

Bowa is slower but he can still play shortstop

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP) — Larry Bowa admits he may be a step slower and a little of the zip could be gone from his machine gun arm. But he insists he has enough left to play as a better-than-average shortstop for the Philadelphia Phillies.

"To be honest with you, after you've played 12 years, you're not going to be the same as you were when you first came up," said the 35-year-old shortstop for the defending world champions.

"Sure, I've probably lost a step and a little bit off my arm," Bowa remarked at the Phillies' spring training camp. "But the fact remains that for the Phillies to win

the National League East, the playoffs and the World Series, they had to be strong up the middle.

"And I feel that I'm still very good defensively, and now do a good job offensively."

The sharp infielder recognizes that age has eroded somewhat the talent that made him a five-time National League All-Star (three times a starter) and enabled him to compile the major league career fielding percentage high.

"For me to sit here and tell you that I run just as fast from home to first as when I was a 22-year-old, I would be lying to you. It's human

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Barness interested in buying Phils

By JOE FERRY
Intelligencer Sports Writer
Bucks-Mont developer and sportsman Herbert Barness has confirmed he is interested in joining a partnership to purchase the Philadelphia Phillies.

"I would be interested under certain conditions," said Barness, a Buckingham resident with offices in Warrington. "But there are so many of them right now, I couldn't enumerate them."

Barness said Ben Alexander, a longtime friend and owner of the Philadelphia Fever indoor soccer team, had contacted him about the possibility of buying the National League baseball team. The Phillies, who won the World Series

in 1980, were put up for sale Friday by President Ruly Carpenter.

"Mr. Alexander is looking into the details," said Barness, who helped sponsor the Whitemarsh Open, a PGA tour event. "But I haven't talked to anyone else about it. I told Mr. Alexander that I would be glad to look at whatever he comes up with."

Barness, who was a part owner of the Philadelphia Eagles along with Leonard Tose until two years ago, said he didn't think buying the Phillies would represent a 'good business investment.'

"I doubt that," said Barness. "But there are other reasons for buying a team. One of them is love of the sport."



Bowa on the backhand

Phils' shortstop Larry Bowa goes into the hole to make a stop of a ground ball during spring training action Monday afternoon in Clearwater, Florida. The

12-year veteran claims he has the ability to be a better than average shortstop for the World Champions.

(AP photo)

Brusstar hopes to break into lineup by taking it slow

CLEARWATER, Fla. — There's nothing wrong with Warren Brusstar that time won't heal. Or so he hopes.

The Philadelphia Phillies' reliever is taking things slow in spring training nowadays to make sure.

Brusstar is going so slowly, in fact, his development is several days behind that of the other pitchers in camp.

"A year and a half is a long enough time to spend with the same problem," he explained. "I don't want to have it again this year."

Brusstar's problem developed during his third year in the major leagues. The right hander was one of the Phillies bright spots in the bullpen when he came up from Oklahoma City in 1977. He had two sparkling campaigns, becoming abonaide stopper.

Then his shoulder began bother-



By
Gene
Snoznik

ing him. It wiped out the 1979 campaign. Half of last year, too.

It's bothering him again.

"I felt fine when I came to camp," Brusstar said. "But after pitching three days in a row it got sore. I couldn't throw anymore. Five minutes and I was done."

The hurler has therefore decided to train in the slow lane. It's a safety precaution.

"I'm in no rush with the thing," Brusstar calmly noted. "I can't afford to be. It bothers me how it's

wiped out so much of what could have been a good career thus far.

"Sometimes I think about it. I wonder how I'll be able to get it corrected."

The 29-year-old thinks he may have the cure for his ills, however. He is working in the same program fellow hurler Larry Christenson is using for all his ailments. There is heavy concentration on a weight training program set up by former major league ace reliever Mike Marshall.

Ironically, Brusstar spent the winter months working hard at other programs as a protective measure against reinjury. But he may have made a mistake, according to manager Dallas Green.

He failed to throw over the winter, and that error may be responsible for Brusstar's shoulder injury popping up again.

"I'm not an advocate of being

shut down over the winter," said Green (pitched with the Phillies, New York Mets and old Washington Senators). "I know the doctors did it to me. It didn't help me."

There is no panic in the quiet Brusstar eyes. "Naw, I'm not worried. I know enough now to know who to go to for help. The only thing on my mind is the time it takes for it to get better."

Green's words should allay those fears: "This is no setback. Nothing has happened yet. Sure, right now he'd struggle to get National League hitters out while the others wouldn't. But it's not a matter of his not making the club."

If the shoulder problem is arrested, the Phils have a potential ace. Before the injury Brusstar was tagged for stardom.

He went 7-2 his first year with a 2.66 earned-run-average in 46 appearances. He followed with a 6-3

mark and 2.33 ERA in 89 innings the following year.

When throwing effectively, Brusstar is a groundball pitcher. He also specializes in keeping the ball in the park. At one time, he had a streak of 104.1 consecutive innings pitched without a home run allowed.

He showed flashes of the old stuff last year when he returned to action at midseason. He picked up a win in the National League Championship Series against Houston, and threw well in the World Series against Kansas City.

"I was around 90 per cent effective in August, I'd say. I had days when I felt I could throw three, four, or five days in a row," Brusstar noted.

Right now, the major holdup is how he comes off his back leg which effects his delivery motion

DePaul regains top spot

By The Associated Press
DePaul, riding a 11 game winning streak, regained the No. 1 position in the final Associated Press college basketball poll for the 1980-81 season Tuesday as Oregon State, knocked from the unbeaten ranks by Arizona State last week-end, slipped to No. 2.

The Blue Demons, who held the top slot for six weeks early in the season, collected 55 of 61 first-place votes and 1,214 points of a possible 1,220 in the balloting by a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters. DePaul, 27-1 and ranked second a week ago, defeated Dayton 84-64 and then-No. 6 Notre Dame 74-64 in games last week. Ray Meyer's team has lost only to Old Dominion this season.

The Associated Press has selected its All-American team for 1980-81. For a look at the team, turn to page 15.

Oregon State, which had held the No. 1 position the previous two weeks, collected five first-place votes and 1,132 points in easily outdistancing Pac-10 rival Arizona State for the No. 2 position. The Sun Devils, who were ranked fifth when they whipped the Beavers 87-67 last Saturday, got 1,073 points.

Louisiana State and Virginia both fell a notch after being upset in post-season tournament play and held the No. 4 and 5 positions, respectively. The Tigers, who were surprised by Georgia 68-60 in the semifinals of Southeastern Conference tournament, got 1,073 points, while the Cavaliers, ambushed by Maryland in semifinals of the Atlantic Coast Conference event, received 929 points.

Blue Demons head UPI list
Coach Ray Meyer's initial reaction upon learning DePaul had bolted into the No. 1 spot ahead of Oregon State in UPI's final basketball ratings was predictable.

"Can I give it back?" he joked. "I'd rather be No. 2 No. 3 or No. 4 until after the NCAA's."

UPI, however, names its national champion based on regular-season performance and Meyer conceded he was pleased with the honor, the second straight year the Blue Demons have come out on top.

The next three teams, No. 3 Virginia, No. 4 Louisiana State and No. 5 Arizona State, were separated by just three points.

Virginia, 25-3 following its loss to Maryland 85-62 in the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament semifinals, accumulated 470 points. Louisiana State, 28-3 after being shocked by Georgia 68-60 in the Southeastern Conference tournament semifinals, totaled 468 points, and Arizona State, 24-3, remained fifth with 467 points despite its convincing triumph over the Beavers.

Rounding out the Top 10 are, No. 6 North Carolina, No. 7 Indiana, No. 8 Kentucky, No. 9 Notre Dame and No. 10 Utah.

In girls basketball

Kozar sparked Palisades

By JOE FERRY
Intelligencer Sports Writer
Palisades girls basketball coach Bob Heinsohn didn't know what to expect at the beginning of this season.

Sure, he had Debbie Hershey, a three-year starter at guard, coming back. And he had talented performers like Tammy Mease, Pam White and Kim Wismer, seniors he knew would somehow fit into the scheme of things.

But Heinsohn knew his team was missing that one little spark, the added dimension it would need to improve on the previous year's 14-11 record and to regain a spot in the District 11 playoffs which had become almost automatic.

Enter sophomore Carol Kozar.

"She made us effective inside," said Heinsohn, whose team's season ended Saturday night with an excruciating overtime loss to West Hazelton. "We're not that good a team shooting from the outside."

Kozar formed one-half of the Lady Pirates' double-low post offense, along with Tammy Mease. Despite her youthful inexperience, Kozar collected 331 points in 26 games (12.7 average), rebounded with tenacity and wound up on the All-Colonial League' first team.

Kozar's presence also helped the 5-foot-6 Mease develop as a player. After scoring only 73 points as a junior, Mease increased her production to 260 (10.0 average), including a season-high 20 during Saturday night's setback. She was selected for the All-Colonial



BOB HEINSOHN
Palisades coach

League's second team.

Kozar and Mease combined with Hershey to provide the Lady Pirates with most of their offense. Hershey wound up as the team's leading scorer with 339 points in 25 games (13.4 average) and, like Kozar, on the All-Colonial League's first team.

"We expected big things from

Debbie before the season began," recalled Heinsohn, who guided the Lady Pirates to their fourth playoff appearance in the past five years. "And she came through in every area. She scored for us, she rebounded and she handled the ball well. She was the center of the team, no question about it."

There was also no question that it was a weird season for the Lady Pirates. They won the first half title with an 8-0 record but then slipped to 4-4 in the second half. In the overall league championship, Palisades dropped a 53-42 decision to Pen Argyl.

"I think we peaked as a team early," admitted Heinsohn. "We played six non-league games, which is more than most other team."

"We got ourselves together in a hurry," he continued. "We got our press and our offense together real soon. Plus, most of our players have one or two things that they do very well. It took other teams a while to figure them out but when they did they were able to take advantage of our limitations."

Still, the 19-7 record (12-5 in the league) Palisades finished with was more than enough for Heinsohn, an eight-year coaching veteran.

"It was better than I expected but not better than I hoped," admitted Heinsohn. "It was a satisfying season. Even Saturday night when we lost, I was disappointed but we had not reason to be ashamed. We played about as well as we can play. That's all I ever ask of my team."



Super soph

Palisades' Carol Kozar (with ball) helped the Pirates to a successful girls basketball season. Kozar is shown here in action earlier this year against Nazareth.

(Staff photo by Gian Luiso)