

Between the Lions

By George Vadass

Jackie Tighe, Nittany ring leader, is the second man in Lion boxing history to captain a team for two consecutive seasons; Allie Wolff, who led the Blue and White in 1928 and 1929, was his only predecessor.

Born in Scranton on November 12, 1924, and living the average youngster's life, Jackie attended Central High School in Scranton, where he participated in basketball and baseball, earning varsity letters in both sports.

Jackie enrolled at the College in the fall of 1941 and shortly thereafter donned the gloves for the Ath Hall waiters in the intramural boxing tourney. Fighting in the 145-pound class Jackie knocked out all four of his opponents to win his weight division but in the fourth bout a smashing blow, landed on his opponent's jaw, broke his hand.

But a broken hand couldn't stop Jack! Working out daily with the freshman boxing team, Jack was in good enough shape to score a TKO against West Point's Mullins only four days after the doctor took the cast from his hand. Tighe finished the season by winning his other two bouts against Virginia and Syracuse boxers.

VARSITY COMPETITION

His sophomore year, Jackie won a berth on Coach Houck's varsity boxing team. Tighe won seven dual bouts that season, losing none. He entered the Eastern Intercollegiate boxing tourney and was tagged a pre-tournament favorite. Advancing into the finals after two successive victories, he was decided by Hal Wells of Syracuse whom Jackie had beaten earlier in the season. Billy Richards, now boxing mentor at Bucknell, captained that year's team to three victories, three defeats and one tie.

Jackie entered the service in March of 1943. He boxed on the Camp Wheeler, Ga., Army team for eighteen months, winning 20 bouts and drawing one. Completely outclassing all his GI opponents, Jackie walked off with the Southeastern Army title at a tournament held at Camp Stewart, Ga.

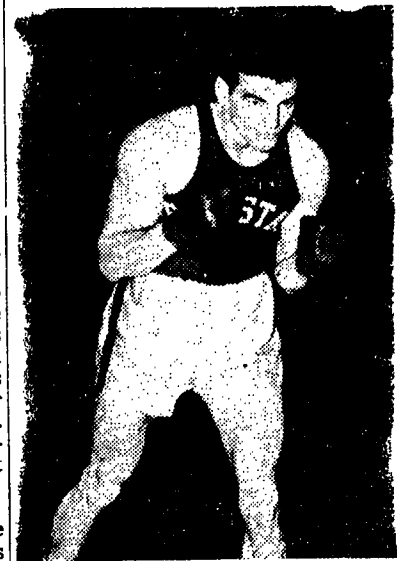
Jackie then went to OCS and upon receiving his commission as a second lieutenant in the infantry, shipped overseas with the 7th Infantry Division. After VJ-Day, Tighe was assigned to referee at the Japan-Korea Boxing Olympics held at Sendai, Japan.

While there he met Alexander Alex, one of his former sparring partners from the Nittany school. In fact, it was Alex who just recently reopened a cut on Tighe's nose during a hectic sparring session.

After refereeing the olympics, he was assigned to coach the Japan-Korea Army boxing team. Jackie took his team to the All-

Pacific championships at Hawaii, winning second place honors. Trainer of the team was Al Hostak, former middleweight champ of the world.

Upon receiving his discharge in June, 1946, Tighe returned to his alma mater to resume his studies. Coach Houck's first postwar boxing team was relatively weak. To give the team better balance, Jackie was moved up a weight.



JACKIE TIGHE

He won five, drew one and lost only to Wisconsin's John Lendenski, 165-pound national champ. That loss was the only one he has suffered in four years of dual meet competition.

Climaxing his successful season, the hard-hitting Tighe won the Eastern Intercollegiate laurels in the finals. It looked as if Jackie might also be the new national champ but after winning two fights in the Nationals, he lost a close decision in the final bout to the Pacific Coast champ, Wayne Fontez.

Last June, Jackie married his childhood sweetheart, Maureen Loftus. Mrs. Tighe is a real boxing enthusiast and goes to all the bouts at Rec Hall; however, when Jackie steps into the ring she hides her head. She says that she can't bear to see her husband fight!

Sports Schedule

SATURDAY HOME

Gym—Navy 1 p.m.
Wrestling—Cornell . . . 2:30 p.m.
Wrestling (JV)—Cornell . . .
 4:30 p.m.
Boxing—Mich. State . . . 7 p.m.
Basketball—Colgate . . . 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY AWAY

Fencing—Lehigh
Swimming—Temple

4 Quintets Gain IM Loop Crowns

Titleholders for all fraternity and independent basketball leagues where the regular league race ended in a tie, were decided in playoffs at Rec Hall, Tuesday night.

In the best game of the evening, Phi Epsilon Pi, sparked by sharpshooting Marc Claster, downed the hard-fighting Sigma Pi five 27-16 to win fraternity league "C" honors. Claster, who added 11 more points to his total Wednesday, ended the regular season as top scorer in IM competition.

Another feature of Tuesday's program was the three way playoff to determine the independent league "G" champion. Newman Club won the first, topping Murgas 24-11, but after an hour's rest dropped an 18-17 decision to Cody Comets.

GAIN TITLE

A basket scored in the last 30 seconds of play gave the Comets the win and the league crown. The defeat was the first loss suffered by the Newman Club since the initial contest of the season.

In other contests, Architects defeated the Phi's 26-21 to win the independent league "D" title, and Berletics copped a 25-13 decision from Dorm 13 to become independent league "C" champions.

Tonight's schedule:
8:45—Sigma Nu - Beta Sigma rho, Cody Comets-Architects.
9:25—Berletics-Dorm 33, Berks Independents—Dorm 28.

Gym NAAU's

Early inquiries indicate a record entry list when the National AAU gymnastics championships are held at the College May 1.

Rampaging Red Raiders Level Sights on Cagers

Averaging 65 points a game, the Colgate Red Raiders will visit Rec Hall Saturday determined to avenge the one point setback handed to them by Penn State earlier this season.

Only three losses mar the otherwise perfect record of the New York State team, with two of the contests being one point decisions. Besides the 35-34 Nittany loss, Colgate dropped an 80-79 game to Rutgers last week and a 64-59 contest to undefeated NYU.

Heading Coach Karl Lawrence's team is Ernie Vandeweghe, who, playing against Rutgers last Saturday, marked up 29 points. The 6-foot 3-inch center found the Lawther defense much more difficult to crack in the Penn State contest, and although high man for his team, scored only nine points.

SEASON RECORD

Colgate started its season off with a bang by swamping St. Bonaventure 79-43 and Niagara 71-61 but then slowed up slightly to top Cornell 47-45. After taking Rochester 61-40, the Raiders tangled with Penn State and lost their first game of the season.

Mohawk and Alfred bowed before the Colgate rush, but NYU snapped the win streak with a five point decision.

Bowling over Pitt, St. Lawrence, Clarkson, Hobart and Syracuse, the Lawrence team made a fatal mistake in the closing minutes of the Rutgers game which caused the Red Raiders' defeat.

Leading by a 3 to 5 point margin throughout the contest, Colgate, with three minutes remaining, decided to freeze the ball. But Paul Lynner, Scarlet forward, racked up three baskets in the final two minutes to give Rutgers an 80-78 lead at the end of the regulation game.

OTHER REGULARS

Ed Brett, Colgate forward, was awarded two foul shots at the final whistle but missed one to give Rutgers the victory.

Playing with Brett and Vandeweghe are three cagers who are well over six feet tall. At the other forward spot is Fred Dair, 6-foot 2-inch junior who placed fifth in the team's scoring last year, and at the guard posts are 6-foot 2-inch Fred Dair and 6-foot 2-inch Bob Plunkett.

Lion Grapplers Take on Cornell

Penn. State's wrestling forces—the varsity and the jayvees, are preparing for their Saturday afternoon tussles with Cornell. It will be the first time in two weeks that the varsity team will wrestle at home, having dropped successive away engagements to Lehigh and Navy.

Faced with two similarly tough opponents, Lehigh and Syracuse, Cornell lost both tilts. The Big Red bowed to Lehigh by a 26-10 score, and to Syracuse by 19-11. The Lions lost by the identical score to Lehigh, but succeeded in tying Syracuse.

Thus far, the Nittany varsity sports a record of 1 win, 3 losses and 2 ties.

Charlie Ridenour will be sending his jayvee matmen out for their second win in three starts. Earlier in the season, the Lions cubs trounced Bucknell's varsity, 21-10, while Lehigh's juniors came from behind to win, 16-14, in the jayvees' other match.

Track Slate

Four dual meets, the University of Pennsylvania Relays and the IC-4A championships are listed on the 1948 Nittany Lion track and field schedule announced by Harold R. Gilbert, graduate manager of athletics.

The schedule:
April 23-24, Penn Relays, at Philadelphia.
May 1, Ohio State; 8, Michigan State, at East Lansing; 15, Pittsburgh, 22, Colgate; 22-29, IC-4A championships.

IMA Opens Second Half Bowling League Season

Two newly-organized teams, the Btyplysks and the Ale and Quails, made their debut in noteworthy fashion by garnering sweeping victories in the opening matches of the second half of the IMA Bowling League recently.

Other clubs opening auspiciously were the first-half champion Beaver House, the Stellar Five, and the Lazy Five.

All five teams won by shutout scores.

High single game scorer of the night was Thomas Dille, Nittany Co-op, followed by V. DeLuca, Btyplysks, with 222 and 202 scores, respectively.

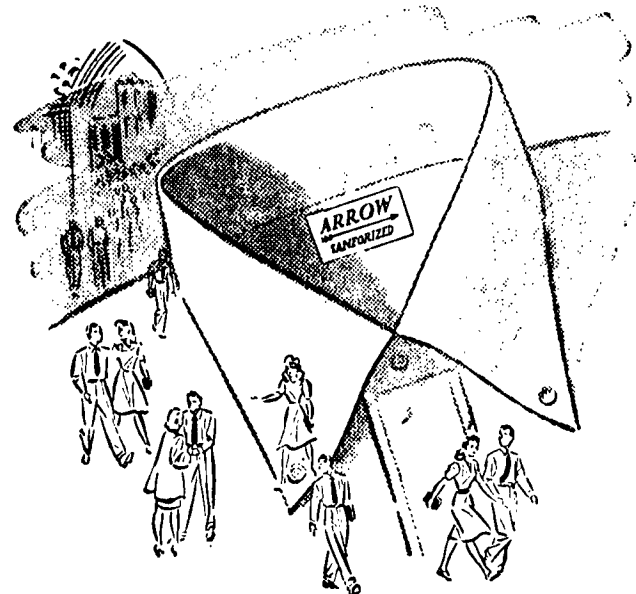
Tri-game high was turned in by Theodore Petry, 7-11 Club, with a 545 total. Closely behind was Dille with a 544.

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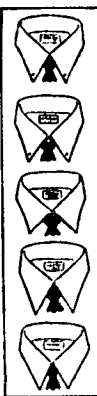


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