

Cagers Inactive Over Vacation; Open With Eagles

Penn State's basketball Lions, who have chalked up a commendable record of four victories against a lone defeat, will hang up their court shoes during the Christmas holiday.

Their vacation will be short-lived, however, for Coach John Lawther's proteges will bounce right back into the thick of the campaign when they initiate a seven-game road card beginning at American University in Washington, D. C., on January 10.

From that date, the Nittany-men will battle on foreign courts for more than a month, and will not play before a home crowd until February 11, when the usually strong Temple Owls invade Rec Hall in the second of the two-game series between the two quintets this year.

Last season the Lions likewise enjoyed a lapse in the schedule during the holiday period, but in the 1939-40 campaign, Penn State took a four-game hunting trip during the Christmas recess. The Nittany-men bagged a trio of victories that year in Ohio, where they faced Kent State, Mt. Union and Akron. Winding up their trip at Pitt, however, the Lions were nipped by the Panthers in a close 31-28 battle.

On this year's schedule, the Nittany five will play West Virginia after the tussle at American U. This game with the Mountaineers at Morgantown, W. Va., is booked for Friday night, January 16. The following evening the Lions will move into Pittsburgh to tangle with the Panther aggregation.

Successive games with Army, Temple, Navy, and Carnegie Tech during the ten days from January 28 until February 7 will complete the long road trip for the Blue and White passers.

To date, the Lions have shown a better brand of ball than what many fans expected. Lawther's outfit lost only to Cornell 28-25, but on the other side of the ledger has marked up victories over Washington and Jefferson, who defeated the Nittany cagers last year, Susquehanna, Bucknell, and Syracuse.

KDR Boxers Take Intramural Trophy; 15 Finalists Win First Place Medals



PREXY WINS — Jack Gray '44, class president, won a close decision over Norm Gordon in the finals of the IM boxing tournament held in Rec Hall last night. The bout was a 121-pound independent battle.

Gajecki Prefers Job To Football

Ever wonder what Leon Gajecki is doing? You remember him, of course—he was last year's All-American center.

Gajecki was one college football star who knew when to quit. Instead of falling to the temptation of professional ball, he decided to do what he studied to do. He now holds a modest job as a chemist at the Atlas Powder Company, near Tamaqua.

Although forsaking football was a big decision for 24-year-old Gajecki, it was a fairly easy one because he figures he'd rather spend these crucial years of his life in developing a serious career.

So intent is he, in fact, that he is going back to "school." In the evenings, after he finishes his daily stint at the factory, he hurries to a Penn State classroom—this one in Tamaqua where he is enrolled in a chemistry of engineering materials class offered under the Engineering, Science, and Management Defense Training program of the College's extension services.

In an interview recently, Gajecki said, "I went to school for an education and what I took—fuel technology—wasn't exactly the sort of an easy course that goes with a locker-room job. Well, I got what I went after and now I'm going after more."

"Too often it seems to me boys who play football lose their perspective—and to them the game becomes the whole thing. It is up to a point, but a man's career is what he should be concerned with even though there's more immediate money in pro ball. I'm doing what I first set out to do and that's important to me."

Varsity Skiers Depart For New Hampshire

Five members of Penn State's varsity skiing team will leave tomorrow for Franconia Notch, New Hampshire, to undergo a week of practice for the Inter-collegiate Ski Tournaments at Lake Placid on January 1, 2, and 3, it was announced last night by Coach Max Dercum.

Members of the team making the trip are Captain Max S. Peters '42, John H. Mendenhall '42, Charles E. Fairchild '44, Harry C. Funston '44, and John J. Chambers '44.

Events of the Lake Placid tournaments include a 12 kilometer cross country race and a slalom race on January 1, a down hill dash on January 2, and a jumping contest ending the tournaments on January 3. The last event will be held on the 40 meter Intervale Jump near the famous, Olympic Jump.

Thrasher Whips Graf; Tighe TKO's Wright

By DICK STEBBINS

The Kappa Delta Rho fistic team unofficially won the intramural boxing trophy in Rec Hall last night as four of their contestants were victorious in the final bouts.

John McCreary, Jack Reitz, Bill Calvert and Joe McCormick were the winners for the KDR's as approximately 800 fans saw 15 finalists win claim to first place medals in thrilling, action-packed matches.

Freshmen Jack Tighe and John Laughlin provided the outstanding bouts of the night as both registered TKO's. Tighe won his TKO in the second round after Jim Wright, who had substituted

was the second out of three fights in the tourney for Tighe.

John Laughlin, AGR, TKOed Bob Morgan, Phi Gamma Delta, in the early seconds of the initial round. Laughlin, a good boxer with plenty of power, downed Morgan with a right to the chin in the unlimited scrap.

Upset of the tournament came in the Hal Thrasher-Johnny Graf match. Graf, who defeated Charlie Ridenour, TKOed Morton Blaustein, and had proven his ability in the early bouts, was badly outpunched and outsmarted by Thrasher.

Thrasher, AZ, had the reach on the 135-pound DTD contestant and used it to a good advantage. A strong left hand kept Graf away until he found an opening.

Jack Reitz, KDR 127-pounder, opened up a cut over DU Frank Perna's eye near the end of the first round. Referee Danny DeMarino stopped Perna from answering the bell for the second period.

Several bouts were won by very close margins. Chuck Phillips, Phi Delta Theta, beat Lynn Cook, PKTau, Joe McCormick, KDR, decided Irv Jontow, Phi Sigma Delta, Bill Calvert got the nod over Henry Derbyshire, and Jack Grey outpointed Norm Gordon in split decision battles.

Sam Harry, 135-pound fighter from the Penn State Club, threw telling body blows at Nick Oliver to gain another close judgement. Ernie George, Lion's Club, provided some of the best boxing of the tourney when he outboxed Joe Stronko. George, last year's 145-pound winner, weighed in at 140 for the 155-pound tussle.

Harold Bryant, Tau Phi Delta, snapped Ernie Giles' head back several times as he tossed driving rights and lefts to win the 155-pound fight. In the 127-pound independent class, Jess Fardella, Colonial, barely decided Glenn Hawthorne, Penn State Club. Ben Snipas, Penn State Club, who was runnerup in the 145-pound weight last year, whipped Lou Borges and Harry Bland, Penn State Club, forfeited to Howard Kendall in the 175-pound class.

1941-42 CHAMPIONS FRATERNITY DIVISION

121-POUND: John McCreary, KDR, decisioned Cy Ivory.

127-POUND: Jack Reitz, KDR, TKOed Frank Perna, DU, at end of first round.

135-POUND: Hal Thrasher, AZ, decisioned Johnny Graf, DTD.

145-POUND: Chuck Phillips, Phi Delta Theta, decisioned Lynn Cook, Phi Kappa Tau.

155-POUND: Harold Bryant, Tau Phi Delta, decisioned Ernie Giles, Beta Theta Pi.

165-POUND: Joe McCormick, KDR, decisioned Irv Jontow, Phi Sigma Delta.

175-POUND: Bill Calvert, KDR, decisioned Henry Derbyshire, Phi Kappa Sigma.

UNLIMITED CLASS: John Laughlin, AGR, TKOed Bob Morgan, Phi Gamma Delta, in the first round.

INDEPENDENT DIVISION

121-POUND: Jack Grey decisioned Norm Gordon.

127-POUND: Jess Fardella, Colonial, Decisioned, Glenn Hawthorne, Penn State Club.

135-POUND: Sam Harry, Penn State Club, decisioned Nick Oliver.

145-POUND: Jack Tighe, Ath Hall Waiters, TKOed Jim Wright in second round.

155-POUND: Ernie George, Lions Club, decisioned Joe Stronko.

165-POUND: Ben Snipas, Penn State Club, decisioned Lou Borges.

175-POUND: Harry Bland, Penn State Club, forfeited to Howard Kendall.

for Fred Krug in the 145-pound tilt, had provided unexpected opposition. Wright was floored when Tighe threw a terrific right punch to the side of his head. The TKO

Class Wrestling Ends Third Day

Featured by three matches won by pins, the interclass wrestling tournament went into its third day yesterday afternoon with five more bouts contested on the Rec Hall mats.

These were the final contests in the tournament until after the holidays when competition will be resumed.

In the only sophomore elimination match of the day, Sam Harry using an arm and body press, pinned Hal Neidig in 45 seconds of the third round. This was 140-pound competition.

Charley Dipner pinned George Zaharis after 51 seconds of the third period in their freshman 160-pound meet. A body press was the victor's margin.

Wrestling in the '45 140-pound class, Jim Payne scored two pins over Ivan Kolarik. The first was the result of a keylock and came after 41 seconds of the third round and the second came at the one minute and 15 second point in the third round with a body press.

In two other closely fought freshman matches, Henry Mattern defeated Anshel Melamed 6-5 in the 124-pound division and Ben Ulrich won over Charley Dipner who was fighting his second bout of the day, 4-2, in the 160-pound class.

It isn't old-fashioned for a fellow to propose to a girl on his knees—if that's where she's sitting.

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