

Sports Bits

by Matt Cissne  
The Collegian

SAD: This weeks Sports Bits starts with a pretty sad commentary on our society. Cincinnati Red's owner, Marge Schott, has admitted to using derogatory terms including the words "money-grubbing jews" and "nigger" to describe people that work for her and to describe some of her players. I am aware that we live in a racist society, but I feel that someone with a position in society as prominent as a national sports franchise owner should keep her ignorant comments to herself. I know that it is well within her first amendment rights to say whatever she wants at anytime, but her hiring record (one minority out of 45 in the front office) shows that she is biased in more than just words. I hope that the other owners and major league baseball take severe action against Schott. If they don't make her step down from her position as controlling owner of the Reds, I hope that the citizens of Cincinnati boycott the Reds and the incredibly ignorant Marge Schott.

MY PICK: This week I am sure of my pick. The Philadelphia Eagles, favored by 4.5 points over the Minnesota Vikings, will win to solidify their playoff hunt. The Eagles return home after a heartbreaking loss to the 49ers. Reggie White and Clyde Simmons will both have two sacks in a 17-10 victory.

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Lady Lions strive for NCAA tournament bid

by Joe Mottillo  
The Collegian

"Desire."  
That was Coach Jenepher Banker's answer when asked how to sum up the 1992-93 Lady Lions' basketball team.

"Desire because they know what they want to do and they work hard for that. It's a matter of eliminating mental mistakes," she said.

Coming off of an ECAC championship and a 23-4 record, the Lions have set some very strong goals for this year's team.

One is to get better every game. The other is to get a bid for the NCAA tournament. Something they weren't given last year even though they finished fourth in the region.

"Our strength should be experience, but right now it's our talent and working hard," said Coach Banker. "We aren't playing like we should be playing. We need to get rid of the mental mistakes."

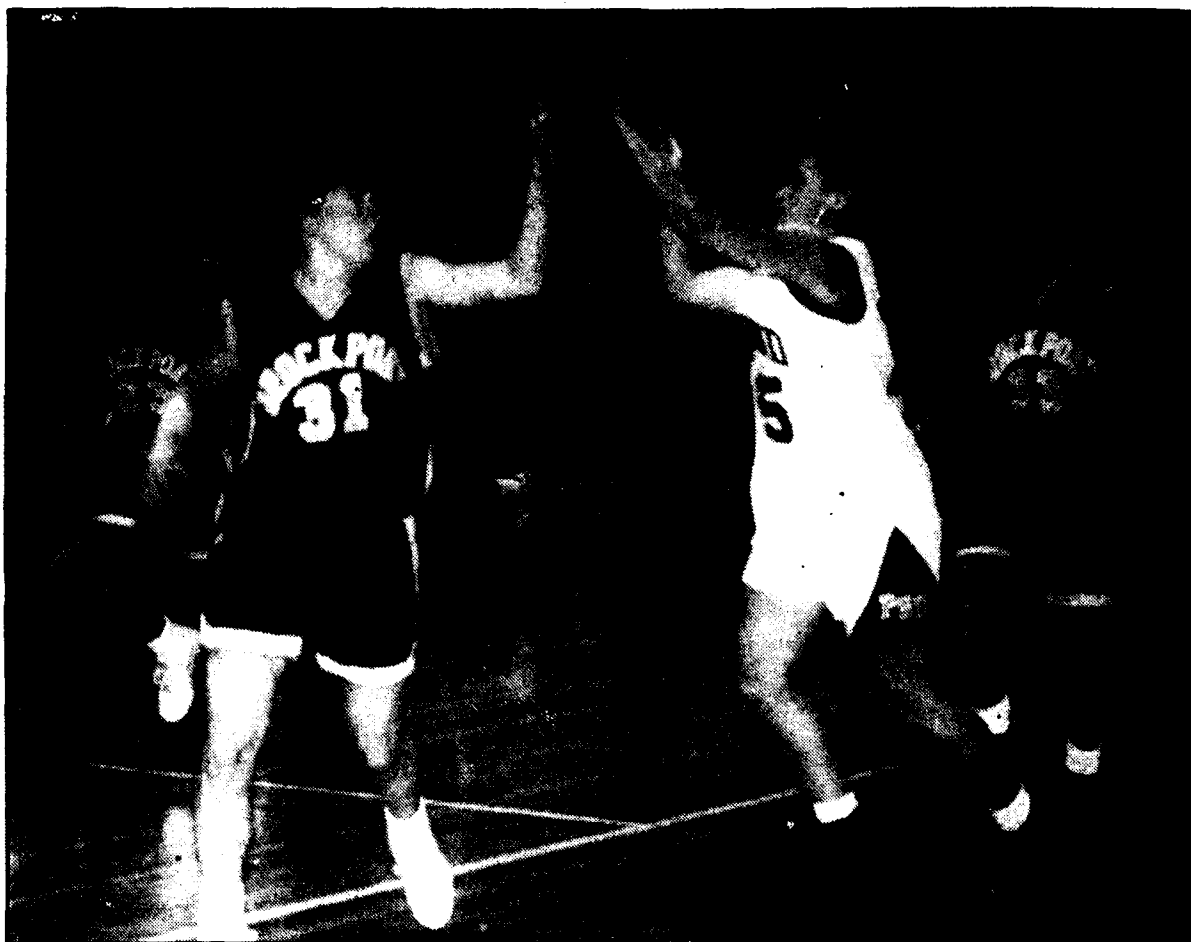
The Lions have already begun the season and are currently 4-2.

On Tuesday night, the Lions defeated D'Youville College 99-31. Behrend out scored D'Youville 42-7 in the second half. All seven of D'Youville's points came from the free throw line as they shot 0-12 from the field.

Freshman Emmy Arnett paced the Lions with 16 points, three steals and two assists.

Thanksgiving weekend wasn't that giving for the Lions as they travelled to Pittsburgh to play in the Carnegie Mellon Tourney.

The Lions first game was against an out-matched Frostburg State team. The Lions rolled over them, 66-45 to move on to the final to face



Amel Balciya/The Collegian

Under pressure: Sophomore Megan Musante passes the ball off in a tournament game against Brockport.

Waynesburg. Junior Krista Hershner led Behrend with 15 points.

The Lions lost 68-63 in the final. Junior captain Wendy Ebinger led Behrend with 16 points.

On November 24, the Lions made the short bus trip, (no Concord jet needed for this one), to Meadville to take on the Lady Gators of Allegheny College. Hershner led the Lions with 20 points as they won 76-60.

The Lions opened the season on November 20 in their own

Arby's/Troyer Farms' Classic at Erie Hall.

The Lion's first opponent was SUNY-Brockport. The Lions pulled away early and had leads in the teens, but Brockport mounted a comeback.

Behrend held off the late Brockport rally to post a 73-65 victory to open the season on a positive note.

Junior Anne Bonner led the Lions with 22 points as they moved on to the finals to take on Mount Union College.

The Lions were unable to successfully defend their Classic

title as Mount Union pulled away in the end to prevail 50-49. Bonner and Junior Becky Swartz led the Lions with 10 points each.

The Lions can avenge their loss to Waynesburg on January 23. "Waynesburg is one of the tougher opponents on our schedule. Our toughest part of the schedule is past us already," said Coach Banker.

The Lady Lions' next home game is tonight versus Hiram College.

Defense key to Lion's success

by Hal Coffey  
The Collegian

With six letter winners returning from last year's 16-12 squad, the Penn State-Behrend men's basketball team is counting on experience and their main focus, defense, to carry them far.

Among the returners are pointguard Don Plyler and defensive whiz Byron Thorne.

Plyler hopes to lead the team in points for the second consecutive season, (he averaged 13.3 points per game last year to lead the Lions), and add more 3

pointers to his arsenal.

Thorne wants to continue to play tough defense while also keeping his shooting percentage around last year's 52% total.

The forward position will be handled by seniors Stephen Respress and Scott Defoggi and sophomore Rob Hunt.

Respress will bring his 4.6 rebound per game average to the power forward position where he'll try to add to last year's 8.5 points per game average.

Hunt has added strength and size to help him better his 3.3 rebounds per game.

Defoggi should help add to this fearsome forward trio.

The bench is deep with sophomores Steven Berger and John Hawthorne and senior Tim Cook.

Berger will add an extra dimension to the forward role. Hawthorne and Cook will come off of the bench to solidify the guard position.

Hawthorne's excellent ball handling skills, and Cook's energy and defensive powers should help keep the team strong.

Even after the team's slow 1-3 start, the team is pumped for this

weekend's Hamot/Integra Bank Classic at Erie Hall.

The field for the tournament is Defiance College, Methodist College, Hilbert College and Behrend. The action begins Friday at 6:00 p.m. when Defiance takes on Methodist. At 8:00, Behrend tips off against Hilbert. The consolation and championship games are Saturday afternoon at 1:00 and 3:00 respectively.

By winning the first place trophy, the team might be able to get back on track and continue pushing towards their preseason goals.