

Penn State 177-pounder Jerry White (left) rode his way to victory over Lehigh's Mark Lieberman Saturday to clinch the Lions' 18-17 win.

Lightweights lead wrestlers in win

Lehigh's barn burns down early



By BILL KLINE
Collegian Sports Writer

A Penn State-Lehigh wrestling match. Always a down to the wire barn-burner? Always a strategy-filled encounter matching the wits of Lion coach Bill Koll and Engineer mentor Thad Turner, right? Well, they wrestled on Saturday before 6,306 at Rec Hall and the ninth-ranked Lions edged the fifth-ranked Engineers, 18-17.

Only things was it didn't go down to the last bout. And there was no line-up juggling.

Instead, "it was strength against strength and we took it to 'em," said elated Lion 134-pounder Jimmy Earl.

It was Earl and fellow lightweights Mike DeAugustino and Ray Frantz who gave the Nits an early lead, and heavyweights Jerry White and Bill Bertrand who clinched the win for the 8-1 Lions.

Freshman DeAugustino got the Lions rolling with a 5-3 nod over Steve Bastianelli at 118. DeAugustino, takedown, and stalling point before Bastianelli made it close with a takedown with nine seconds remaining.

The gutty Frantz took down Lance Leonhardt, now 15-2, three times in winning 8-7 at 126. Frantz escaped from Leonhardt to start the third stanza, and the Lion junior then led 8-5.

With 44 seconds remaining, national contender Leonhardt took down Frantz. But with the fans on their feet, Frantz didn't permit Leonhardt to score back points and the Nits had a 6-0 lead.

With the crowd roaring again, Earl reversed Bob

Becker increased the Lion lead to 15-5 with a superior nod over Jeff Allegar, 17-9.

At 167, Lehigh's Nils Deacon handled Ashley Swift, 7-2, to slice the Lion lead to 15-8.

But Lion captain Jerry White came through at 177 in a battle of undefeateds. White used a first-period takedown, which he worked for two back points, in soundly defeating Lehigh's super-soph Mark Lieberman, 6-3.

"I was worried about him on his feet," White said. "I didn't want to let him take me down on my back."

Consequently, White rode, rode and rode some more. He controlled Lieberman for 4:10 of the eight-minute bout.

The Nits led 18-8 and all 190-pounder Bertrand had to do was avoid being pinned or superioered by Lehigh's Don McCorkel.

But McCorkel is the East's top 190-pounder and took a 13-1 slate into Saturday's affair. Bertrand wrestled in a smart, defensive bout in losing 5-2.

The Lion lead then stood at 18-11, clinching the upset.

"Coach Koll told me to use my head," Bertrand said, explaining his strategy. "I didn't want to make any foolish moves. If I made a move, it was supposed to be a solid one."

Bertrand's tactics turned out to be life-saving for the Lions after freshman Irv Pankey made his varsity wrestling debut at heavyweight.

Lehigh's Mike Brown, a 15-1 frosh, reversed Pankey at 5:52 and decked him four seconds later.

Frantz's first win gives Lions 'spirit and fire'

By GEORGE WEIGEL
Collegian Sports Writer

Ray Frantz got the momentum on Penn State's side early and it carried over into the heavier weight classes to help Penn State in its 18-17 upset win over Lehigh.

Setting the tempo is a big factor in wrestling says coach Bill Koll.

"When you get that spirit and fire early, it can really make the difference. It just carries over into the other matches," Koll said.

Frantz set the stage for the Lions when he upset highly regarded Lance Leonhardt 8-7 at 126 lbs. Leonhardt had won his last 14 matches in a row.

"That match and Earl's match (134 lbs.) was the difference," Koll said. "That little Ray is too much."

For Frantz, it was his first win of the year after losing three and drawing two. And it was his first college win ever at 126 lbs.

The junior from Franklin won two state championships while in high school but Saturday's match ranks right up there with them, Frantz said.

"States are always nice to have," he added, "but this is definitely my biggest match in college."

The Lion fans had a lot to do with his performance too. "I loved the crowd. Some

people worry about it, but not me. It just gives me more strength every move. The crowd was great," he said.

Frantz has been improving each week and he's been getting into better and better shape every match he wrestles.

But still, he has work to do until he can go 100 per cent for the whole match.

"Ray's the kind of wrestler that has to go all out for eight minutes," Koll said. "He can't sit back and play it cool for awhile like some guys."

"Right now, he's up to where he can go about six or seven minutes, but by tournament time he'll be up to the full eight."

Frantz agreed and pointed to the fact that Leonhardt scored most of his points near the end of the match. He was hampered by a sprained ankle but that's just about completely healed now.

"The coaches have really done a good job getting us ready," Frantz said of Koll and assistant coach Andy Matter. "I give them all the credit."

Koll is planning on continuing the good job as Penn State prepares for Pittsburgh this Saturday. The coach is concerned about a letdown that sometimes occurs after such a big win.

"The mean old coach'll be out there pushing them hard next week," he warned.



Previously-winless Ray Frantz set the tempo Saturday for Penn State with his stunning upset in the 126-pound class, breaking the 14-match winning streak of Lehigh's Lance Leonhardt.

Yank speedskater takes world crown

HEERENVEEN, The Netherlands (AP) — Eric Heiden, an 18-year-old University of Wisconsin freshman, upset all the form books yesterday when he charged to victory in the men's 1977 World Speed Skating Championships in this northern Dutch town.

Heiden became the first American to win the title in the 71-year history of world speed skating competition.

"It's unbelievable. I just can't believe this is true," said Heiden as he came off the track to the cheers of the capacity crowd of 18,000.

The Madison, Wis. teenager totally eclipsed the tough and experienced Norwegians, who had started the two-day event as odds-on favorites.

Heiden broke the track and world championship record to place first in the 500 meter on Saturday, then finished third in the 1,500 meters the same day. On Sunday, he was ninth in the 5,000 meters and third in the 10,000 meters to establish the best aggregate point total.

He led the overall standings from start to finish.

European champion Jan-Egil Storholt of Norway was second and countryman Sten Stensen third.

Heiden clinched the title with a superb performance in the strength-sapping 10,000 meters, the distance where he was expected to lose ground and the Norwegians were expected to romp ahead.

Heiden was paired against defending world champion Piet Kleine of The Netherlands, and this seemed to draw the best out of the young American. He matched his opponent stride-for-stride and won the heat by over a second in 14 minutes, 59.02 seconds. It was one of only three rides under 15 minutes.

"He is a worthy world champion, truly a great rider," Kleine said. "When a youngster can skate that well over all four distances he deserves to win."

Jos Tenman, the Norwegian trainer, said his team was beaten by a superior skater.

"We just weren't good enough," he said. "We hoped for the best but the top sportsman won. I must admit that Eric's victory is a wonderful thing for skating as a whole."

However, Heiden said he didn't think his victory "will have any impact at all in promoting speed skating in the United States."

In an interview with the Norwegian State Radio, Heiden said, "People will read about it in the papers, and probably remember it for a week, but then they'll forget."

Heiden said he trained three or four hours every day, but his studies plus the fact that he has to travel 10 miles to practice on a proper rink, results in less training than he would like to put in.

The 18-year-old sensation said his next goal was the world junior championships, and he said that "after what happened here this weekend, I'll probably be favored to win that."

SConn, Kormann bedazzle gymmen

By GARY SILVERS
Collegian Sports Writer

On Saturday afternoon, the Penn State men's gymnastics team was invited to see a show in New England. Since it couldn't get good seats for "Connecticut Yankee," it decided to go to the University of Southern Connecticut to watch the next best hit in town — The Peter Kormann Show.

And when it was over, State got its money's worth with change to spare, as the Olympian uncorked a brilliant 56-point all-around performance to lead the SConn gymnasts to a 218.45-213.35 victory over the Lions.

"His name alone got him a few tenths of a point in each event," Lions' all-arounder Joe Stallone (51.3) said, "but he did some superior tricks (C-routines) out there, which put him way above everyone else."

Even above State's top cat, Paul Simon (54.6), who for the first time all season, was forced to take a back seat.

"It was the best performance of his life," Stallone said, "and you've still got to give an awful lot of credit to someone who hits for a 9.1 average."

And Stallone better give himself some credit also, for in the last three events, he competed at a 9.12 clip.

"The last three were my best of the year," he said, "but it's a shame the first three weren't good (8.2 in floor ex, 7.45 on

pommel horse, and 8.3 on still rings) or I'd have had a pretty good score."

The freshman wasn't penalized for basic mistakes, however, but rather for something he should be quite proud of — courage.

"Yeah, I tried a couple new moves," he said, "and ended up missing them both. In the floor ex, I did a handspring whip-back to a back handspring to a full twist. And on the horse, I tried a front-in immediate moore."

The horse also caused problems for Kormann (8.8), and as a result, SConn failed in its attempt for a sweep of the meet, losing the event 35.45-34.9.

"The pommel horse is definitely the hardest event," Stallone said, "but even so, there's no way Kormann ever deserved that score. He shouldn't have had more than an 8.2."

Which still would have been a better score than Lion Captain Kurt Pflieger received (7.3) enroute to a last place finish in the all-arounds (49.15).

Erichsen returns with 23 points

Wilkinson 'assists' cagers' win

By TOM McNICHOL
Assistant Sports Editor

In the Penn State basketball team's locker room is a depth chart evaluating the play of the team's members. Under assists freshman guard Tom Wilkinson has a plus-1. That number will be going up.

Wilkinson garnered 11 assists in leading the cagers to a 77-64 victory over Navy before 2,063 partisans at Rec Hall Saturday night. One of Wilkinson's main beneficiaries was senior forward Chris Erichsen, who had 23 points and nine rebounds in 29 minutes of his first home game in over a month.

"Wilk's fun to play with," Erichsen said after the game. "If you get open, the ball's there."

Sophomore center Carvin Jefferson had one of his best games of the year with 17 points and nine rebounds in an aggressive overall performance. He was also quick to give credit to Wilkinson.

"Wilkinson has been our most improved ballplayer," Jefferson said. "He just gets better game after game."

"I don't know what it is with Pflieger," Stallone said, "but it just doesn't seem like he's really thinking out there. He thinks his problems will all straighten out by themselves."

But what about the Lions' problems? SConn broke 36 in four of the six events and mustered a blistering 37.05 in the fifth (vault). The New Englanders proved they are legitimate contenders to strip Penn State of its national crown and with two freshman all-arounders, Mario McCutcheon (52.3) and Wally Miller (50.45), could have the makings of a dynasty.

"Well you can't rule out Oklahoma and Indiana State (Lions' next opponent) either," Stallone said, "but since I haven't seen them yet, I'm only going by what I've heard (both hit 219)."

"But don't count us out. We didn't hit well at all against Southern Connecticut and still came up with our second highest total of the season. And do you know where we'd be if we did? Right there with the other teams."

from the floor in the second half to raise its percentage for the game to an even 50 per cent. With Jefferson and Erichsen leading the way, Penn State outrebounded Navy 37-24.

Coach John Bach was happy with the win and the play of Erichsen.

"We need to win and we need that confidence that comes with a win," Bach said. "Erichsen showed what he can do for us."

Jeff Miller (14 points) and Walt Young (nine points in 16 minutes before fouling out) also handed in good performances for Penn State. Hank Kuzma and Kevin Simmet paced the Navy attack with 14 points apiece. Miller and Wilkinson played the entire game in the backcourt for the Lions. After the game, Wilkinson was tired and happy.

"That's the first time I've played 40 minutes," he groaned. Then he explained his 11 assists. "Everybody was where they were supposed to be," he said. "The forwards were open all night."

Westphal, Phoenix' tenacious guard, sank a floater to give the West a four-point edge, but Pete Maravich connected on a long bomb and McAdoo sank a pair of free throws to tie the game at 122-122 with 1:09 to go.

Phil Smith of Golden State put the West ahead to stay by sinking one of two free throws with 52 seconds on the clock. Then Barry, wrestling the ball away from two East players in a scramble under the basket, came away with his key steal and fed Westphal for a breakaway dunk to make it 125-122 in favor of the West with 38 seconds left.

McAdoo, of the New York Knicks, the only center on the East squad, brought his team within one point by hitting two free throws just five seconds later. And when McAdoo swiped an errant pass 10 seconds later, the East had one last chance to win.

Maravich tried to go one-on-one against Westphal, but when he drove to the basket, the Phoenix guard slapped the ball away to preserve the West's victory.

West halts East in NBA All-Star game

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Rick Barry and Don Buse led a 20-2 third-quarter burst that put the Western Conference in front, then Barry and Paul Westphal came up with key steals in the final minute as the West defeated the East 125-124 in Sunday's 27th annual National Basketball Association All-Star game.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who led the West with 21 points, kept his team in contention during the first half, scoring 17 points as the East moved out to a 68-58 lead.

It was 85-77 before the West went on its winning tear. Barry had six points and Buse four points and three assists as the West took a 97-87 lead, then turned back a furious fourth-quarter East surge.

Julius Erving, who tied East teammate Bob McAdoo for game scoring honors with 30 points, was named the game's Most Valuable Player.

Erving scored 11 of his points in the final 6½ minutes, when the East came roaring back. A three-point play by Erving followed by another basket by the star forward of the Philadelphia 76ers brought the East within two points at 120-

118 with 2:42 to play.

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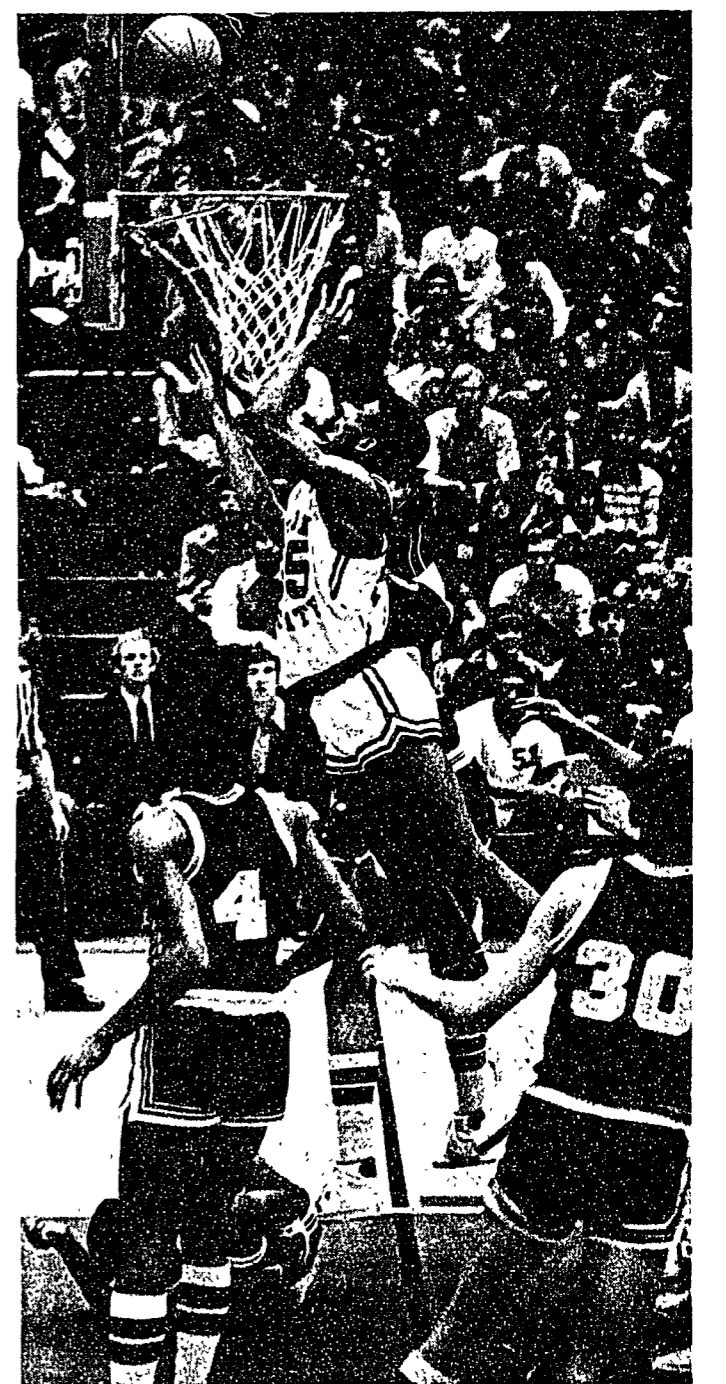


Photo by Lynn Dudinsky

Sophomore center Carvin Jefferson crashes the offensive board in Saturday night's 77-64 win over Navy. Jefferson had one of his strongest performances of the year with 17 points and nine rebounds.

Late scores

HOCKEY
Saturday's Game
Penn State 7, Rutgers 3
Yesterday's Game
Penn State 7, West Chester 3

Tomorrow: Preview of meet between Clarion and Penn State, rated the top two women gymnastic teams in the country.