

Sports

Men's basketball team defeats Canadian team in exhibition match

Lions roar to a 23-point victory over visiting Ryerson in 'The Pit'

by John Musser
Collegian Sports Editor

If Sunday's exhibition game was any indication of what the '89-90 season will bring for the basketball Lions, the excitement isn't the only thing that's back. The scoring and the winning should also return.

Despite a slow start, the men's hoopsters eventually wore down Ryerson Polytechnical Institute of Canada and eventually outdistanced them in the second half to win, 112-89. Sophomore guard Jeff Cowan sparked the Lion's offense, nailing three three-pointers and collecting a game-high 25 points.

Junior forward Rick Demski powered in 22 points and grabbed five rebounds. Randy Baughman added 15 markers while Moise Pringle snared seven boards.

Coaches views

Basketball Coach Doug Zimmerman said he saw positive and negative aspects about his teams performance.

"I thought we did some things well, and some things we didn't do so well," said the seventh year coach. "We had some problems early, but we adjusted to them and played well after that. I thought we did a good job of matching up. Usually the first game is rough."

Zimmerman was not happy

with the number of fouls that were committed. "We need to keep people off of the foul line. We need to be better with the fouling. We had too many fouls where people weren't moving their feet and were reaching in."

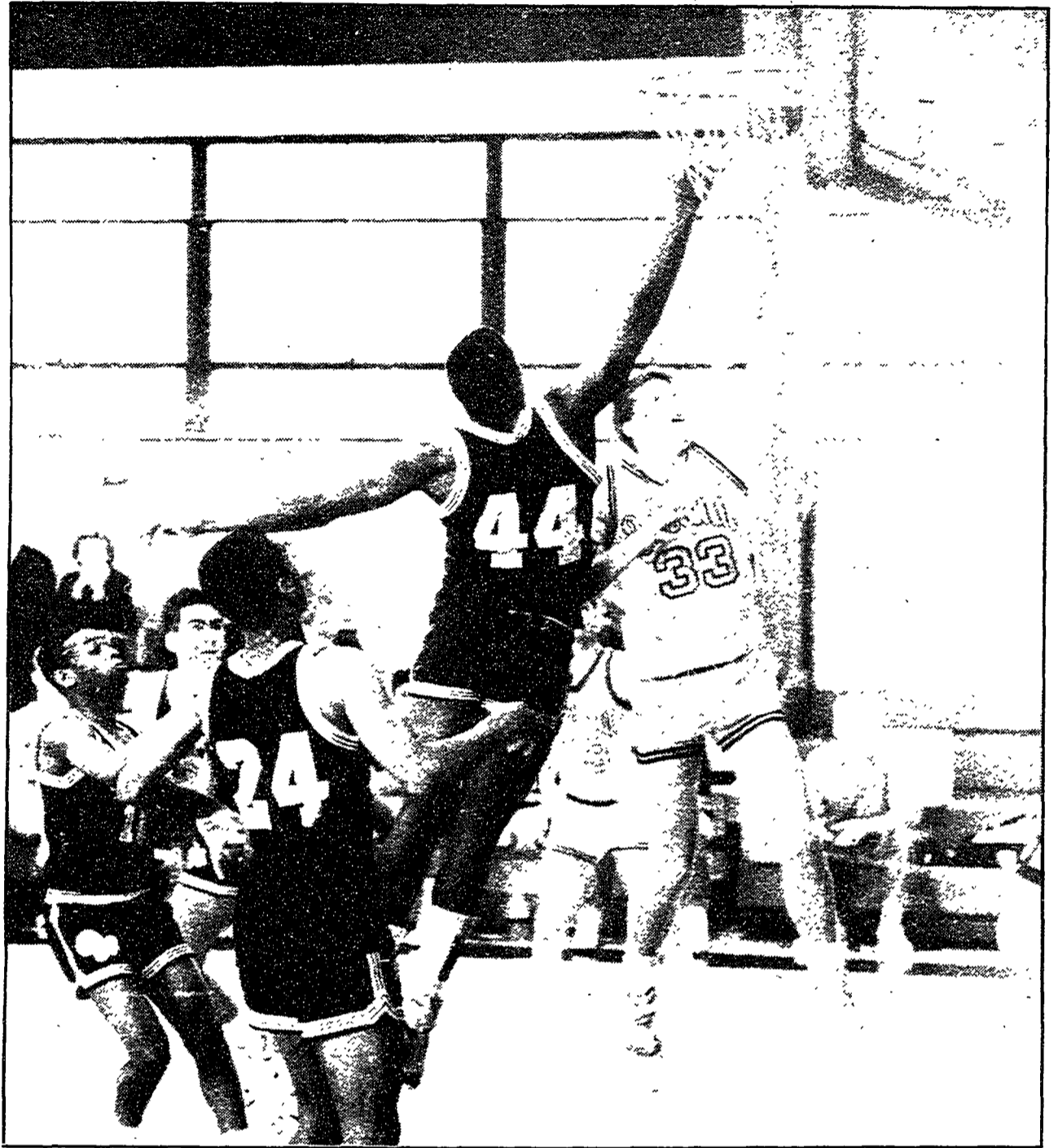
He also wasn't pleased with the Lions inability to finish off Ryerson. "We couldn't deliver the knockout punch. We would get up 16 points and then turn the ball over a couple of times. We really didn't put them away until about six minutes to go in the game. That was probably the thing that disappointed me the most."

That isn't to say that Behrend played poorly. "Stat-wise, it was a good scrimmage. One of our goals is to shoot over 50 percent and hold the other team under 42 percent, which we did. Another goal is to shoot 75 percent at the foul line, and we shot 72. If we continue to get these goals, we should be all right."

One of the brighter points of the game was the play of the bench. Last year, when starting forwards Demski and Pringle got into foul trouble, their replacements couldn't produce the quality play of the starters.

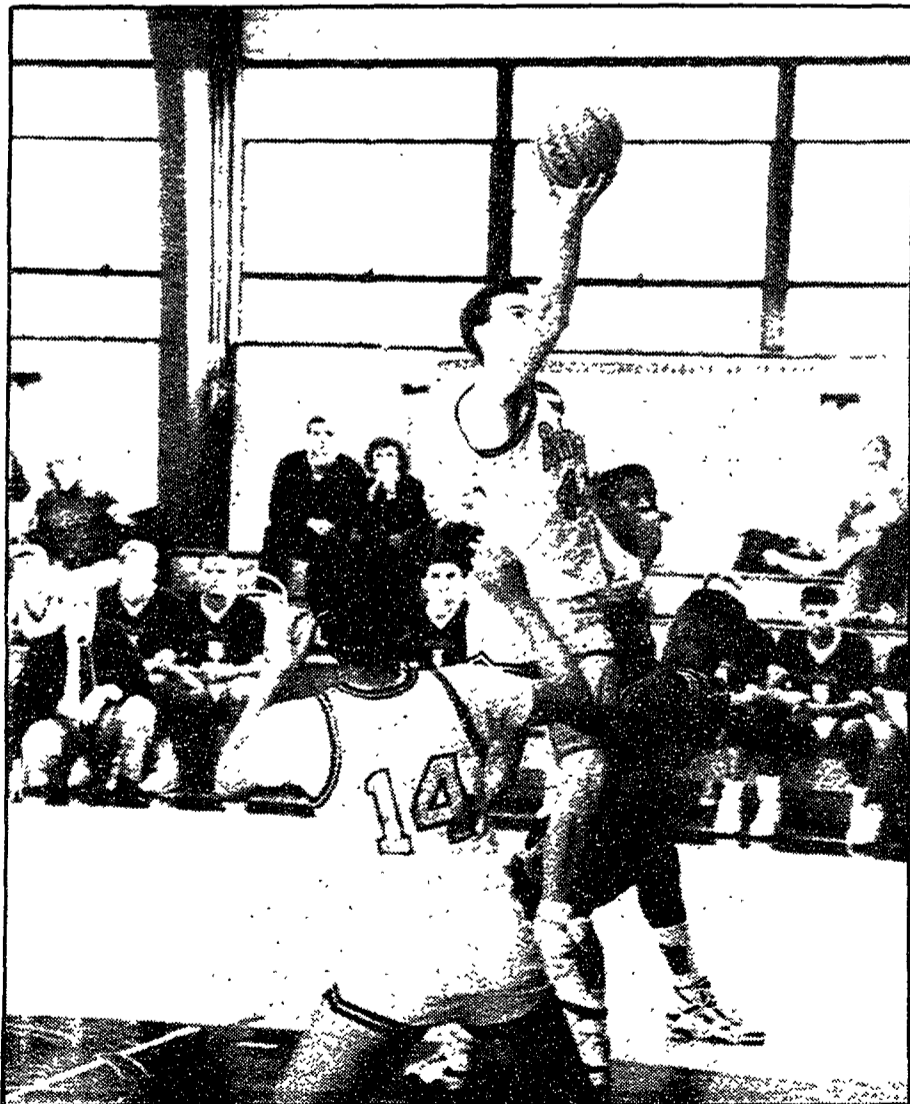
"Rich Buzalka and Steve Cooper played well," said Zimmerman. "Steve's fundamentally sound. He can score with either hand inside.

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Photos by Rick Brooks

Coop goes inside: Freshman forward Steve Cooper shoots the ball over Ryerson's six-five forward Peter Thomas. Cooper had an impressive game, scoring 13 points off of the bench.



Going in strong: A Ryerson guard takes a fall as six-five junior Rick Demski goes to the hoop for two.



Who's open?: Sophomore guard Jeff Cowan looks to pass while eluding Ryerson guard Bill Price. Cowan lead all scorers Sunday with 25 points.