

Blue Hens await West Chester

By JONATHAN FEIGEN

Finally, it's time for Delaware football.

No more pre-season or two-a-day practices, just game week and then the Golden Rams of West Chester in the Delaware Stadium.

"Finally, we can start rolling," said senior cornerback Mark Howard.

Indeed the Golden Rams would seem to be a perfect opening day opponent for the 1980 version of the Blue Hens.

"You can't be national champion if you can't kick around your own block," said Coach Tubby Raymond.

The "backyard rivals" have played whipping boys for the Hens most of the last 20 years, Delaware winning 17 of the 21 meetings.

"Realistically, they are not a major threat," said massive tight end Phil Nelson. "But they are in the way so we have to take care of them first before moving on to bigger and better teams. Besides, we're always fired up for the first game."

Raymond agreed.

"It's a good opener," he said. "It's a traditional backyard rivalry to bring people to the stadium. It's always exciting to play West Chester."

Raymond plans on starting "experience across the board," beginning with quarterback Dutch Hoffman who transferred home after starting from West Virginia.

"Someone has to start," said Raymond, "and as of now we'll start with Hoffman. But by no means is this thing settled," he cautioned.

Raymond based his decision on the fact that "Hoffman has demonstrated stability that the others haven't."

In the backfield Tubby is going to "go with the hot player" starting with

returnees Gino Olivieri and Ed Wood at the halfbacks and Hugh Dougherty as fullback in the Delaware wing-T attack.

But the halfback position is also "far from being stabilized" according to the coach. Raymond plans on using Cliff Clement and sophomore Rudy Brown at halfback.

It appears likely that Raymond will substitute freely throughout the game.

"We are forced to experiment," he said. "You can evaluate in the spring and in practice, but you must see how they respond in games."

"It's just like the lady and the tiger every year," he continued. "We just don't know how the kids will react."

This would point out one of the advantages of starting the season with West Chester. Last year the Hens put on a clinic and Raymond played four quarterbacks and nine different running backs to "develop depth for the 11 game schedule" and help sell programs.

West Chester's strongest point may be on the defensive line, where tackles Dwight Henninger and Dan McShane are 6-3 and 6-4 respectively. Both seniors tip the scales at 260 pounds. Senior nose tackle Dave Nolan returns to further challenge the Hens offensive front.

"It will definitely be a tough task to move the ball against that line," said Raymond, almost forgetting the progress of his huge offensive line.

"John Boc (who will face Henninger tomorrow) has improved more than any one player on the team," said Raymond. Center Pete Mill is bigger and stronger than "three year starter" Mike Donnalley, and Mark Mellilo is comparable to Herb Beck who was all-American last

season for the Hens)." Garry Kuhlman and Tom Toner return from the offensive line that completely dominated the Rams last year.

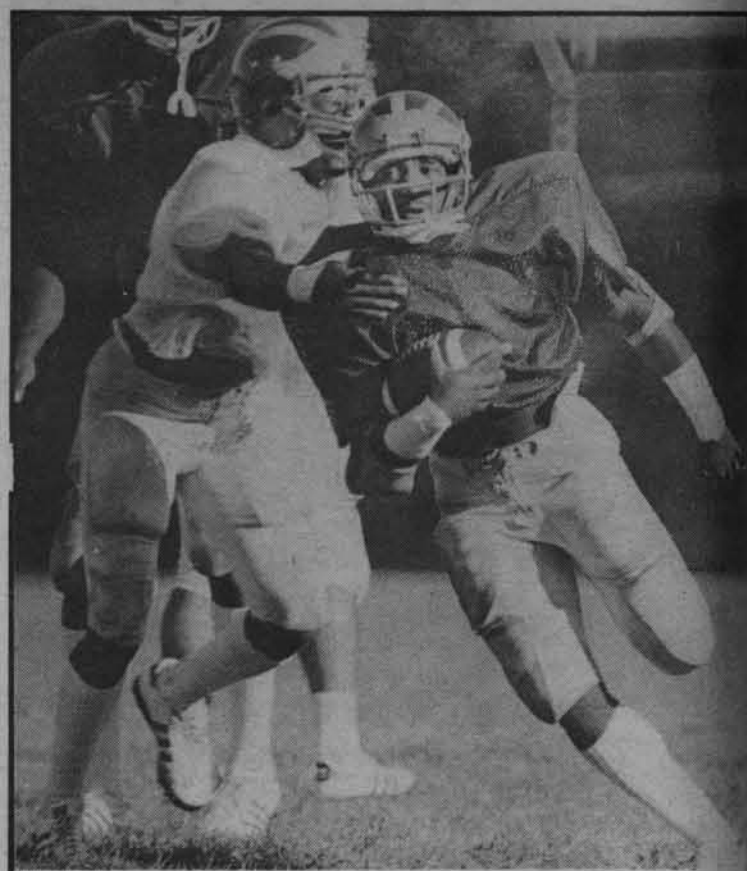
The defense has the potential to be awesome, with Tubby following the same experience formula.

Gregg Larson, Joe Valentino, Ed Braceland and Jamie Bittner will start on the defensive front with lots of experience behind them at linebacker.

Steve Panik will start his third season at middle linebacker, but sophomore Ron Rossi has been pressing that starting job. K.C. Keeler will start at left linebacker with Will Rutan manning the right linebacker position.

The defensive backfield is a mixture of youth and experience. Seniors Mark Howard and Bob Lundquist at cornerback and strong safety respectively combine with sophomores George Schmitt at the other cornerback post and Bill Maley at free safety. Maley is the son of Hen defen-

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Review photo by Neal Williamson

CLIFF CLEMENT avoids this would be tackler during a practice session earlier this week. The Hens open the season tomorrow at the Delaware Stadium at 1:30.

Field hockey looks strong again

By MARTINA QUILL

Surpassing last year's accomplishments is a test many teams fail, yet the Hens' women's field hockey squad have their sticks geared towards that goal as they prepare for the 1980 season.

Compiling a formidable record of 10-3-2 last fall, the team was invited to participate in the Eastern Regionals. The high point of last season came when the Hens defeated rival West Chester State, 4-1, for the first time in the history of the contest. That game was played in front of a record crowd of 4,268.

According to Head Coach Mary Ann Campbell, the strong caliber of the team re-

mains undiminished. Seniors Sandy Kline and Martha Dell were the only varsity players lost to graduation.

The entire forward line is intact from last season. Senior forward Debbie White along with sophomore Sharon Wilke return to the varsity. Junior forwards Susan Samuel and Carol Miller will also be sharing goal scoring duties.

Sophomore midfielders Lisa Blanc and Kathy Hudson are also veteran varsity performers. Filling the back positions for another season are junior Karen Stout and senior Patty Wilkinson.

According to Campbell, Anne Brooking, a transfer student from West Chester, has made a very strong showing in pre-season workouts. A defensive player, the junior can alternate as a back or a link.

Other standouts on the squad include senior Suzanne Jones at forward or link, and Michelle Reilly manning a back or link position.

The freshmen made a noteworthy debut at tryouts according to Campbell. Of the 30 team members chosen 15 are freshmen.

Jill Fuchs a freshman from Centereach, New York has looked very promising, said Campbell. Playing at link, Fuchs was her high school and county's most valuable player.

The opposition the Lady Hens face this year is tougher according to Campbell. Division II and III schools, Millersville, Towson State and Trenton have been dropped from the roster. The additions are the University of New Hampshire, Temple and the University of Virginia, all Division I schools.

"The regular schedule alone is a dog-eat-dog battle," stated Campbell, "because there are so many strong teams in our region alone."

According to Campbell, practice, which began Aug. 27, has been going very well. "I'm pleased with the caliber of people, of dedication and of talent," she said.

One weakness on the team may be in the goalie cage. Three year veteran goalie Buzz Harrington is out for the season with a knee injury. Campbell said she will rely on freshman Stacie Indelicato, Theresa Rapposelli and junior Elaine Pomian to fill the void.

Pomian, who normally plays a field position, has been working out well in the goalie post, according to Campbell. She cited the week and a half before the first game as time in which to resolve the problem.

"The standard cliché still holds, there really can't be individual stars. To play a strong game you have to work as a unit," stated Campbell. "We have quickness available at every position, the offense and defense balance well," she said.

"The defense looks very good this year," Campbell said. "There is an added depth and strength. The offense has also been playing well and the combined result looks promising," she added.

"We're working to mold together as a unit now and there's no making predictions or comparisons, we'll just take each game one step at a time," said Campbell.

"I eagerly anticipate the season, but post season play and plaudits take care of

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Review photo by Terry Bialas

JUNIOR CAROL MILLER attempts to maneuver the ball past an opponent in an inter-squad scrimmage as Teammate Sharon Wilkie cuts for a pass.

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themselves, said Campbell. "These girls are winners and they know how to make it happen," she added.

The Lady Hens meet New Hampshire Sept. 20 at 11 a.m. in their first home contest.

Anyone interested in playing intercollegiate women's basketball should attend an organizational meeting on Monday, Sept. 15 at 4 p.m. in 203 Carpenter Sports Building. If you cannot attend, please contact Coach Emory at 738-2723 for information.

Basketball meeting



Review photo by Terry Bialas

DELAWARE FIELD HOCKEY coach Mary Ann Campbell directs her team during a practice session. The Hens open their season on Sept. 20 against the University of New Hampshire at home.

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