

Sporting View

Injuries hamper the last-place Cavaliers

by John Musser
Collegian Sports Editor

Some thoughtful tidbits for my final column of the semester, maybe ever:

- How bad are the Cleveland Cavaliers right now? A quick look at the NBA standings Monday morning showed the Cavs were in the Central division basement, one game behind the expansion Orlando Magic.

- Somebody want to explain the NFC's central division to me? Before the season's start, the Minnesota Vikings and Chicago Bears were supposed to dominate the division. Well, the Vikes are right there at the top, but the Bears have completely fallen apart.

- The biggest surprise, however, has to be the performance of the Green Bay Packers. The "Kardiac Pack", led by QB Don "Magic Man" Majkowski and superb wideout Sterling Sharpe, have scored several upset and last-minute victories to tie for the Central lead with the Vikes at 8-5.

- Speaking of the Bears, do you think Mike Ditka will still be coaching in Chicago if he doesn't get his team into the playoffs? I doubt it.

- West Palm Beach is not only leading the Southern league of the Senior Pro Baseball League with an 18-8 record, but they have posted the best won-loss mark in the whole friggin' league so far. Are you as glad to know this as I am?

- It finally happened. Pittsburgh Penguins Owner Edward DeBartlo gave General Manager Tony Esposito and Coach Gene Ubriaco their walking papers on Tuesday.

This shouldn't have come as a surprise, especially to those loyal three or four people who actually bother to read this entire column. On November 16, I wrote something about Coach Gene and GM Espo not lasting till the same time next month, barring divine intervention.

Obviously, Gene and Tony haven't been saying the right prayers before bedtime.

- Everyone reading this raise your hand if you think that the Heisman Trophy, annually given to the best collegiate football player in the nation, is the most overrated, overhyped, and over-publicized award in all of sports. Its good to see I'm not alone.

- At last.

I imagine that these words or something similar to them were among the first to come out of Sandy Alomar's mouth yesterday. Alomar, the sensational catcher for the San Diego Padres who has been banished to the minor leagues the last couple of years toiling behind the Padres starter, Benito Santiago.

You see, the Cleveland Indians were looking to get rid of disgruntled outfielder Joe Carter, and the Tribe has been shopping him around at baseball's winter meetings in Nashville, Tenn. The chance for Alomar to prove himself in the Bigs has been long awaited. In case you didn't know, Mr. Alomar has the dubious distinction of being voted Minor League Player of the Year for the past two years.

- This is almost as bad as "Jason meets Freddy in Amittyville XXII." No, I'm not talking about some freakshow on MTV or Cinemax.

What I'm talking about is "Uno Mas", the celebrated third and final (Yeah, yeah, like heck it is) bout between Sugar Ray Leonard and Roberto "Hands of Stone" Duran.

This bout is a perfect example of the joke that boxing has become, and the people who pay to attend the events or watch them on a pay-per-view basis aren't laughing (If you just blew your week's paycheck on a bout between two guys older than your parents, you wouldn't be all that happy either).

Former O's owners hope to bring pro ball to Erie

Few franchises looking for teams

by Steve Jason
Collegian Staff Writer

Although hopes for a professional baseball team in Erie may not be answered soon, club owners Bill McKee and John Wendell are working hard to bring baseball back to the city.

Baltimore Orioles general manager Roland Hemond announced in August that the player contract with the Erie Orioles had been terminated. The reason given was that the locker room facilities at Roosevelt school used as the team's clubhouse weren't up to organization standards. Many people, including the club owners of the Erie O's, Bill McKee and John Wendell, have been searching for the real reasons and a possible solution to the dilemma.

It appears that the problems actually revolved around the fact that the parent organization had two class A affiliates. The club in Blue Field, North Carolina, was more profitable and played a full-season schedule as compared to the half-season, 70-game

schedule that the Erie O's played in the New York-Penn league.

For McKee, Wendell, and general manager Tom Lindemuth the timing of the player-contract termination couldn't have come at a worse time. With only two days of notice before the renewal deadline for club affiliation, almost every major league team had secured their minor league contracts.

Although affiliation with another major league club appears to be nearly impossible for next summer, 1991 is still a possibility. McKee, Wendell, and Lindemuth were unavailable for comment as they are currently exploring this option at baseball's winter meetings in Nashville, Tenn.

Other possibilities for the upcoming summer include running the team independently with no affiliation or as a co-op with pitchers and position players coming from two or more major league franchises.

An announcement of the organization strategy for next season is expected sometime later this month.

Sports Schedule

Men's Hoop

12/9 at Bethany
12/19 at Baldwin-Wallace
1/2-3 Allegheny Tourney- at Allegheny College
1/6 Grove City*
1/11 Geneva College*

Women's Hoop

12/8 at Washington and Jefferson
12/29-30 Hiram Tourney- at Hiram College
1/4 Dyke College*
1/6 Westminster College†
1/8 at University of Buffalo
1/11 Geneva College†

* Game time is 8 pm.
• Game time is 7 pm.
† Game time is 6 pm.

Men's hoop squad drops to 3-2 after road loss

(continued from page 14)

Again Coach Zimmerman was pleased with his offense. However, he stated that Behrend's defense had to tighten up. The opposing team's field goal percentage was too high.

Behrend's record now stands at 3-2. Last night, Behrend started a long string of away games, beginning with the Gators of

Allegheny College. Behrend's next home game is January 6, when the Lions entertain the Grove City College Wolverines in "The Pit." The Wolverines, a 20-game winner and play-off qualifier last year, are led by Fairview product Kevin Hess, a six-foot six center.

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