

# Between The Lions

With BOB WILSON

I will gladly give three Raths Keller bottle deposit tags, one Los Angeles trolley token and a pair of slightly worn sweat socks to the man, woman or child who can pronounce—

TEIONSTIKWAHEKTAWA

The word could pass for anything, from a Greek swear word to a daily cryptogram, but actually it was what the North American Indians used to call LACROSSE—a thumping, bumping, dashing, slashing pastime that reaches this year the 100th anniversary of its adoption by the white man and its 25th anniversary as a Penn State sport.

## Spectator-Interest Lags Here

Though, no one knows the date of its origin, it is believed that the American Indian played the game hundreds of years before any white man set foot on this continent.

Which just about makes it the only truly American sport. And yet, of all the major Penn State sports, lacrosse probably ranks lowest in spectator interest.

## Lack of Knowledge Blamed

Why is it? Well, Lion coach Nick Thiel has several answers to the question.

1. Lack of knowledge on the part of the spectator.
2. Poor publicity.
3. Bad publicity.

Nick explains that aside from the lack of knowledge of the game, the average spectator can't see the ball, the play formations or the defensive strategy from most lacrosse grandstands. A bird's-eye view of the game is the best possible angle for spectator observation.

## Lacrosse Not Really Brutal

As far as publicity is concerned, lacrosse gets virtually none. In fact, the sport has been poorly publicized since the beginning of the century. Time was (and Nick Thiel can prove this) when lacrosse out-headed every other American sport.

Bad publicity is another factor that has sent lacrosse into a veritable athletic oblivion. Sports writers the nation over dubbed the sport "brutal," and to the unknowing eye "brutal" it has been ever since.

## Playful Fellows, These Indians

Played the Indian way, the game might have been brutal. The Indians had as many as 1000 players on a side, and each player carried two sticks. Before entering the game medicine men would lacerate the bodies of their players with an instrument made from the teeth of a garfish. This caused severe bleeding which was supposed to benefit the player.

What's more, in the Indian game the squaws always took part by switching their husbands, urging them on to victory.

## Thiel Has Discarded Old Methods

Things are a little different today. As far as I have been able to find out, the gar fish instrument has been discarded here at State, and unless Nick Thiel whips his players in the locker room before each game, the switching ceremony has been dropped too.

Last year the sport ranked fifth nationally among the Spring sports in the number of injuries per contestant. So lacrosse isn't really as brutal as it's cracked up to be.

## Technique Has Developed Most

Lacrosse at Penn State will reach a new peak this year if current statistics are any indication.

Nick Thiel, with about 45 men, has the largest squad the history of the sport at Penn State has ever known. The Lion mentor admits that the technique of the sport has increased more than any other sport, basketball included. And that's something coming from a tutor of the Lawther System of basketball.

## Thiel's Record Proves Something

Nick came here from Syracuse in 1934 where he won All-American lacrosse laurels. He began his sixth season as Nittany coach with the Hobart game Saturday. And in the six years he will have coached here come June, he has had only three experienced players to work with. The rest were all Thiel-made products.

And damn good products, they must have been if Nick's record in many measuring-rod years before last the Lions ranked eighth nationally. They finished 11th last season. State has had one All-American (George Koth '35), a pair of third-team All-Americans (Co-captain George Ritter '40 and Joe Andrukis '39) and a dozen honorable mention awards.

## Player Spirit Has Kept Game Alive

In the preface to his new book on the sport, Tad Stanwick, Lehigh University coach, says:

"Like all other sports, lacrosse has had its alternate periods of success and weakness. It has enjoyed great days of achievement, and seasons when the ambitions of the players and supporters have not been realized, but throughout the period of one hundred years, the contestants have played the game for the sheer love of it. And it is because of this truly sporting spirit which has characterized lacrosse players during this long period, that this sport has continued to retain its popularity."

## The Fastest Game on Two Feet

In the foreword to his book, Stanwick has quoted from a recent article by Wilson Wingate in the Baltimore News. Wingate says:

"Lacrosse, when properly played, has no superior among athletic contests, as a spectacle, as a test of endurance and for the development of judgment and fast thinking. Like football, the sport is hard and rough. Lacrosse is a severe test of condition and without doubt THE FASTEST GAME ON TWO FEET."

All of which puts the game mildly, if you've ever seen a lacrosse game, that is.

# Nine Meets Green Terrors Here Tomorrow

## Lions Win One, Drop Other Game In Weekend Tilts

Robinson, Medlar May See Action Tomorrow

Gaining their second breath after suffering an opening defeat Friday from Princeton, 2-0, the Nittany baseballers trounced an erratic Lehigh nine, 7-2, Saturday, and prepared to seek their second victory against an unknown Western Maryland team on New Beaver Field here at 4 p m tomorrow.

Either Bob Robinson or Chuck Medlar probably will hurt against the Green Terrors with Robinson holding the edge because Medlar saw action in Friday's tilt with Princeton.

The Tiger's Carmichael and Chuck Medlar battled to a five-inning deadlock in the first game until a sixth-inning error, a scratch single after a shoe-string attempt by Sherwin, a balk by Bastian, who relieved Medlar, and another single scored Princeton's two runs.

Joe Bedenk's men were outthrust to seven, Sherman Sapp, and Truhn each getting two, and the Medlar-Bastian combination fanned eight Tigers compared to Carmichael's lone strikeout, but the Princeton hurler scattered the Lion hits effectively in his nine inning duty.

"Slim" Jim Richardson continued his string of consecutive victories from last year when he struck out the Engineers with two runs and four scant hits, while his teammates pounded Lehigh's Harry Leidich for seven tallies and nine base blows.

Penn State	ab	r	h	o	a	e
Gates, lf	5	0	1	0	0	1
Sherwin, cf	5	0	0	0	0	0
Menzie, 3b	4	1	0	2	2	1
Deblet, cf	4	2	1	1	0	0
Sapp, 2b	4	2	0	2	4	0
Valeri, c	5	2	3	0	0	0
Truhn, ss	4	0	2	1	3	0
Seibel, 1b	5	0	1	1	0	0
Richardson, p	4	0	1	1	1	1
Totals	40	7	9	27	10	3
Lehigh	ab	r	h	o	a	e
Cox, cf	4	0	0	3	0	0
Wert, 1b	3	1	0	9	0	0
Griffiths, 2b	4	0	1	2	2	2
Loomis, c	3	1	2	7	0	0
Kister, ss	4	0	0	1	2	1
Forester, rf	4	0	0	2	0	0
Boyer, lf	4	0	0	2	0	0
Robert, 3b	2	0	0	1	2	1
Leidich, p	3	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	31	2	4	27	7	4
Penn State	262	030	000	-7		
Lehigh	010	000	010	-2		

Two-base hits—Loomis, Forester, Griffiths, Valeri, Truhn, stolen base—Gates, double play—Sapp to Truhn to Seibel, struck out—by Richardson 9, Leidich 7; base on balls—off Richardson 2, Leidich 4. Umpires—Conway, Brody.

## Lion Racqueteers Round Into Shape

Tennis Team Faces Penn In Opener On April 19

Getting their first feel of outdoor practice during the past few days, Penn State's tennis Lions are rapidly rounding into shape for their tough opener with Penn's powerful Quakers April 19 and a match with Lehigh the next day.

Coach Ted Roethke issued his first formal call for candidates yesterday and has announced that additional aspirants may report for the rest of the week.

Leading the field of veterans are Capt Jerry Goodman, Mac Weinstein and Del Hughes, all lettermen. Others who saw some service last year are Gil Feldman and Chuck Huyck.

As yet the adverse weather conditions have hampered adequate practice sessions, but with a change there will be daily intrasquad competition to determine the starting team for the Penn match.

# Lacrosse Team Loses Opening Game To Hobart, 14-9

## Houck Heads Coaches, Boxing Nationals Here

Cooper And Lewis Lose In 1st Round Of Meet

Leo Houck was elected president of the National Collegiate Athletic Association boxing coaches, Penn State was chosen as the site of the 1941 national championships, and the two Nittany Lion eastern intercollegiate boxing champions bowed out in the first round at the NCAA boxing tournament in Sacramento, Cal., last weekend.

The Penn State coach, who served as vice-president of the boxing coaches last year, succeeded John J. Walsh, Wisconsin, as president. This is the second time Penn State has been host to the national championship tournament.

Next year's national championship tournament, the first tournament ever conducted, was held here in 1932. Next year's tournament will be held March 27-29, and Jim Lewis, 165 pounds, both eastern champions and Penn State's only fighters in the tournament, lost out in the first round of the fighting.

Cooper was kayoed in the third round of his fight with Joe Church, Miami fighter, and eventual finalist.

Lewis was defeated by Joe Cestowski, of Michigan State. In a dual meet here February 24.



LEO HOUCK, Boxing Coach

Lewis and Cestowski fought to a draw.

The new president of the boxing coaches has handled Penn State teams for 18 years and has led them to seven Eastern Intercollegiate championships, the last of which they scored last month as they retired the Baltimore Sun Trophy. During that time he has produced 26 eastern champions and three national champions who brought home an aggregate of 40 titles.

## Trackmen Drill For Tough Schedule Opening With Penn, Drake Relays

Seventy-Five Answer Werner's Call For Varsity Track Candidates; Only Few Freshmen Report

Spurred on by warmer weather during the past week, the varsity track squad has been drilling daily on the cinder track in preparation for the Penn and Drake Relays April 26-27. About 75 candidates answered Coach Chick Werner's call last week for the varsity, but only a smattering of freshmen reported to Cub mentor Bob Grieve.

A tough schedule awaits the 1940 track machine and Coach Werner has indicated that intensive drills will be held to determine whether the squad is strong enough to be split for both the Drake and Penn relays.

Following those meets there are the following dual encounters May 4, Ohio State (home), May 11, Pittsburgh (away); 18, Syracuse (home), and 25, Navy (away). The final appearance of the team will be in the IC4-A's in Cambridge, Mass., May 31—June 1. It is also likely that several representatives will be sent to the national competition, but there is nothing definite about that.

Neither Ohio State nor Navy were met last season, although both teams have appeared on the schedule in former years. Last year the Ohioans were met in an indoor meet and two years ago the Middies topped the Nittany Lion.

The freshmen will meet Mercersburg Academy May 4 away and the Cornell Cubs May 11 at home. Both of these opponents have reputedly strong teams this year.

## Gridders Divide Honors In Intra-Squad Scrimmage

More than 55 football players went through an intense intra-squad scrimmage game on the practice field Saturday afternoon and the end of the contest found the two teams sharing equal honors.

The first score came on a wide reverse for 15 yards and touch-down by Craig White, veteran wing-back Galen Bailey, a promising freshman, contributed the only other tally when he plunged off tackle for two yards after a nine-yard gain by Bill Smalz, sophomore fullback.

The four scrimmages held last week evidently paid dividends since the well conditioned squad reported no injuries. The Lion coaching staff is very enthusiastic about this Spring's practice sessions and will continue the drills until the end of April.

## Laterman Wins Contest

Phillip Laterman '42 won the Student Library Committee Contest for the best list of 10 books published before 1939 and not now in the College Library.

## Spring Sports Coverage

Spring sports will be covered for the Collegian by the following members of the new Junior Board:  
Track—Bill McKnight  
Baseball—Ross Lehman  
Lacrosse—John Baer  
Golf—Stan Pokempner  
Tennis—Pat Nagelberg  
Spring football—Pat Nagelberg  
Intra-murals—Stan Pokempner and Pat Nagelberg.

## Winter Sports Captains Chosen

### All Squads But Gagers Name Team Chieftains

Frank Gleason, last year's 136-pound EIVA champion, replaced Ernie Boritz on Thursday as the new wrestling captain to practically complete the 1940-41 roster of winter sports captains including Red Stanko, boxing, co-captains Elmer Lowenstein and Les Kutz, fencing, Ben Stahl, gymnastics, and Max Peters, skiing.  
Red Stanko, 135-pound boxer, succeeds Mike Cooper, EIBA 127-pound champion, and Lowenstein and Kutz succeed Paul Feibiger, top-scoring arbust artist.  
Merrill Beck, noted for his work on the parallel bars, relinquishes his gym post to Stahl, while Sam Crabtree, leader of the skiers, is replaced by Peters, winner of the Pennsylvania cross-country title.  
The final winter sports captain will be announced this week when a successor to Cliff McWilliams, basketball captain, is named.

## Stickmen Falter At End After Tie At Half-Time

Lions Lead 5-3 In First Period As Buser Heads Attack; Hobart Rallies Near End To Clinch Tilt

Unable to withstand a fighting Hobart aggression, the Lion lacrosse team blew up in the final quarter to lose the opening game of the season by a 14-9 count Saturday afternoon.

The local stickmen got off to an early start and held a 5-3 lead at the end of the first period, but Hobart pulled up to knot the score, 7-7, at the halfway mark. In the third quarter the lead see-sawed back and forth with Fitch scoring a second before the gun sounded to put the visitors ahead, 9-8.

Warren Dattelbaum pulled State back on even terms at the beginning of the fourth stanza by rifling a shot into the net from close range. With the score again tied, Hobart rallied and slipped a pair of counters past goalie Jack Yudin before Coach Nick Thiel yanked him in favor of Marty Safer, last year's frosh goaltender. Safer, however, failed to stem the tide, permitting the New York State sharpshooters to tally three more times in the last few minutes of play.

Co-Captain Bart Buser led the Lion scorers as he accounted for almost half of State's score by denting the net four times. Co-Captain George Ritter and Jim Riddell each tallied twice, and Dattelbaum contributed the final marker.

The summaries:

Penn State	3	4	2	5-14
Hobart	5	2	1	1-9

Goals: Hobart: Dobbin 4, Ferris 4, Fitch 4, Hart 2, Penn State: Buser 4, G Ritter 2, Riddell 2, Dattelbaum Substitutions: Hobart, Webster, Winslow, Leuder, Penn State, Cleak, Hess, Carter, Singley, Safer, Chelly, Zeigenfuss, Dowler, Campbell, Referee, Corry, Syracuse.

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