrison said. "When he walked into a room, he took it over ... You couldn't be sad around Joe Don very long. When you left, you'd come away laughing."

Meredith left "Monday Night Football" a year after Cosell and soon retired from the spotlight altogether.

He just didn't want to be famous any more.

His absence meant younger generations have only heard "Dandy Don" stories — including current Cowboys coach Jason Garrett, who wore Meredith's No. 17 when he was a Dallas quarterback.

"It was a coincidence, but I always made the connection," Garrett said.

Joseph Donald Meredith was born April 10, 1938, and grew up in the Northeast Texas town of Mount Vernon.

He was a natural athlete. He scored a record 52 points in a high school basketball tournament. At Southern Methodist University, he was All-America quarterback in 1958 and 1959. His popularity in Dallas was part of why the Cowboys signed him to a five-year personal services contract before formally getting an NFL franchise.

Meredith's second career in

"You could've heard a pin drop. Then coach Landry walked in and he peeled it off. It looked so real! He had a makeup artist put it on. We all wanted to choke him to death for scaring us like that. But we all just cracked up."

Dan Reeves
Meredith's former teammate

entertainment obscures what a great quarterback he was.

Meredith took a team from 0-11-1 in 1960 to within minutes of reaching each of the first two Super Bowls.

"You look at all the expansion quarterbacks and most of them have been forgotten about, but he was able to take us to the championship game," said Reeves, an NFL head coach for 23 seasons. "I've been around some outstanding quarterbacks: (Roger) Staubach, (Craig) Morton, (John) Elway, Phil Simms.

"All those guys had some of the same traits as Don, but you'd never get all the traits Don had in one package."

He took his lumps until surrounded by better players.

"Broken noses and collarbones and ribs, everything you can think of, Don had it," said Lee Roy Jordan, his roommate for many years.

Meredith's free spirit never meshed with coach Tom Landry, which led to a love-hate relationship with fans.

But the coach and quarterback then realized they needed each other.

The turning point in their relationship came midway through 1965, when Landry cried in front of the team after a loss that dropped them to 2-5.

He then recommitted to Meredith and the Cowboys finished 7-7, their first non-losing season.

They went to the Playoff Bowl, a meaningless matchup of runners-

up, then advanced to the NFL championship game the next two seasons.

Dallas narrowly lost to Green Bay both times.

Meredith threw a late interception in the first one. The second was the "Ice Bowl," one of the most memorable games in NFL history, won by the Packers on a quarterback sneak in the closing seconds.

Meredith showed up for the 1966 title game with his face covered in stitches.

He told everyone he'd been shopping with his wife, got tripped and went through a plate-glass window.

He couldn't play. "You could've heard a pin drop," Reeves said.

"Then coach Landry walked in and he peeled it off. It looked so real! He had a makeup artist put it on."

"We all wanted to choke him to death for scaring us like that. But we all just cracked up."

Dallas lost in the first round of the playoffs in 1968, with Meredith throwing three interceptions and eventually getting replaced by Morton.

That game turned out to be his last.

Susan Meredith said she and her daughter were at Meredith's side when he died.

A private graveside service was planned.

Susan Montoya Bryan in
Albuquerque, N.M. contributed to
this report.

Speed

From Page 8.

recovers from a concussion, Paterno said keeping up with the Cats' offense — one he said can put up 40 points if Penn State doesn't play well — remains the focal point.

Paterno said Alabama was the closest comparison to the speed the Lions will face against Florida, and he quipped last season's sloppy conditions at the Capital One

Bowl leveled the playing field against LSU.

But would Paterno be fortunate enough to have a quick team slowed by the weather two years in a row?

"The good Lord took care of us [last year]," Paterno said. "It rained like the dickens and it was soft and slow and it gave us a shot at it. Now, if I get it to rain and the field will get nice and sloppy, maybe their speed wont be quite as prominent of a factor as it can be."

Not knowing the certainty of the Gators' situation at quarterback means Paterno's defense will need to prepare for all three, something he looks to get started game planning for right away.

Looking for tendencies with the three quarterbacks, plus stressing assignment-sure, fundamentally sound technique with his defense reminded Paterno that something will have to give one way or another.

"We are dealing with people. We are not dealing with inanimate

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Joe Paterno
coach

objects," Paterno said. "We're dealing with people, and maybe there's a kid that does something in the clutch here or there that

might be helpful to us and we'll try and find that out."

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Bowman

From Page 8.

Mount St. Mary's at 7:30 at the Bryce Jordan Center.

Forwards DJ Jackson (neck) and Billy Oliver (headaches) will not suit up after getting injured against Duquesne. With the absence of two top players, Bowman will continue to see more time.

"I'm just trying to do anything I can to help my team win," Bowman said Monday.

Prior to Saturday's game against the Dukes when Bowman was on the floor for 17 minutes, he had a total of 14 minutes through the first seven games, which makes his performance against

Duquesne all the more surprising.

Lions coach Ed DeChellis will need production from all of the younger bench players, especially the guards. DeChellis plans to redshirt 6-foot-8 freshman forward Jonathan Graham, leaving starters Andrew Jones and Jeff Brooks and walk-ons Steve Kirkpatrick and Alan Wisniewski, who hasn't played this season, as the only available forwards for tonight.

DeChellis will have to rely on a three-guard lineup for much of the game with the 6-foot-5 Cammeron Woodyard and 6-foot-4 guards Bowman and Jermaine Marshall filling Jackson's role.

"Some young guys are going to get an opportunity to play," DeChellis said

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Wright

From Page 8.

The details and the extent of Wright's injury are unknown, but one thing the Lions can be sure of is the prospect of replacing Wright would be no easy task.

The redshirt sophomore is currently ranked No. 6 in his weight class.

Before ultimately redshirting last season, he was Penn State's first All-American as a true freshman in more than a decade. Sanders said he hasn't given any thought to who might take Wright's place if need be, but he may have to "be creative" if the situation arises.

The Lions have no other wrestlers with experience at 184 this season. But there

are, however, candidates at 174 and 197 that may be able to change weight classes.

Redshirt freshman Ed Ruth, ranked No. 14 at 174, true freshman Andrew Church, who has gone 5-5 this season wrestling unattached at 174, and redshirt sophomore Justin Ortega, who's moved up to 197 this season after competing at both 174 and 184 last year, are all viable candidates.

Though there's still time for Wright to recover if needed before Penn State's next match, a dual-meet against Lock Haven at 2 p.m. this Sunday in Rec Hall, the Lions are hoping his injury isn't as significant as it appeared.

"If it was serious it'd be a great loss," Wade said.

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Forwards

From Page 8.

Oliver and Jackson left the game. Playing three guards for the final stages of the game, the bench stepped up and senior big men Drew Jones and Jeff Brooks were able to play the majority of the game.

DeChellis expects to use different combinations of players while likely dropping Brooks to the four spot, a change for the forward who usually plays transition defense and covers the weakside.

Brooks is not alone as DeChellis said everyone needs to produce.

The coach said he plans on using a few players in different roles tonight, depending on how his players performed Monday

"Our frontline guys are going to need to stay out of foul trouble. It's going to be a total team effort."

Ed DeChellis
coach

in their only day of practice.

"We need to overcome 12-13 points from Billy and D.J. and eight or nine rebounds," DeChellis said.

"Our frontline guys are going to need to stay out of foul trouble. It's going to be a total team effort and everybody needs to play and chip in."

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Lucas

From Page 8.

gets on the floor, she has a shooter's mentality and a scorer's mentality," Washington said at her weekly press conference last week.

"That is if you give her room, she's going to let it go and she believes it is going in." Lucas hasn't started a game yet this season, but is the first guard off the bench, usually replacing Bentley as point guard.

While not a natural point guard, the freshman has shown flashes of playmaking ability.

Against Texas Tech, the guard weaved through the lane and completed a wrap-around pass to a wide-open Julia Trogele on the baseline.

But, in order to successfully make the pass, Lucas had to run into a stationary Tech defender and the freshman's momentum sent both to the ground, resulting in an offensive foul.

Washington said Lucas has been successful this season because of her shooting confidence.

Even in the Hartford game, Washington said the freshman didn't play differently than usual, Lucas just made her shots and Washington made sure to note the team needed all 27 of the guard's points.

"She's not somebody you have to encourage to keep shooting," Washington said.

"She doesn't care if she misses five in a row, she thinks the next one is going in."

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