

Cagers Set For Skibos After 33-22 Georgetown Victory

Barr And Christman Each Garner 9 Points As Lion Five Looks Best To Date

Star Carnegie Tech Center Will Be Chief Threat To Prospects Of Nittany Victory

By BILL FOWLER
"In the groove" after a convincing 33-22 triumph over Georgetown, the rejuvenated Nittany cagers will invade Pittsburgh tomorrow for the second straight Saturday—this time to face the Plaid of Carnegie Tech.

If the Hoops refuse to be overawed by Bob Stark, six-foot-five captain and center of the Tartan outfit, prospects of success should be rosy.

Victory over the Skibos, who were thoroughly trounced by Westminster recently, would be especially welcome to former-Westminster-minor John Lawther.

Putting on by far their best home-floor display to date, the locals had little difficulty in subduing a sparkless Hoya outfit before a light crowd Wednesday night.

Completely recovered from the hoop-sickness which dogged its footsteps in early games, the Lion quintet consistently capitalized on its scoring opportunities.

Johnny Barr and Kern Christman, sparkling at the forward positions, shared scoring honors with nine points apiece. Norm Racusin, who tacked up seven markers, and Captain Cliff MacWilliams, did good rebound work, while sophomore Elmer Gross showed improvement at his guard post.

Off to an early five point margin on buckets by Racusin and Christman and a foul by the latter, the Nittanymen kept their lead out of danger all the way. Two more goals by Racusin and a pair by MacWilliams helped to run the halfway count to 20-11.

Showing a flash of offensive power, the Hoyas tallied three points in the final minutes.

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BETWEEN THE LIONS

Bob Wilson

Mat Debut

Draw your chair in a little closer. Lean forward just a wee bit more. Cock that right ear another five degrees. I've got some dope to spill!

Penn State's wrestling Lions will finish the first semester undefeated!

Oh, don't take my word for it (as if anybody would). That's straight from "Cheerful Charlie" Speidel, Nittany coach.

It sounds like a mighty blunt statement for a coach to make, especially a Penn State coach. But Charlie made it, and I'm ready to stake my last clean pair of socks on his word.

When you come right down to it, I'm not really risking much. Here's why:

1. Cornell, whom the Lions meet in their 1940 mat opener at Ithaca tomorrow afternoon, hasn't beaten a Penn State wrestler since 1928.

The Ivy-laden Big Red teams have won over State only six times in 27 meets. There have been two ties (both since 1928). The Lions have won 19.

2. Chicago, whom the Nittanymen meet here on the 20th of the month, has yet to win from State. This will be the fifth meeting of the two schools in wrestling.

3. Syracuse, whom the Lions have met for 17 years in an un-interrupted series that dates back to 1923, like Chicago, has yet to pin State on the mats. It's hardly likely that any of the trio will smash the wrestling jinx.

State teams have held over them a total of 32 consecutive meets.

What about Princeton, Lehigh, Michigan, Army and Navy in the second semester? Well, as Charlie put it, we'll talk about the graduate school later.

Joe Scario, encountered some trouble in making the weight in the 145-pound class, but if he is in shape, the Nittany Lions should be assured of at least three points in that event.

In the 155-pound class, either Roy Gensler or Jim Lindzey, was to receive the nod of Coach Speidel.

Chuck Rohrer, interclass 165-pound winner, appeared as a likely starter, but Wilhe Bachman is close behind.

Captain Ernie Bortz is certain to handle the 175-pound assignment, and Warren Elliott, tipping the scales at 200 even, will take the mat with the hope of securing a victory for the Nittany Lions in the heavyweight class.

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Lion Wrestlers Face Cornell In First Match

Malmen Journey To Ithacans' Den; Battle Tomorrow

Lion Mentor Pessimistic; Elliott, Bortz, Gleason, Waite Likely To Grapple

By BOB LANE

A Cornell team of unknown strength will be the first course on the Penn State 1940 mat menu at Ithaca, N. Y. tomorrow.

The Nittany Lion grapplers will journey to the lair of the Big Red Bear with a team, "which will boast only of its accomplishments," according to mentor Charlie Speidel.

In the interclass bouts last Saturday, many a veteran fell at the hands of a "dark horse" and the personnel of the squad which was to make the trip to the "Land of Cayuga" was still subject to change as the Collegian went to press.

Clay Hess, an untried sophomore, loomed as the grappler upon whom would fall the task of handling the 121-pound assignment, but in the interclass affair, Hess lost to frosh Charlie Rudenour, P. I. A. A. high school champion.

Dave Waite, who will be at the 128-pound slot, faces Cornell's intercollegiate champion, Bob Mathers, who gained the decision over Waite in a thrilling bout here last year.

The only intercollegiate title-holder on this year's team, Frank Gleason, will carry the Blue and White's hopes in the 136-pound event.

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MAT MENTOR



Head wrestling Coach Charlie Speidel who takes his proteges to Ithaca tomorrow for a mat battle with the Big Red of Cornell.

Schedule Changes Jolt Boxers Into Increased Action

Western Maryland Meet Moved Up To Fifteenth Due To Conflict

By BUD SMYSER

Penn State's varsity boxers had been plodding contentedly through practice this week moving up on their season opener day by day when they were jolted into activity Wednesday with the discovery that the season opener had moved up on them. That and a change in the date of the Syracuse meet promised to make an already tough schedule tougher.

The Western Maryland opener, slated here January 20, was suddenly shifted up to next Tuesday night because the Western Maryland schedule maker found he had two opponents, Penn State and Navy, booked for the 20th.

The second schedule change advances the Syracuse meet from Wednesday, February 28, to February 27 and will throw the Lions against the Orange only three days after they face Michigan State here. The following Saturday a home meet is scheduled with Cornell, giving the matmen three bouts in eight days.

Only relief to the boxers is that their first two meets are probably their easiest. Western Maryland—although it may be tougher under a new coach this year—has beaten the Lions only once in 11 meets. Toronto, which comes here for the second bout on January 27, is expected to offer only mediocre opposition. The Canadians faced the Lions only once before, losing in 1922.

On the tough side of the ledger, the four bouts which are expected to give the Lions most trouble are all scheduled away. Wisconsin, Virginia, Syracuse, and Army, Cornell and Michigan State, the only other teams on the schedule, may be tough—but probably not too tough. Both will be met here.

Highlight of the boxing season will be the Eastern Intercollegiate scheduled here on March 8 and 9. The Lions haven't won these since 1936 and this year is as good as any for the Nittanymen to move back into the league. Last season they made their second poorest showing in the 17 years. Leo Houek has coached them by tying with Yale for third place. Usually it's first or second. Only once, in 1933, were they fourth.

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Barr Paces Court Team With 72 Point Total

Boasting 72 points in the eight games the Lions have played to date, stellar junior Johnny Barr is well ahead of his teammates in the race for individual scoring honors. Barr has amassed 28 field goals and 16 fouls.

Norm Racusin, junior guard, is runner-up with 47 points, with forward Kern Christman close behind in third place with 43.

The Summaries

	g	fld	ft	pts.
Barr	8	28	16-24	72
Racusin	8	18	11-13	47
Christman	8	10	5-20	43
McWilliams	8	13	12-17	38
Moffatt	8	14	1-7	31
Gross	8	7	8-14	22
Krouse	2	6	0-1	12
Crowell	2	4	2-4	10
Grimes	2	1		