

# Between the Lions

By DAVE ADELMAN

You've got to be big in baseball, too. Joe Bedenk, the guy who has guided the fortunes of the Nittany Lion nines for the past eighteen years, rested against the desk in 111 Carnegie Hall, and faced Professor Schlabaeh's sports writing class. "Take Don Stark for example," he said.

"There's a kid with as great a pair of hitting wrists for his size as you could possibly find, but he'll never play better than sandlot ball. Why? His wrists are too small. He only weighs 100 pounds.

"Major league scoundrels are 104 games long, and playing baseball for a couple of hours every day is a tough grind. It may seem like fun from the stands, but it isn't. About mid-season the pounds begin to just melt away.

### THIRTEEN STRAIGHT GAMES

"Several years ago," said Bedenk, "we had a boy named Eastian who loved to pitch. He could do it too. We converted him from a second baseman and he won thirteen games in a row. But there wasn't a major league team that would look at him. He only weighed about 135 pounds."



BEDENK

Then someone in the class wanted to know what you had to have to make the grade in the big leagues.

Bedenk hesitated for a moment. "Well," he said, "you've got to have a strong arm, a lot of speed, good wrists and great coordinating ability."

"Some of you may remember Joe Tepsic," he said. "Joe was a natural. Against Syracuse, in his first year, he hit two home runs that sailed over the centerfielder's head. Both measured more than 400 feet. Five major league clubs offered him \$5000 the first semester he was here.

"But along came the war and Joe was with the First Marines in Guadalcanal. When he came back he was nervous and jittery. He couldn't sit still, and he didn't want to go to class.

### TEPSIC WANTED \$25,000

"Bill McKechnie, who was then manager of the Cincinnati Reds, wanted him, and I would like to have seen him go there. McKechnie was the fatherly type and could have helped Tepsic. The Reds offered Tepsic \$15,000.

"Tepsic said he wanted \$25,000, but he finally signed with the Dodgers for \$17,500, and a clause in his contract that said he couldn't be shipped out in his first year.

"There was an immediate clash of personalities when Tepsic got to Brooklyn, and with that he was still troubled with his lack of effectiveness against the change of pace ball. He didn't last."

"You know," Bedenk said, "college baseball is one of the toughest sports to sponsor on a college campus. If a kid can throw or hit at all, the pro's have him."

The kids who do make the best college ballplayers, he said, are those from Mineral Industries or Engineering. They have to hustle in their classes and they bring that hustle on to the field with them.

"Not the boys from Liberal Arts or the Physical Education majors," he said. "They get into the habit of having too much time on their hands."

## Boxing Lessons Help Teach Blocking, Crisler Says

"Boxing lessons help teach football blocking," said Fritz Crisler, Michigan football mentor, in a speaking class at the second annual football clinic at Atlantic City recently.

"Boxing lessons and patience of the football coach can contribute greatly to the ability of a lineman.

"The first thing an offensive line blocker must learn is to keep his eyes open," said Crisler.

"He must keep his eyes on the target. Boxing helps him do that—it teaches the boys to keep their eyes open," the veteran coach concluded.

## Veterans Bolster Lion Golf Hopes For New Season

Confronted with the pleasant prospect of starting the season with a golf team composed of many of last season's regulars, Coach Bob Rutherford is looking forward to April 30, and to a successful season.

Last year Penn State finished third in the Eastern Intercollegiate Golf Association playoffs at Cornell behind Princeton and Navy.

Back from last year's team are Captain Don Hart, Jack Harper, last year's captain, Bob Klein, Alan Hack, Joe Boyle, Ramon Peterson, Jim Noble, and Gerry Smith.

Marvin Goldenberg, winner of the All College golf tournament last year, Tom Smith and Dick Hastings, although not members of last year's team, are expected to give the veterans competition.

"However," Coach Rutherford said, "the positions are still wide open and the team will be chosen by competition. Each player will qualify or be eliminated."

There are 16 teams in the Eastern Intercollegiate Golf Association, divided into groups of four each. Rutherford's men will compete with Cornell, Army and Pitt in the EIGA at Pittsburgh on May 7-8. The winner of the matches will advance to the finals at Atlantic City held on May 15.

## Swim Team Banquet Planned for Monday

Election of a new swimming team captain will highlight a banquet to be given at the State College Hotel at 6:15 p.m. Monday.

Ike Gilbert, graduate manager of athletics, and Walter Hosterman, assistant graduate manager of athletics, have been invited as guests of the squad.

Following the dinner plans have been made to release the tank schedule for next season.

and Athletics or by an instructor in the same school.

5. All reservations must end at the stroke of the hour as sounded by Old Main's clock. The next reservation will be effective at once. If the possessors of the court are in the middle of a game, they may finish as long as it doesn't require more than 15 minutes.

6. A reservation must be taken up by 15 minutes past the hour, otherwise it is automatically cancelled. Anyone has the right to play on those courts not reserved.

7. Courts are not to be used when wet.

## 14 Lettermen Form Nucleus Of Thiel's 14th Stick Squad

Fourteen lettermen from the nucleus of Coach Nick Thiel's 1948 edition of the Nittany Lion lacrosse team. Thiel, beginning his 14th year as head coach of the blue and white stickmen, has been working hard with a squad of approximately 80 candidates.

The Lions open their season next Friday in Philadelphia with Drexel, followed by a Saturday date with Penn.

### LETTERMEN RETURN

Lettermen returning to the Nittany fold include Captain "Wild Bill" Hottenbaen, George Locotos, last year's captain; John Nolan, second team All-American and captain in 1946; "Bugs" Baer, John Kinley, Dean Kissel, Art Lorenz, Bob Lewis, John McCleary, John Nehoda, Rog Nestor, Tom Smith, Buddy Lewis and Jim Wolf.

Coach Thiel plans a jayvee team for the first time this season. The Lion cub aggregation will be made up entirely of sophomores, and will be coached lacrosse ace.

Coach Thiel's biggest problem thus far has been in developing a suitable defense. Last year's regular defensemen have all graduated. Also lost via graduation was Ken Kerwin ace point-maker, who received the first

George R. Pittenger award as the outstanding lacrosseman of the 1947 team.

### SQUAD OF NOVICES

"We should have a better-than-average season," the veteran coach said, "but you must consider that, with one exception, we are probably the only college in the country that has a squad of players who never played lacrosse before entering college."

That exception is Eddie Belfield, sophomore from Swathmore, who played lacrosse at Swarthmore high school.

The nine-game schedule contains teams that are annually among the leaders in the country. Two Lion opponents, Army and Navy, are considered in the "big five" of lacrosse, which also includes such stalwarts as Johns Hopkins, Maryland and Princeton. Army was runner-up to Hopkins for the National championship last year.

### Sport Clinic

Three Penn State coaches will serve on the teaching staff of the University of Connecticut sports clinic at Storrs, Conn., in late August. Coaches who have accepted assignments are Bob Higgins, football; Joe Bedenk, baseball; and Bill Jeffrey, soccer.

## Down the Alley

The sixth game in the second round of the IMA Bowling League finds the Btyflysks and the 7-11 Club in a tie for first place with the high average of .750.

Their close competitor, the Ale and Quail crew, promises stiff opposition in the contest at the Dux Club tonight.

Mayer of the Btyflysks independents led the night's individual scoring with a high of 245. Klein of the Hellions five took second place honors with a total of 215.

The top three game tally of 534 was registered by John Labash representing Beaver House while John Lux of the Lazy Five and Vanacek of Ath Hall group each chalked up a 514 high for the evening.

### Team Standings

Btyflysks	36	12	.750
7-11 Club	36	12	.750
Ale & Quail	34	14	.708
Ath Hall	28	20	.585
Beaver House	27	21	.562
ITK	24	24	.500
Kaufman Club	24	24	.500
Hellions	22	26	.458
PH's	22	26	.458
Nittany Co-op	20	28	.416
Stellar Five	18	30	.375
Penn Haven	17	31	.354
Lazy Five	14	34	.291
Dorm 13	14	34	.291

## Tenzer Outlasts Riggs; Advances in IM Handball

Irwin Tenzer, Phi Sigma Delta, advanced in the IM handball playoffs Wednesday night when he made a strong finish and defeated John Riggs, Sigma Phi Sigma, 21-13 and 21-20 in the two final games after losing the first 21-15.

TKE, Frank Taucher, won two of three from Tom Smith. DU, Smith won the first game 21-16 and Taucher the two finals 21-14 and 21-12.

Beta Sig's Sam Firstone had little trouble defeating, Elmer Strunk, Acacia, 21-1 and 21-11.

The National Student Relief Committee has inaugurated this year summer work scholarships for needy students who have exhibited leadership ability.

## Schott Releases Rules for Courts

Rules for the use of the College tennis courts were today released by Carl P. Schott, Dean of Physical Education and Athletics.

In order to reserve tennis courts, call College operator and ask for Extension 87J. The tennis court checker will make reservations.

Reservations may be made daily except Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon; from 1:30 to 5 p.m. On Sundays reservation may be made from 1 to 3 p.m.

Recreation courts are numbered 1 to 12, starting with the court nearest Recreation Hall. Varsity courts are numbered 12 to 16, starting with the court closest to the fraternity houses. Alpha Zeta court is number 19.

Dean Schott emphasized that all players must wear rubber-soled, heelless shoes.

### COURT RULES

The following set of rules will be enforced at all College courts:

1. First consideration is given to regular College classes.

2. Aside from classes, College students and employees have equal rights. Non-College people are not permitted the use of the courts.

3. Reservation may be made only a day in advance and for only one hour. The College has too few courts to allow one person to monopolize them for several hours at a time.

4. No person is required to give up a court except upon presentation of a written reservation signed by the Dean of Physical Education

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