

Between the Lions

By George Vadasz

Now that Old King Sol is again sending his warm rays to the golf links, the baseball diamond and the claycourts, let's go back and reminisce on some of the major individual feats of the past Winter sports season.

Still a mystery to most Rec Hall fans is that unseen blow which Michigan State's Pat Dougherty landed on Jackie Tighe. Coming out of a clinch late in the last round, the "Tiger" was sent reeling to the canvas. After the count of nine, Jackie arose, enmeshed in a fog, and was saved from a possible second knockdown when the gong rang ending the fight.

Long remembered will be the unlimited weight wrestling contest between "Punchy" Rogel and Temple's James. Rogel, after only one week's practice on the mats, found himself behind on points with only seconds left to wrestle. Quickly glancing at the score board he knew it was now or never. Using every ounce of strength in him, he reversed his strong opponent and won a handy 8-5 decision to give the Lions a shutout victory over the Owls.

Highlight of the boxing season came when Lion 130-pounder John Benglian stepped into the ring to exchange blows with Syracuse's Jerry Auclair. After a brilliant three round ring duel, the Nittany boxer emerged with a draw against the defending 125-pound National champion.

The date January 21, 1948 will long be remembered by Milt Simon. It was the day that the Lion basketballers paid a return visit to the Bucknell Bison. Simon, sparkplug of Coach Lawther's basketball five, had a disagreement with Bucknell's John Lose and Milt, hit by the angered

Rogel

Lose, sustained a broken nose. From there the Bisons went on to swamp the Lions 36-29.

Don Arbuckle, lanky 136-pound wrestler, upset the dope bucket when he defeated Cornell's Captain John Raines. It was a thriller all the way with the underdog Arbuckle using every trick in the book. Raines had been considered one of the better wrestlers in the East.

And then, do you remember that Penn State-Colgate basketball game? A fraction of a second, a technical rule infraction and a last minute scoring duel between Milt Simon and Ernie Vandeweghe added up to a breath-taking extra period battle won by Colgate 61-60. With only ten seconds to go Lion Terry Ruhlman sank a two-pointer to put the game on ice but as the final gun sounded, Red Raider Frank Warren also made a basket, the officials ruling the basket good.

Vandeweghe scored five points in the overtime to provide the margin of victory. His 24 counters set a new Rec Hall scoring record. Incidentally, Vandeweghe had five personal fouls on him and still remained in the fray.

Jerry Karver, Lion track ace, made big news when he copped the Convention Hall Inquirer Meet indoor mile event. Later in the indoor season Horace Ashenfelter ran a record-breaking 1C-4A mile in 9:14.9. Ashenfelter's mark surpassed Curt Stone's 1947 winning mark by 2.7 of a second.

As Coach Gene Wettstone's gymnasts were winning meet after meet, it was always a quartet of performers—Steve Green, Ray Sorensen, Bill Bonsall and Bill Meade—who caught the spectator's eye. But let's look back to the Lion-Navy contest. Joe Linn, number one rope climber for the Nittanymen, climbed the 20-foot rope in 3.9 seconds to cop first place ahead of Hoffman, Navy's Eastern rope climb champion, who turned in a 4.1 climb.

Most Lion athletic fans probably did not witness this season's EIBA tourney at Virginia but without doubt most sports enthusiasts sat around the radio to listen to Mickey Bergstein's version of the fights.

They didn't get to listen very long when the heavyweight finale was broadcast. After a few seconds, husky Chuck Drzenovich landed a murderous right and boom...down went his opponent. Getting up hazily, he was hit again, and after only twenty seconds of the first round, Chuck had knocked out Walter Ilgenfritz to annex his first Eastern boxing title.

Looking back on these and other events, one can plainly see that the Lion garnered his share of thrills and spills this past winter. More are to come this spring!



Drzenovich

18 Teams Advance In IM Volleyball

Results of pre-Easter vacation action in the intramural volleyball league were:

Kappa Delta Rho-B over Theta Chi-B by forfeit, Phi Kappa Psi-B over Sigma Chi-B 15-4 and 15-8, Phi Delta Theta-B over Phi Sigma Kappa-B 15-7 and 15-7, Phi Kappa Sigma-B over Phi Kappa Tau-B 15-9 and 15-5; Phi Kappa-A over Theta Kappa Phi 15-12 and 15-9. Beta Theta Pi-A over Zeta Beta Tau-A 15-12 and 15-12, Phi Kappa Psi-A over Sigma Pi-A 15-12 and 15-8, Delta Chi-A over Phi Epsilon Pi-B 15-4 and 15-2, and Phi Sigma Delta-B over Lambda Chi Alpha-B 15-8 and 15-9.

Alpha Zeta over Sigma Phi Alpha 15-12 and 15-12, Delta Upsilon over Alpha Tau Omega 15-3 and 15-11, Chi Phi over Alpha Epsilon Pi 15-7 and 15-3, Sigma Nu-A over Acacia-A 15-6 and 15-2, Phi Gamma Delta-A over Theta Chi-A 15-11 and 15-11.

Beta Sigma Rho-A over Delta Sigma Phi 15-7 and 15-2, Phi Kappa Alpha over Sigma Phi Epsilon 15-7 and 16-14, Alpha Chi Rho and Alpha Phi Delta (no game), and Phi Sigma Delta-A over Delta Tau Delta 15-10 and 15-13.

Folmsbee, Kutsenkow Fail In Quest of NCAA Title

Cal Folmsbee and Mike Kutsenkow, the Lions' two representatives in the NCAA swimming tourney at Ann Arbor, Mich., last week, failed to qualify for the diving finals in which they were entered.

Michigan, host to the tourney, easily captured the team championship as they placed men in every event on the program.

York Catholic Captures State Class B Honors

York Catholic High was crowned Class B Catholic basketball champ at Rec Hall last night after outscoring St. Mary's Central Catholic High 44-42.

It was a disputed score and St. Mary's coach Jim Goetz protested the game. Bill Campbell, York star, threw the ball at the basket from his own foul line the length of the court and through the rim, giving York the margin of victory.

The official timer claimed he blew the horn ending the game before the ball left Campbell's hands, while the official on the court said the ball was in midair. Both coaches, officials and timers went into a short conference after the game but the score remained unchanged.

Sophomores Hold Key to Success Of Bedenk's Nittany Diamond Team

Prospects for a winning season for the Lion baseball team depend on how the sophomores currently slated for starting positions, perform in their initial season under Coach Joe Bedenk. The opening game against Dickinson College at New Beaver Field is scheduled for next Friday.

Graduations stripped the Lions of three-fourths of their starting infield, one outfielder, and all but one experienced pitcher from last year's team.

Despite losses from his mound corps, Bedenk is well fortified in this department with Capt. Bob Gehrett, a veteran with three years experience, Jim Mastico, a Sy Miller, Bill Hill, and Bill Clark, all right-handers, potential starters. Hill and Clark both played on previous Nittany nines before they entered the service.

HURLERS

Two outstanding southpaws, who are expected to develop into credible hurlers before the end of the season, are John Felty and Bill Benyish. Felty is a sophomore, but Benyish, the only experienced lefty on the squad, pitched in two games last season.

Ed Holler, last year's starting receiver, is back to take up catching duties again this season. Art Mengel, Bob Powell, Buss, and Ford, all sophomores, will be on hand to take up the slack in catching duties.

The infield will be Bedenk's chief trouble spot. Gene Sutherland, regular third baseman, "Whitey" Kurowski, who also played third, Ed Sebastianelli, former keystone sacker, Sheleberger, utility first baseman, and Ken Yount, who played first when he wasn't pitching, have left the campus.

INFIELD

Leading candidates for these vacant positions, all sophomores, are Dick Wertz at first base, Tom Moran or Myer at third, and Gene Solomon, or Smeltz at second base. Hal Hackman at short, in his third year on the varsity, will be the only veteran back to bolster the inner defense.

The outfield positions seem set with Don Stark, last season's leading hitter, in left, John Potsklan in center, and a rookie, Al Tkac, slated for right field. Potsklan got off to a slow start last year because of a conflict with Spring football practice, but this Spring is expected to develop into one of the best of the outer gardeners.

"We'll be in good physical shape for the opening contest," Bedenk said. "All potential regulars are in good shape, and there are no

serious injuries of any sort on the team."

In all practice games the pitchers have been far ahead of the batters due to their earlier conditioning. Weak hitting has been evident in every practice to date.

"I think our battery will be good, but the defense and the hitting is uncertain," the genial mentor answered when asked the prospects of this year's team.

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Houck Gives Views On Pro Ring Game

Boys who make the grade in college boxing could make the grade in professional boxing, but only if that was their goal, Lion ring coach Leo Houck says.

Asserting that the average college boxer competes only to win a letter or campus prestige, the veteran mentor contends no boy should go into the pro game unless he's seriously interested.

"It's a mistake," Houck adds, "to assume that a boy will make good in the pro ring just because he had an outstanding record in college. Maybe he has no interest in the pro game."

Houck, who fought professionally before he turned to college coaching more than a quarter of a century ago, also was frank to admit that the boy with professional ambitions probably could reach the top without thinking of college.

"In college," he explained, "the primary purpose is education. Boxing, or any sport of its type, is a secondary consideration."

IM Wrestling

Sigma Nu, seeking to renew its IM mat championship won last year, held a 10-point lead over Phi Sigma Kappa, prior to match time last night. Currently in third place is Sigma Pi. Sigma Nu has tallied 40 points thus far in the tourney, and six men are still in the running for individual crowns.

Pigskin Clinic Draws Higgins

Penn State football coach Bob Higgins will be one of the instructors at the second annual Football Clinic at Jersey Shore, May 1.

Cornell coach Lefty James will assist the Nittany Lion Cotton Bowl mentor with the instruction at the clinic which drew 300 high school coaches last spring.

The clinic was organized in 1947 and differs from other clinics in that no tuition is charged to coaches and players. All coaches and players are guests of the Jersey Shore High School for the day.

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