

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1932

COLLEGE BOXING: ITS FUTURE

With the clang of a timer's bell and a sharp impact of shining, new gloves, the finest college boxers in the nation opened up the first National Collegiate Boxing tournament yesterday afternoon. Tonight eight men who have survived the gruelling two-day battle will be crowned as the champion boxers of America. Not only do these men hold national titles, but they, with the three other semi-finalists in each weight, will have the opportunity to enter the final Olympic tryouts at San Francisco.

Penn State has been proud to extend a welcome to a splendid array of college athletes. It has been the greatest wish of Penn State athletic officials to have in attendance at this tournament every friend and every foe of college boxing. Surely those who believed that boxing has no place in colleges could hardly make such a statement after witnessing this splendid exhibition of skill, combined with the highest type of sportsmanship.

Although plans have not definitely been made to hold this event annually, the success of the tourney this year certainly makes a careful consideration of its possible annual occurrence a necessity. Boxing in colleges is on the upgrade. Its rapidly growing popularity from coast to coast has been little short of phenomenal. Let the men who have been responsible for its success continue to advance its cause. Let them guard religiously the amateur code of the college boxer. Unless college boxing is kept clear of professionalism it most certainly is doomed. If strict amateur regulations are adhered to, under careful management boxing will take its place near the front ranks of American college sports.

EASTERN BOXING RULES

During the twelve years of its existence the Eastern Intercollegiate Boxing Association has made great strides towards placing the fistie sport on a firm footing in eastern colleges. Two drastic changes in the Association rules, however, both put into effect during the last two years, have met with opposition serious enough in its character to threaten the progress of college boxing in the east.

The new rule changes did away with the judges, placing the entire responsibility of decision on the referee, and eliminated the heavyweight class from official league contests. In an effort to accumulate enough information to render assistance in the formation of next year's rules, the COLLEGIAN has conducted a nation-wide poll to determine the consensus of opinion among a wide assortment of boxing officials, coaches, and athletic directors.

The result of the survey has been very significant. It has left no doubt as to the opinion of officials on the heavyweight question. It was a mistake to ban the big men from college ring careers. Pointing out that the danger connected with heavyweight bouts has been over-emphasized, that it is unfair to contestants and fans to eliminate that weight, boxing solons seem to favor the return of the ring giants.

Although officials favored a referee's decision rather than the judges, one very important factor must be pointed out. The reason advanced by a majority of those who thought the referee should be given the entire right of decision was that it is too hard to supply the colleges with competent judges. Is this sound reasoning? With so much at stake shouldn't it be the duty of Association officials to find competent judges? Certainly there are enough men engaged in college boxing to provide the sport with efficient judges.

RING PERSONALITIES

Interesting studies in psychology on why crowds so readily become attached to some boxers and gain a dislike for others were presented in the Olympic matches here.

Throughout the rounds the audience was quick to pick favorites. Although they kept close watch for ring-generalship and clever boxing, spectators responded most heartily to men who showed willingness to engage in risk exchanges and in the more spectacular punches. As is always true, the most popular boxers were relatively obscure fighters with comparatively mediocre records who toppled opponents boasting formidable conquests and established reputations.

From the first, spectators singled out their hoped-for champions because of some appeal in personality or style. The unfolding of their character's saga of conquest or defeat was followed as eagerly as any boy reads a "thriller" while the uncertainty of the caliber of their favorite's opponent added the necessary dash of suspense.

R. E. T.

The Ring Around

We might just as well build ourself another ark (Noah foolin') and heave a rainbow over the bows, now that the influx for the Olympix is about us.

What with Alligators, Tigers, Wildcatters, Bisons, Mules, Panthers, Bulldogs, Cougars, Wolves, Greyhounds, Yellowjackets, Owls and Game-Cocks, we will float merrily away on the Green Wave fearing no Terrors with a doughty crew of Mountaineers, Orangemen, Tartans, Dukers, Cavaliers, and Presidents. There you have them, in a neat shell.

We could produce a spectrum from all the college colors that would jar our physicists and even put some of the new spring outfits in the shade, with orange, blue, red, black, white, maroon, cherry, garnet, crimson, gold, gray, green, purple, and olive. And if they were laid end to end, what a string of knockouts that would be. As one of the gels from Ifag Hill (Grange Dem to you, M. Dope) put it, the end of the depression for the oculists is in sight.

As soon as you figure that one out, get the photographic celebration in order and picture something. Picture, for example, a boxer from Duquesne taunting a Georgian man.

"G'wan, you're yellow"

"Put up yo' Dukes"

Or a Loyola Southerner sticking his tongue out at one of the Baltimore Loyolas

"You're nothin' but a big Greyhound bust"

"No? Wolf fer two cents I'd Loyolova you"

Pitt's Panther and the Nittany Lion are sisters under the skin, the nature ed. purple tell us. It wouldn't be so bad, if only Pittsburgh didn't get under our skin so much

If Princeton throws in the towel, can we call it the Tiger Rag?

Most undoubtedly, the neatest trick of the wk. prize goes to the good old publicity dept. As a matter of fact, the dept has a good chance to cop the grand award for the fiscal yr. with this effort. Here is the dirt. The Public Information boys got together and decided that they ought to send out pictures of some of the boxers who were coming here for the week-end. So they pasted a bunch of the pictures together on a suitable background and made a mat of the whole thing.

Up to that point, everything was Yacob. But lily gilders rear their ugly heads in the best of depts, and this one is no exception. So what? So the artists were called in to do a bit of gilding, and the said artists hit upon the idea of doing said gilding by hanging a few pairs of boxing gloves about in appropriate places. Except for the fact that they would probably require a good set of brass knuckles inside, the first pair designed wasn't such a bad job. They looked like this:

But alas for the second pair. Maybe the artist was in a hurry, or perhaps he was used to doing landscapes. Anyhow, here is the Rembrandt that was sent out on the mat to the Curwensville Herald, the Philadelphia Bulletin, and umpteen other papers scattered over this well known Commonwealth.

Maybe the boxfighter who was expected to do battle with these had his right thumb out of place. Or maybe he was just left-handed and didn't care who knew it.

Speaking of Pitt, two ringmen from Mr Mellon's garden patch were talking the other day, and got into a discussion as to what each was going to be in later life. Said the first actor in our little vignette to the second actor, "Hey, Slinko, what are you going to be in later life?"

The second snerstan of the Cathedral of Knowledge pondered a bit, since he weighed 175 lbs., and was pretty ponderous, then said, "I usta think I would make a good engineer, on account of how I can hold my liquor pretty well, but since I broke my schnozzle in a door, there is nothing left but professional boxing."

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College Boxing Sprang Into Popularity Following War

Intramural Contests Began Mit Sport About 1880

Receiving impetus from the Great War, in the last ten years boxing has grown from its former minor place in the college world to a position where almost all major colleges and universities now boast teams in competition.

Although intramural contests date as far back as 1880 and have been carried on in many institutions since that time in unorganized fashion, the training camps of the war period did much to popularize the sport and to pave the way for the present situation where boxing has in many colleges come to supplant other winter sports in contestant and spectator appeal.

Among the earliest colleges to place teams in intercollegiate competition, Penn State and Penn first met in 1919, the Quakers winning 4-10-2. In the next few years Navy, Springfield, Massachusetts, Institute of Technology, Yale, Army, and several Canadian teams comprised the competition in the East.

Form New League In 1921 when the National Collegiate Athletic Association recognized the Intercollegiate Boxing association which consisted of Navy, Penn, M. I. T., and Penn State, another step had been made in furthering boxing. Not until 1921, however, was the first tournament held among the charter members, with the exception of M. I. T., which was replaced by Syracuse's newly formed team.

Harvard had carried boxing as an intramural sport since 1880 but did not give formal instruction until 1890 and finally placed a team in intercollegiate competition in 1930. Carnegie Institute of Technology, the University of Pittsburgh, and Bucknell are other institutions where the sport has developed only in the last several years. So great has the development been in colleges that a new league was organized this spring consisting of formerly unattached schools and West Virginia. The Eastern Intercollegiate tournament has been held annually since its inception in 1924.

Virginia Takes Lead In the New England states, intercollegiate boxing is a growth mainly of the last ten years and had its origin in intramurals, according to W. J. Cowell, director of the physical education department at New Hampshire University, and district official for the tournament here. In his opinion the sport is still in an experimental stage in that region and its future depends on wise supervision of coaching and competition.

Olympic Boxing Head



BEZDEK
Hugo Bezdek, Director of the School of Physical Education, leads the committee that organized the Collegiate Olympic tryouts here. He was appointed last spring at a meeting of the Olympic Games Commission, and since that time has done the greater amount of work connected with arranging the bouts. He retired as coach of the Lion football team two years ago, and since that time has held his present position as head of the newly created School of Physical Education.

The University of Virginia introduced boxing to the colleges of the South in the winter of 1922, with the aid of Washington and Lee University. The Cavaliers were the first in the South to recognize the sport officially and to make it a major activity. Since 1926 a tournament in the Southern Conference has been held annually. Fourteen of the sixteen schools with boxing teams in the conference last year reported that boxing drew larger crowds than basketball to rank as the most popular winter sport. Louisiana State has one of the strongest teams in the far South and Florida was the first team in its region to introduce the sport following Virginia's lead in making it a major activity.

In the Southwest boxing has a good field for development. Entirely unorganized, according to Dr. Harry A. Scott, of Rice Institute, Texas, and district representative for the Olympic trials, intramural competition is the extent of boxing in that region.

1,500 Towels See Service in Locker Room During Tilts

More than 1,500 towels will be used during the National Olympic Boxing tournament, according to Harry Pennington, locker room attendant at Recreation Hall. Each titman will require approximately nineteen messengers.

If placed end to end, the towels used here yearly would be long enough to reach from here to Altoona on the main highway, with enough left over to give one to every inhabitant of State College and Boalsburg. Approximately 9,700 towels are used each month by athletes and physical education classes, Pennsylvania states. Nearly 80,000 towels are needed for the whole year.

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GRIDDERS MAKE HONOR ROLL
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9:55 2:00 9:50 Hubersburg 8:50 12:55 7:25
9:25 1:25 9:20 Mill Hall 9:20 1:25 7:55
9:15 1:15 9:10 Lock Haven 9:30 1:35 8:05
9:02 1:07 8:57 McEhittan 9:38 1:43 8:13
9:00 1:05 8:55 Woolrich X Roads 9:40 1:45 8:15
8:55 1:00 8:50 Avis 9:45 1:50 8:20
8:45 12:50 8:40 Jersey Shore 9:55 2:00 8:30
8:05 12:10 8:00 Williamsport 10:30 2:35 9:05
STATE COLLEGE TO BELLEFONTE
8:00 a. m., 10:30 a. m., 12:10 p. m., 2:15 p. m., 4:10 p. m., 5:10 p. m., 6:30 p. m., 10:30 p. m.
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