

Between The Lions

With PAT NAGELBERG

This is not the year! While the opening words of this daily sport column may have a strange sound for you incoming freshmen, a word with any upper-classman will set you straight. Because "This is the Year" has signalled in every football season at Penn State for the past few years.

The slogan, supposedly coined by the Lions' amiable football coach, Bob Higgins, became a by-word on the campus, especially during September and the early part of October when gridiron prospects still appeared bright. Usually, the optimism died out when the boys began taking on the tougher opponents. But it was sort of nice to sit back and reminisce of the good old days when the Nittany Lion ruled the eastern football horizon and the coming season's outlook was so rosy.

Then, in 1939 and in 1940, history did repeat itself. Our teams sailed through both campaigns with only two defeats and chalked up victories over such ancient rivals as Penn and Pitt. You don't realize yet what that means to a Penn Stater who has been watching the Panther chase the Nittany Lion back to his lair for 20 years.

Because there is something about college football that is synonymous with college life itself. It is in the stands during your enviable freshman year (and how we seniors envy you those thrilling first months here) that you get the true meaning of the Penn State spirit which will carry you through four years of good times and bad.

So if you have looked forward to an undefeated football year and a trip to the Rose Bowl, we, for one, don't blame you. In fact, we'd like it ourselves but unless a miracle comes to the aid of Bob Higgins and his men, you are in for a sad disappointment.

Maybe we're pessimistic after

Soose Will Defend Championship Against Ken Overlin This Fall



Abrams Becomes Nemesis Of Ex-Lion

The only intercollegiate boxer ever to hold a professional fistic crown, Penn State's Billy Soose, will have to defend his world middleweight title against Ken Overlin of New York either in October or November.

The Lion boxer, who has piled up an impressive record of 23 victories, 14 by knockouts, and 5 losses, agreed to give Overlin a return bout when he defeated the former champ in their title clash in May. Soose will meet Cefering Garcia in a non-title bout later this month.

Although Soose holds the world's middleweight crown, he isn't the recognized champion of the NBA. Tony Zale, possessor of the NBA title, dropped a 10-round decision to Soose when the title was not at stake.

The Penn State boxer beat Overlin once before, in a non-title bout at Scranton.

The biggest threat to the Farrell fighter's crown is Georgie Abrams of Pittsburgh, who is in the Navy now. Of the five defeats chalked up against Soose, Abrams has administered three of them.

However, Abrams will have to wait for the outcome of the Soose-Overlin fight this fall before trying to get a shot at the title.

Soose was an undefeated boxer and 155-pound champion on Penn State's intercollegiate championship boxing team of 1937. In 1938 he dropped out of college to turn to the pro ring.

BOXING CAPTAIN Bob Baird, above, would be around when the Penn State mitmen start slugging this winter. Baird, who was 145-pound runner up in the NCAA tourney last spring, volunteered to serve under Uncle Sam this summer.

'Dean' Burrell Given Watch For Service

"Dean" Burrell, for 21 years the custodian of Penn State athletic supplies, was presented with a gold watch by coaches and members of the School of Physical Education and Athletics faculty on July 29. Burrell retired on July 1.

reading the usual front page headlines but it looks as if the Lions are in for a mediocre season.

Unless it has replacements a la Minnesota, a team can't lose 10 regulars and most of the best reserves and still come out on top against more experienced teams.

"We hope we're wrong in our prognostication, but if this isn't the year don't give up all hope and leave the boys out on the field all alone. For you see, they are inexperienced just like you are and are bound to make mistakes. But they'll be in there trying every minute of the game and eventually another winning State team will be molded. Just like another Penn State spirit will be born again if you root for them, win or lose.



WORLD CHAMPION of the middleweight division, Billy Soose, above, will face Ken Overlin in a title bout sometime in October or November. The former Penn State boxer has beaten Overlin twice before.

Cage Game Postponed

A series of basketball games arranged at the University of Puerto Rico has been postponed until after the national emergency, Coach John Lawther said yesterday.

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9 Lions Receive National Honors

The 1940-41 season was a banner one for Penn State athletics, producing a greater galaxy of stars than ever before in the history of the college.

Nine Nittany Lion athletes received national recognition, while three others were named on All-Eastern teams.

Led by Barney Ewell, Penn State's sprint star who was named in the 100, 220, and broad-jump events on the NCAA team, the Lion athletes compiled sterling records.

In addition to setting a new Penn State scoring mark in basketball, Captain Jonny Barr received All-American recognition. Leon Gajecki, leader of the Lion eleven, was chosen All-American center on three football squads.

Charlie Ridenour captured the Eastern Intercollegiate wrestling title at 121 pounds, and Captain Frank Gleason, 136-pound grappler, placed third in the national collegiate matches.

Paul Scally won the NCAA 175-pound boxing crown, while Bob Baird was runner-up in the 145-pound class. Roman Pieo won the National AAU rope climb.

Marksmen Ben Stahl and Gilbert Gault were chosen on the national collegiate rifle team, and Walt Hosterman and Woody King were named on the All-Eastern soccer team.

Of the 12 athletes, only two or three will return this year. Ewell's status is uncertain. Barr, Gajecki, Hosterman, Scally, Stahl, Gault, Gleason, and Pieo graduated, while Baird is scheduled for service in the Army.

Gridders Begin Training

(Continued from Page One)

Palya, Leo Halkovich, and Sherwin Mayer.

Guards: Red Yoho, James Bonham, John Jaffurs, Paul Schlegel, Ted Kratzke, Bob Perugini, and Walter Drechsel.

Centers: Bob Wear, Charles Raysor, and Lou Palazzi.

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