

Ewell Shines in Olympics

Nittany Valley sports enthusiasts for years have recounted the Olympic exploits of such famous Lion athletes as Crip Moore, Alan Helffrich, Blondy Romig, Al Bates and many more but their performances are temporarily forgotten and the spotlight focuses to the star performer of the recent Olympiad, Henry Norwood "Barney" Ewell, the man who was voted "the athlete who had done the most for Penn State" when he finished his brilliant track career at the College in 1942.

The 30-year-old speedster, who had been considered by many too old to run in the dashes, picked up two silver medals and was the leadoff man on the winning 400-meter

relay team at the London games to pace the American track and field contingent.

LOSES TWICE

Ewell lost two heartbreaking photofinish races in the 100- and 200-meter dashes but still annexed two second spots as the American trackmen captured eleven gold medals.

But Ewell's success at the Olympics is only part of the story which dates back into the early part of this year.

Barney was then working in a Lancaster industrial plant training daily after working hours. Many of his friends and associates thought then that he was well over the prime age for sprinters.

But Barney had his mind set on the Olympics and so the citizens of Lancaster started a campaign to raise funds "to take care of his wife and child while Ewell was training for and participating in the Olympic games in London."

Funds accumulated quickly and Ewell started the tedious training grind. He won some of his first warm-up races but he also lost some. His times were nothing out of the ordinary.

It was in the Middle Atlantic AAU's that the Lancaster speedster started to set American

cinders on fire. He won the 100- and 200-meter dashes in record times. On that same day Jerry Karver the Lions' strongest contender for an Olympic berth,

suffered one of the season's biggest upsets when Villanova's Browning Ross cut across the tape ahead of Karver in the 1500-meter event.

Then came the final Olympic tryouts at Dyche Stadium at Evanston, Ill. It was there that Ewell pulled one of the most dramatic track upsets in many a year

when the 30-year-old Barney beat the supposedly "world's fastest human being," Mel Patton, in the world-record-equalling time of 10.2 seconds over the 100-meter route.



—Photo Lancaster Newspapers, Inc.

Barney Ewell, returning to Lancaster, Pa., from London, is feted by the city. Mayor Dale E. Cary pictured above welcomed Ewell after his triumphant Olympic trip.

After a sterling performance in the London spectacle despite his age, 30, the venerable but versatile dash man stood out as the outstanding member of the U. S. track and field squad which made a post-Olympic tour of Europe last month.

Ewell gained recognition as the top performer of an international meet at Prague, Czechoslovakia, where he was victorious in the 200-meter dash and was a member of the winning 100-meter relay team.

At 30, the veteran cinder-pounder amazes the track world with his speed and stamina.

That same day Curtis Stone, who two seasons ago was Chick Werner's protege in the two-mile run, qualified for the 5000 meters while Herman Goffberg, a Nittany alumnus who never quite hit his stride as a collegiate competitor, was the third Penn State man to qualify for the Olympics.

Jerry Karver, who was considered by many track experts as "the man to beat in the 1500-meter event," just missed making the boat trip by inches.

The Boyertown flash, who won the triple mile crown last year twice a national champion and twice an IC4A titlist, took fourth place from the start of the race, then advanced to second place but later dropped back to fourth where he finished.

From the opening day of the Olympics the Americans started their quest for gold medals. Harrison Dillard captured the 100-meter dash with Ewell placing second. Barney closed in with such a terrific burst of speed that he almost nassed Dillard. So close was the outcome of the race that the judges had to go into a long conference before awarding the decision to Dillard.

The next day victory laurels were again denied to Ewell when he again finished second, this time to Mel Patton in the 200-meter event. So close was Ewell to Patton that a picture taken of the finish decided the outcome and both Ewell's and Patton's times were identical.

MOVIES TELL

Ewell also figured in the 400-meter relay team victory. Officials thought that he committed a foul when he passed the baton to his teammate Wright and although the Americans won the race by ten yards the gold medal was awarded to Great Britain. But films taken of the race

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Football Slate	
VARSITY	
Oct. 2—Bucknell	home
Oct. 8—Syracuse	Syracuse
Oct. 16—West Virginia	home
Oct. 23—Mich. State	home
Oct. 30—Colgate	Hamilton
Nov. 6—Penn.	Philadelphia
Nov. 13—Temple	home
Nov. 20—Pitt.	Pittsburgh
Nov. 27—Wash. State	Tacoma
JUNIOR VARSITY	
Oct. 8—Syracuse	Syracuse
Oct. 16—Bucknell	Lewisburg
Oct. 22—Navy	Annapolis

Lion Gridders Meet Nebraska On '49, '50 Card

Penn State and Nebraska, football opponents only once in 61 years, will resume relations in 1949 after a lapse of 29 years. They will also clash in 1950.

Bob Higgins, who is looking forward to his 19th season as head Lion grid coach, had graduated when the first game was played in 1920, but he recalls vividly watching it from the stands.

In this era, the years immediately following World War I, Penn State enjoyed its greatest success in football, producing three all-Americans in succession and rolling through 30 consecutive contests without defeat.

Way, who was the stand-out in 1920, was the second all-American player to be chosen. Walter Camp had selected Higgins for an end post in 1919, and Glenn Killinger was named to a half-back spot in 1921. Two years later, in 1923, Joe Bedenk, present Nittany line coach, was named to a guard position.

Nebraska, returning to the Lion schedule in the middle of what Nittany followers hope is another "golden era", will invade New Beaver field for the second time Saturday, October 15, 1949. A year later, on October 21, 1950, the Lions will appear at Lincoln, Nebraska.

In the gridiron campaign which is about to open, the Blue and White eleven will play a nine-game slate which includes Bucknell, Syracuse, West Virginia, Michigan State, Colgate, Penn, Temple, Pittsburgh and Washington State. Four encounters are scheduled at home.

For the third straight year, State has booked a night football game for the '47 season. The Higgins machine will tackle Syracuse at Syracuse, N. Y., Friday night, October 8, instead of Saturday, October 9, as previously scheduled.

Syracuse asked for the change, explaining that its night game with Penn State two years ago attracted the largest pre-game sale of tickets in the history of this rivalry.

Ex-Lion Coach

Nate Cartmell, former Nittany coach, keeps in touch with the game as a track aide at Manhattan College.

Between The Lions



By Tom Morgan
Sports Editor

Another Year

Fall breezes whipping down the Nittany Vale already have a cold snap to 'em.

To the farmer, that means it's harvest time—time to gather grain 'n' pumkins, to the city slicker that means vacation is truly over and it's high time he buckled down to the ol' grind at the office.

But in Nittanytown, 'nias State College, that means the wide-eyed sophs are in town, the upper-class sophisticates are close on their heels, the local tradesmen are dusting off wares to sell to 8000 College Joes and Joseys, and Coach Bob Higgins' cries of anguish once again echo from New Beaver Field to Mt. Nittany as he surveys his current crop of 40-odd husky football stalwarts.

Golden Era

Once again, also, it is the happy job of the sports editor of this thriving sheet to dish out an appraisal of what's to come in Nittany sporting circles in '48-'49.

By way of introducing the present Penn State sports panorama to newcomers to campus, let's say at the outset that we are now smack-dab in the middle of a Golden Era in Penn State sports. For that, we're lucky.

Talent is terrific in Nittany Lion football and other sports, mainly because of the wealth of ambitious athletes and the keen competition generated by the fact that many war veterans whose schooling was interrupted are vying for team positions that would ordinarily go to Harry Straight-out-of-High-School.

So, you see, it follows that we have better teams and win more games. (However, if you talk to several Lion coaches about this, they'll say the other teams are having the same boom in player talent and attack our "argument" until it tends to become sieve-like.)

Plaskin Picture

But, to get down to the meat of this discourse, the '48-'49 sports scene is strictly favorable to the fortunes of the Nittany Lion.

On the football front, Head Coach Higgins is looking forward to his 19th straight season at the Lion helm, and this year most of the "knowing" nail-chewing forecasters pick the Hig's eleven to pace the East as in '47. Skipper Higgins' grid edition last year put Penn State on the national football map like no other previous Lion team.

He admits that this season's squad, now practicing twice daily on New Beaver Field, boasts possibilities of equaling last year's, but he's worried about good reserve strength on the line.

As far as foes go, there are several powers on the gridiron schedule that could deal a death-blow to the Lions, especially if over-confidence engulfs the Nittany eleven.

They're billing the Penn-Penn State struggle as the top game in the East this year. Certain to be a corker, that one will decide much for the Blue and White.

With 19 lettermen returning from last year's unbeaten eleven, Penn State is again a prospective football titan in '48.

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