

BETWEEN THE LIONS

By BOB GRUBB

That was a great tribute they paid to Leo Houck in Rec Hall Saturday night. And after the formal presentation ceremonies were over, eight Lion ringmen paid their tribute to a proud coach by winding up an undefeated dual meet season.

In his acceptance speech, Leo invited us all to drink with him and Mrs. Houck from the silver service which his followers presented him. As it looks now, Leo, you'll be able to serve orange juice in that set next weekend; for those Lions are not going to be satisfied with an undefeated dual meet season. They are out for the eastern title and there seems to be no way it can evade them.

As we watched Leo step into the ring Saturday night, attired not in boxer's trunks, but in the formal dress of a night club impresario, we asked ourselves a question. How many fighters, having once made a name for themselves in the ring, can come back twenty-five years later and step into the ring to receive the plaudits of the crowd?

When Leo gained the European middleweight title in 1912 by winning a decision over Harry Lewis in 20 rounds at Paris, he was at the height of his professional career. Now, a quarter of a century later, he is at the top of the coaching game and the leading proponent of college boxing as a clean sport. In addition to the fans who followed him in the ring until he retired in 1923, Leo has built up a following almost as large in the role of tutor in collegiate ranks.

Princeton, Lehigh and Penn State will be fighting it out for the eastern wrestling championship at Bethlehem this week. The Lions will be defending the title they won at Princeton last year, and, while victory here may be predicted with less certainty than in the boxing tournament, it seems reasonable to believe that the State grapplers will come through again.

It's going to be a tough battle all the way, but Charlie Speidel isn't worrying so much over his boys get on the mats. Charlie's big worry in the intercollegiate comes at weigh-in-time. The wrestlers must weigh in twice during the tourney—at the beginning of the first day's round, and at the beginning of the second day's competition. And they must hit their weights "on the nose" both times.

(Continued on page four)



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Varsity Teams Make Clean Sweep in Week-end Sports

Boxers Beat Army, 7-to-1, For 7th Win

Captain Ritzie, Richter, Goodman Win in Final Home Appearances

By JERRY WEINSTEIN

Celebrating Leo Houck's fifteenth season as boxing coach, Penn State's Eastern champion fighters completed their first unbeaten, untied season by outclassing Army, 7 to 1, before over 6,200 spectators in Recreation hall Saturday night.

Three Lion boxers contributed victories in their last home appearance. Captain Lou Ritzie, Frankie Goodman, and Izzy Richter played major roles in gaining their seventh straight dual meet triumph over a first-class opponent. The three, titleholders at one time or another, will hang up their intercollegiate gloves after the coming championships at Syracuse.

Ritzie Polished Ritzie put on a polished exhibition as he defeated Cadet Bert Harrison by a technical knockout at the end of the second round. The Nittany captain used his excellent left jabs alternately with a hard right to the body.

Goodman, by scoring a knockdown in the opening round with a hard right, outpointed the previously unbeaten Cadet Tom Shanley. The second and third sessions were close, with few blows being struck.

Richter again proved that he is in the top form of his career as he smashed his way to a technical knockout victory over Cadet Jim Iabell in 0:25 of the second round. After using his great left hook to gain an edge, Izzy came through with a counter-right to stun the Army football captain-elect.

Donato Wins Easily Using every type of blow in the books, Sammy Donato gained an easy decision over the formidable Cadet Dick Negley. Sammy used hard punches in the first two rounds, but eased up in the third to score with light left-jabs and easy rights to the body.

The only State loss was suffered by Alex Sopchak in his 115-pound clash with Cadet Clarence Bess. The bout was one of the closest on the program, with both bantams scoring on clean blows. Soapy blocked many and had an edge in the second stanza on some hard rights.

Billy Soose scored his sixth as a varsity performer and eighth intercollegiate knockout over Cadet Lukas Hoska in 1:16 of the third round in the 155-pound go. The Nittany sophomore put on a good exhibition, ducking all of Hoska's wild swings and hitting the West Pointer at will.

Kociubinsky Scores One of the major performances was put on by sophomore Nestor Kociubinsky as he defeated the veteran Army star, Jim Lupar. The opening round was close, with hard blows being struck. Using a left jab for the first time this year, Ko went ahead in the second, until in the final round he had Lupar defenseless.

After opening a cut over Battle Barksdale's eye, Allan Tapman went on to take a small slug-fest via Referee Charlie Short's decision. Tapman held his own and managed to get in a few hard blows while blocking his fast-swinging opponent.

Course in Life-Saving Planned by Red Cross

The American Red Cross will conduct a life-saving examiner's course at the Glennland Pool Thursday afternoons from 1 to 3 o'clock, for the remainder of the semester. Allan G. Simpson '38 will be in charge.

Students interested in enrolling in the course should sign up immediately at the pool. Successful completion of the course will qualify the individual to handle swimming instruction or life guard positions. The class will be limited to twenty members, with instruction beginning this Thursday.

Honored for Service



LEO HOUCK

The Nittany Lion ringmaster who was presented with a scroll and gift from his many friends in honor of his fifteenth year at Penn State.

Gridmen Start Spring Practice

Higgins Takes Football Squad Outside for 1st Drill in 6-Week Program

By CHARLES M. WHEELER, JR. Launching an extensive six weeks' practice, Coach Bob Higgins sent the nucleus of his 1937 edition of the Nittany football team out-of-doors yesterday for its first workout.

Higgins plans the biggest spring practice in Lion history in an effort to whip into shape a lineup to send against the Big Red of Cornell in the lid-lifter at Ithaca next September 25th.

For over a month the Lion mentor has been drilling the boys in their individual duties on the blackboard. His chief aim this week is to whip the candidates into shape for rough work next week. No balls, no scrimmage will find their way into this week's sessions.

Plans Daily Contact Work Next week Bob plans to have line scrimmage every day and he intends to send the whole outfit into action every other day for the remainder of the program.

In having a concentrated spring practice Bob hopes to catch the promising Cornell outfit unprepared for a mid-season performance. He hopes to continue in stride with the slashing 14-to-0 victory over Bucknell last fall. Never has a Nittany aggregation had a more favorable psychological beginning for a season. If the Lions can start in against Cornell the way they finished the season against Penn and Bucknell, they will be off to their most auspicious start in recent years.

It looks now as if most of the grid-iron stalwarts of last season plus the freshmen will be on hand for the training period. Bob will have to uncover some good tackle material as Dean Hanley will probably devote most of his time this spring toward heaving heavy objects for the trackmen, and Ted Nemeth, freshman prospect, is just back from Bellefonte hospital after an emergency appendectomy several weeks ago.

It is also thought that the squad could use a couple of big, bruising blocking half-backs.

Fencers Defeat Lehigh, Rutgers

Foils Give Lions 12-to-5 Victory Over Engineers; Sabres Lose, 9-to-8

Winding up a week-end of sword-play with a climactic victory over Rutgers, the Lion fencers cut two victories into their season's schedule by defeating Lehigh 12-to-5 at Bethlehem Friday night and Rutgers 9-to-8 at New Brunswick, Saturday.

Against the Engineers, the Nittany swordsmen opened the first bracket of their season with decisive wins in foils and pressed on to outpoint their opponents by splitting epee and saber matches.

Foil Rutgers in Saber Holding an 8-to-3 lead over the Lions and needing only one point to clinch the meet, the Rutgers swordsmen fell before a comeback in epee, and saber in which the Nittanymen won six successive bouts to defeat the amazed opposition.

Friday night, the Lions took all but one foils match, jumping out into the lead 8-to-1. Co-captain "Lefty" Bowen and Scotty Rankin won three foils matches apiece and Spence Potter won two. In epee, Foltz and Kirk won two out of four bouts. In saber, Co-captain Lewis and Potter won two out of four bouts.

Cagers Claw Panthers In Furious Battle, 24-21

By WOODROW W. BIERLY

Penn State's fighting five with a surprise rally in the second half, fought their way to a 24-to-21 victory over the Pitt cagers in the final home game on Saturday night. More than 6,200 fans crowded into Recreation hall to see the Lions trounce Pitt for the first time since 1932 and practically eliminate them from the Eastern Conference race.

Contrasted to a slow first half which ended with the Panthers holding a 12-to-7 edge, the second was a real battle for both teams with the score saw-sawing back and forth and ending with the Lions possessing a three-point lead. It was chiefly the Nittany cagers' strong defensive play and co-operation that enabled them to nip the Panthers.

Cagers To Meet Yale At New Haven Tonight

Miehoff Leads Scoring Sol Miehoff led the scoring with seven points, while Jack Reichenbach and Zeleznick, Pitt forward, each had six. Charles Prosser scored five, Max Corbin four, and Joe Proksa two. Zeleznick scored the first field goal near the beginning of the game and Miehoff followed to tie the score. Pitt continued to pile up points while a field goal by Prosser and foul shots by Proksa and Corbin accounted for the remainder of the Lions' scoring during the first period.

Rally in 2nd Half The latter part of the second half brought the fans from their seats. Radvansky scored from the foul line and Jesko from mid-court to give the Panthers a 15-to-7 lead. And then the State offense perked up and with a barrage of field goals and foul shots continued until the score was tied at 15-all. Miehoff and Prosser followed with foul shots and with seven minutes to go Radvansky sank a basket to raise the score to 19-to-10.

Prosser came through with a field goal and Reichenbach added two more points to the Lions' lead. Half a minute later Zeleznick made a successful shot from mid-floor. Pitt took the ball on the top and made a stubborn attempt to tie the count but Jesko's shot was wild. State gained the ball and Corbin, after being thrown out of bounds by Jesko, scored the Lions' final point. Jesko received the ball and passed it up the court to Johnson who wildly tossed it over the backboard as the game ended.

Conference Standing

Table with columns: W, L, Pct, Pts, O.P. Rows include Temple, Penn State, Carnegie Tech, Georgetown, West Virginia.

Winter Sports Records

Table with columns: W, L, Pct. Rows include Boxing, Fencing, Wrestling, Basketball, Swimming, Gymnastics.

State Conquers Cornell Mermen

Three Pool Records Established As Lions Complete Second Swimming Season

In completing its 1937 season, the Penn State swim team repeated last year's victory over Cornell by a score of 54-to-21. Three local pool records were broken, two by Lion relay teams and the third by Captain Norman Rasch, Ithacan breast-stroke star.

Ken Bunk, sophomore ace, was the only double winner of the contest with firsts in the 100 and 200-yard freestyle events. In the century, Bob Dewalt took second and Jack Cobb took third in the 220.

Relays Set Records State's relay teams won the medley and freestyle relays in record time. The medley team was made up of Dick Geiger, Gil Burleigh, and Charlie Welsh. The freestyle team included Ken Bunk, Art Lehman, Bob Dewalt, and Charlie Welsh.

Rasch supplied the other record when he beat Gil Burleigh in the breaststroke. Burleigh finding himself up against his toughest opposition of the year put up a good fight, although losing his first race of the season.

Other Lion point winners were Marty Hart and Rod Hoy in the dive, Captain Jim Cumming and Dick Geiger in the back-stroke, and Art Lehman and Bob Brown in the 50-yard freestyle sprint.

Matmen Gain 6th Straight Victory, 25-3

Shaffer, Calvin Score Falls in Easy Win Over Cornell

By FRANCIS H. SZYMCAK

Winning seven of eight bouts, the Penn State wrestling team defeated Cornell at Ithaca, 25-to-3, on Saturday afternoon. This was State's sixth consecutive victory after the Princeton setback in the campaign opener.

State scored two falls throughout the match with Calvin clinching the meet by tossing Ken Smith in the 155-pound tussle. Ross Shaffer, Nittany light heavyweight, threw Seagull with a body press in 4:52 minutes.

Coach Charlie Speidel said that the meet wasn't spectacular because it takes two to start a good wrestling display. The Ithacans were a stubborn crew who knew they were outclassed, but they battled and put up a strong defensive front.

Gaining an early advantage and holding on, Ward, of Cornell, clocked 4:09 minutes in time advantage over Freddy Stegmaier in the 118-pound class.

Frank Craighead totaled 5:02 over Mosher in winning the 126-pound bout. Al Zazzi decided Hartzch by finishing his 135-pound engagement with a time advantage of 7:57.

Jack Light continued his long winning streak and displayed fine form in chalking up a record time advantage of 9:33 over Oakes, 145. John Calvin used a figure four and bar lock in throwing Smith in 9:35.

Don Buchman, 165, defeated Harry Smith with a time advantage of 3:40 minutes. Captain Joe O'Dowd defeated Manning by a time advantage of 3:50.

Helen Jepson tells why she chooses Luckies for her voice



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Helen Jepson



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