

HOT CONFERENCE RACE SEEN BY LAWTHER

Richter May Fight During 1st Semester

Eligibility In Question; Izzy Keeps Fit By Daily Workout

By TOM ROAL

The possibility of Izzy Richter's return to the intercollegiate ring for the first semester remained unanswered, although both Leo Houck and Neil Fleming feel that there is a chance that the intercollegiate heavyweight champion could once again step between the ropes and perform for the home fans in his own inimitable way.

Champion Richter has been keeping in shape with daily workouts and has not commented about the chance. The theory advanced for his eligibility is that Izzy will be a mid-year graduate and in his sophomore year did not fight until the second semester.

Two Newcomers Shine

Meanwhile, Coach Houck is anxiously scanning the intramural contestants and several have given him something to think about. John Rose and John Hantrant, who on Wednesday put on a good exhibition of fighting and slugging, appear to have some talent which could be developed. Both of these boys are in the 155-pound class.

While the intramuralists are claiming the spotlight, regulars Al Tappan, Soapy Sopchak, and Captain Sam Donato have been practicing on the other side of the ring. Along with them are Frank Silvestri and John Bachman in the 135-pound class and Andy Andrukitis in the 165 weight.

Striving to Fill Gaps

Striving to fill the gaps in the five positions are, besides the ones mentioned, Bernie Sandens, 145 pounds, Hank Schweitzer, middleweight, Mickey Hadad and Bill Kohut, in the 165-pound class. Light-heavyweights include Stu Quailley, Bill Covolos, and Al Bolder.

Jim Lessig, Nate Handler, and maybe "the" Richter are competing for the heavyweight division.

At every weight, with the exception of the two lightest ones, there is enough competition to keep the contestants on their toes.

BETWEEN THE LIONS

During the calendar year, Penn State's winter, spring, and fall teams won 65 percent of all varsity contests in 14 sports. This average is slightly higher than previous records show. 1937 is behind Lion athletes now and 1938 will be introduced a few days before the calendar actually verifies the new year when the basketball team makes its debut.

In reviewing the year of 1937, there are many outstanding performances which will stick forever in the memory of Penn State sports followers.

Following the seasons, as they come, we first notice the fine records of the three major winter teams in 1937. The wrestling team won the eastern intercollegiate championship, the boxers won eight dual meets in impressive fashion to remain undefeated, and the basketball team took a spectacular turn for the better to place third in the fast Eastern Intercollegiate Conference.

Coach Charlie Speidel's wrestlers amassed the greatest number of points in the Eastern Wrestling Association and captured five individual titles. The ringmen won three individual titles but dropped their eastern crown to Syracuse by a single point.

Another commendable performance, not in the records, was put on by the Lion embryo swimming team. 1937 marked the second official season for the natators and they showed marked improvement. Fencing was another sport which held its own in top competition.

Moving along to the spring of 1937, we find that baseball and track again established fine records. The Nittany nine won 12 games while losing only four, and the cinder athletes remained undefeated.

Getting into fall sports, we find the football team completing its best season in eight years, with notable victories being scored over Penn and Maryland. Two of the three defeats in eight games came at the hands of Syracuse and Cornell in the final minutes of play.

The cross-country season was a bit disappointing, although a dual meet triumph over Pitt helped to salvage the record.

Soccer, again, came through with an undefeated record, the fifth straight. Seven games were won and one tie registered. This brought the victory string up to 33 with four deadlocks in the five-year period.

In addition to team accomplishments, there were several individual performances which were worthy of commendation.

Sol Miehoff, captain and all-Eastern member of the soccer team, forward and high scorer on the basketball team, and outfielder and leading hitter in baseball, was probably the outstanding athlete.

Sammy Donato was one of the leading boxers and co-captained the football team. His work as blocking half-back was exceptionally fine, and was

more noteworthy because of his weight.

Dean Hanley was a star tackle on the football team, earned a letter as a weightman in track, and showed possibilities in wrestling when he won the only meet in which he participated.

Other top-notchers: Joe O'Dowd, Ross Shaffer, Joe Krupa, Jack Light, Aldo Zazzi, wrestling champions... Frankie Goodman for winning the 135-pound boxing title after a shaky dual meet record... Izzy Richter for taking his second heavyweight championship... fine work of Billy Soose, Nestor Kociubinski, Lou Ritzie, Donato, Alex Sopchak and Al Tappan in the ring...

Basketball team fight displayed by Miehoff, Joe Proksa, Jack Reichenbach, Max Corbin, and Jay McWilliams... excellent pitching by Ben Sinoecell and surprising hitting by George Slabodian...

Harry Harrison's participation in baseball and football... an especially good performance in the latter... Windy Wear's gridiron feats which stamped him in Penn State sports history forever... play of Alex Barantovich and the rise of Joe Peol to a starting post...

Bill Smith's winning the IC-4A freshman cross-country championship... possibilities shown by several freshman football players... Ben Pollock's placement kicking...

Sabre, Gym Men Condition Rapidly

Candidates for varsity and freshman squads in fencing and gymnastics have been rapidly conditioning themselves during the past few weeks, only to have the Christmas vacation intervene. However, following the holidays, each of the two minor sports will hold intrasquad competition.

Paced by Spence Potter, captain and outstanding member, the Lion varsity fencing team has been whipping the foil and saber around in preparation for the initial contest with Penn in Philadelphia on January 22. As usual, the group shows the lack-of-practice pre-season form and remains unpredictable.

The complete varsity fencing schedule: January 22, Penn, away; 26, Rutgers, home; 29, Lehigh, home; March 5, Cornell, Syracuse, and Colgate, away; 12, Temple, away.

Gym Team Weakened

Meanwhile, all men are reporting regularly for the gym team and have started work on their individual exercises required for the meets.

Handicapped by the loss through graduation of Ray Mattern, ace tumbler and last year's captain, and a recent injury to Ray Runkle's leg, the squad is not expected to be much better than before. However, the fine showing of Capt. Sam Beck, Stan Feldman, and Charley Gillespie brightens the outlook.

Freshman material is abundant in both sports, but only the freshman fencing elimination and the varsity-freshman gym meet can determine the calibre of the candidates. In each case, the outstanding performers will be awarded their numerals.

Bowling

The TKE's and Alpha Phi Deltas jumped into the 700 percentage group when they rolled down all opposition Tuesday night to tack eight games each to their win columns. Theta Chi bowled six wins and two losses; AGR, six losses and two wins. Standings:

Tuesday Night League			
	W.	L.	Pct.
Delta Sigma Phi	58	14	.806
Theta Chi	62	18	.775
Alpha Gamma Rho	46	18	.720
Tau Kappa Epsilon	50	22	.708
Alpha Phi Delta	56	24	.700
Tau Phi Delta	36	20	.644
Kappa Delta Rho	40	24	.625
Phi Kappa	20	36	.357
Phi Sigma Delta	18	38	.321
Sigma Phi	14	50	.221
Alpha Chi Rho	8	56	.143
Independents	0	24	.000

Meanwhile, Lion Five Girds For Openers Against Kent, Akron, Western Reserve

Pushover Can't Be Found As League Teams Give Promise Of Free-For-All Battle; 11 Men Will Make Ohio Trip

By JOHN A. TROANOVITCH

It's going to be a hot season. At least, that's what Basketball Coach John D. Lawther believes.

Armed with an entire team of returning regulars, Penn State's larruping Lions, once the doormat of the Eastern Conference, will be firing for the league title this season with the best chance in recent years of realizing their aim.

But, despite all the optimism engendered by a lopsided, inconsequential warmup victory over a mediocre Bucknell five, Lawther remains grim and conservative as he points to the murderous arrays that have been moulded at Pittsburgh, Carnegie Tech, Temple, West Virginia, and Georgetown. And if early-season form is maintained, there will be no pushover in the conference.

Teams Have Jump on Lions
Furthermore, Lawther adds, every conference team is already in full swing, thus gaining as much as a three-week jump on the Lions.

Meanwhile, preparations for the season openers against Akron, Kent, and Western Reserve on December 30, 31, and January 1 will be continued until Wednesday night, when the 11 men to make the Ohio trip will be selected and ordered to return on Monday, December 27, to resume practice.

No position has yet been clinched, Lawther explained, nor has a captain been chosen to lead the courtmen for the season.

Doehner Reports
Increasing the group of candidates to 18 early this week was slim Willard Doehner, six-foot, 145-pounder, who sparkled on last year's freshman brigade. Doehner is rounding into shape rapidly.

In the meantime, an epidemic of gripple has seized the squad, with the result that stocky Milan Buchan, who showed plenty of promise in the Bucknell fiasco, is still out.

Always strong, Akron is expected to provide State with the stiffest test on the Ohio circuit. Western Reserve, too, which causes plenty of headaches on a football field will be tough. But sandwiched between is Kent, an expected breather.

Fruit-Judging Team Wins Second Honors

Scoring 93.4 points, Penn State's fruit-judging team won second honors at the annual Eastern Intercollegiate Fruit-judging league's contest at Rutgers University, New Brunswick; N. J., last week-end.

The team consists of John C. Hoffman '37, Ruben G. Hixson '37, and William H. Phillips '37. Hoffman placed third in individual scoring, Phillips fifth, and Hixson seventh.

Plenty of Angles
"If they bring Soose along gradually and build up his confidence, I think he has a good future," Smith said.

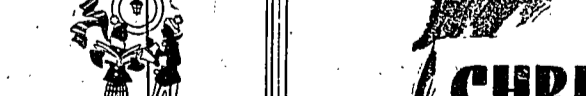
"He's a good boxer, but he's young and doesn't know all the angles to pro fighting. Take it from me: There are plenty of angles to pro fighting, including the most important of all—good matching.

"Put him up against some old timer who knows all the angles and things won't go so well. If he has a good manager and is matched well, he ought to go places."

Students at Northwestern wanted an ice-skating rink. Co-operating with them, university authorities had a group of tennis courts banked and flooded and installed lights. Fraternities contributed money for attendants at the rink.

The Cornell Daily Sun has coined a new name for the big Red teams. In a streamer on the win over Penn, the gridgers were referred to as the Cornell Bears.

COACH JOHN LAWTHER



Sports Editor Says Soose Has Chance To Get Ahead

"Billy Soose has a good chance to get ahead. His prospects all depend upon how he starts out. The first 10 or 20 fights will tell the tale."

In these words did Chester Smith, sports editor of the Pittsburgh Press, summarize Soose's prospects in the professional boxing ring in an interview at the annual Sigma Delta Chi Christmas smoker Tuesday night.

A veteran at sports writing, Smith has been covering outstanding fights since the Dempsey-Willard battle in 1920.

"If they bring Soose along gradually and build up his confidence, I think he has a good future," Smith said.

"He's a good boxer, but he's young and doesn't know all the angles to pro fighting. Take it from me: There are plenty of angles to pro fighting, including the most important of all—good matching.

Trojans Caged Lions, 14-3, In Rose Bowl 15 Years Ago

Fifteen years ago Hugo Bezdek's 1922 Nittany Lion eleven was preparing to meet the University of Southern California's gridgers in the annual Rose Bowl game to be played on New Year's Day at Pasadena, Calif.

Despite the fact that the Lions of that year had lost games to Harvard, Navy, Penn, and Pittsburgh, being tied by Syracuse and winning only six games, they were chosen to represent the East in the annual spectacle. It is generally believed that the reason the Lions were chosen was their impressive undefeated records of the years previous.

The Trojans were also second choices. They had held the championship California Bears to a 12-0 score, the lowest of the year. The Bears, who averaged 48 points a game, declined to play for what would have been the third year in a row.

The Blue and White gridmen, led by Captain Walsh Benz at center, went into the game as favorites because of the experience they had gained from playing, although losing to, the strongest elevens in the East. Injuries which had handicapped the Lions all year still dogged them, however, and they were forced to play without the services of Dutch Bedenk, star guard and now line coach of the grid squad.

A crowd of 50,000 saw the Lions drop the intersectional battle to the Coast team by a 14-3 score. After Quarterback Mike Palm's field goal gave the visitors a 3-0 lead in the first period, the Trojan's powerful attack started to roll and scored one each in the second and third quarters to emerge the victors.

Other well-known names on Penn (Continued on page four)

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
F. D. KING MOTOR CO.
FORD, LINCOLN ZEPHYR DEALER

Christmas greetings to our hundreds of customers.
Much Cheer!
McKEE'S MARKET
105 E. Beaver Ave.
Phone 2404

REA AND DERICK, INC.
want
YOU to have an exciting and enjoyable Christmas.

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
EGOLF'S

"Welcome Students"
Let's make this vacation a merry one, by dining and dancing at the
ROSE GARDEN
Venango County
Smartest entertainment center. Orchestra every night. Dancing from 9 to 1. Excellent food and beverage menu. Spaghetti dinners our specialty. 412 Atlantic Avenue, Franklin, Pa.

FOR HIM
The New Emerson Table Set
Ideal for study rooms, bedrooms and dens.
Also see our complete line of gifts.
BUY IT HERE AND GET YOUR 90 DAYS FREE SERVICE
THE MUSIC ROOM
A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Good luck,
Good fun, and
Good health
From Christmas On.
MOORE'S DRESS SHOP
E. College Ave.

All-College Annual
Snowball Dance
Music by BILL BOTTORF
Armory January 8 9 to 12
75c per couple, including checking

All that is worthwhile be yours is our wish for your Christmas.
SCHLOW'S QUALITY SHOP

CHRISTMAS Greetings
Nittany Meadows Farms Store