

State Five Tests Hoyas In 2nd Capital Tussle

No rest for the weary! Penn State's doughty band of basketballers climb back into their still-damp togs tonight to duel Georgetown University in an 8:30-scheduled contest in Washington, D. C.

Tonight's cage tilt marks the second time in two nights that the Lions will appear on the capital courts.

Last night's fray against American U. was not completed in time to make today's Daily Collegian deadline.

Big name teams mean little to the Blue and Gray clad warriors, who annually play some of the top teams in the nation. Coach Elmer Ripley appears to have built another typically powerful Hoya club.

AVERAGED 52 POINTS

The Catholic college is expected by many to outstrip its 1947-'8 record when it won 13 and lost 15. The Hoyas have added more height and experience to go along with their already strong scoring punch, which averaged 52 points per game last year, and are generally conceded to be a stronger combination.

Georgetown's record last year, although unimpressive on the surface, revealed competition against such nationally known schools as Notre Dame, St. Louis, Western Kentucky and N.Y.U.

The two collegiate rivals split a pair of contests last year. Penn State copped a close 42-40 verdict on the National Armory boards, with the Blue and Gray taking another tight 49-43 affair.

LOSE TO N.Y.U.

Ripley's proteges are not expected to pull any punches in tonight's fracas. The Hoyas are trying to regain the victory bandwagon after dropping a 70-59 contest to New York University in Madison Square Gardens last Saturday.

Georgetown's 16-man roster lists nine returning lettermen. Outside of two exceptionally tall men, substitute Dan Spukis, 6 foot 7 inches, and John Mazzotta, 6 foot 5 inches, the Hoyas'

height is average for basketball teams.

Captain Ray 'Chief' Corely and his 'basket buddy,' Tommy 'Flash' O'Keefe, will lead the Georgetown forces. The two prolific scoring wizards, in addition to directing the team from the guard spots, pack the hosts' heavy artillery and will have to be stopped if the Nittanymen hope to come out on top.

PROS EYE O'KEEFE

O'Keefe set last year's scoring pace with a 270-point total, followed by Corely, his roommate, who amassed 156 tallies. A junior, O'Keefe is already being eyed by the pros, and in collegiate circles around the nation's capital he is believed to have a promising career ahead of him. Corely, a well-set-up 6-footer, is labeled by Ripley as one of the finest potential stars to come to the Hilltop.

The center slot will be covered by 6-foot-2-inch George Benigni, who also plays end on the Hoyas' football team. Likely to see action in starting forward roles are 'Irish' Joe Culhane and Dick Favey. Culhane is regarded by Rochester sportswriters as one of the best collegiate performers ever to come out of that section.

Benigni and Favey are considered the Hilltoppers' outstanding backboard men.

Italo 'Fireball' Ablondi and Frank Alagia will replace the first-stringers.

First Wrestling Match

Penn State's first intercollegiate wrestling match was with Cornell at Ithaca in 1909.



GENE WETTSTONE

Gymnasts Will Rebuild This Year — Wettstone

It looks like this year will mark the end of the glory trail for Gym Mentor Gene Wettstone and his charges.

The Lion gymnasts, undefeated for the past three years of collegiate competition and unprecedented winner of three intercollegiate crowns last year, have been hard hit by losses through graduation and the claims of the armed forces. The current season is expected to be "one of rebuilding," to quote Wettstone.

Ten of last year's top aggregation which annexed the Eastern Intercollegiate, NCAA and NAAU titles have departed from the campus.

SORENSEN

Gaps left by the departure of last year's Captain Ray Sorensen, NCAA parallel bars and all-around champion; Steve Greene, Eastern Intercollegiate, NCAA and NAAU side horse titleholder, and Joe Linn, last season's number one rope climber, will be hard to fill.

"I don't expect to come close to winning all our meets this year, and I certainly don't think we'll repeat our NAAU triumph of last spring," Wettstone declared.

But all is not gloom and despair on the gymnastic front either. Five returning veterans, four of them lettermen, will be back to bolster Wettstone's 1949 aggregation and provide the nucleus of this year's squad.

Core of the gymnastic contingent will be Bill Bonsall, who placed second in the NAAU all-around championship competition, Bill Meade, last year's ace tum-

Continued on page five

155-Pounders Capture Crowd At IM Boxing

Curtin TKO's Trioni, Dumps Sigma Nu Hope

Sigma Nu boxing stock took a sharp decline under the glaring lights of varsity ring, Recreation hall last night.

Hopes of that house for a 155-pound champion in poker-faced Lou Trioni plunked to the floor as Bill Curtin, Phi Delta Theta spoiler, throwing caution to the winds and standing toe-to-toe with Trioni, bombarded his rival into oblivion in the second round of their scheduled three round duel.

One other technical knockout and a first-round KO mixed with four exciting decision wins, shook another large crowd out of its early lethargy and made a ring-in success of the IM department's boxing card.

Last semi-final bouts go on tonight at Rec hall with half a dozen fights scheduled to start at 5 p.m.

CURTIN TAKES OVER

Feeling each other out with searching left jabs through half the first round, then breaking out into a give and take slogging battle, Trioni and Curtin weathered the first stanza in good order. But in the second, Curtin took command after Trioni set the stage with a stunning flurry of blows.

A right-hook by Curtin, thrown in retaliation, put the Sigma Nu chips in the ring and Curtin collected as he pummeled Trioni into a corner and put him on the wagon with a succession of rights and lefts. Trioni couldn't answer the bell for the third frame.

155-POUND ACTION

The 155-pounders showed most of the action last night. John Long, Sigma Chi, looped a ripping right in the first round of his scrap with Henry Van Hallewyn, Delta Chi, that withered Van Hallewyn where he stood. The blow echoed off the Delta Chi's ear to stop the bout early.

Independents Robert Briselli and Maloney in the same class erased their opponents in two well-matched bouts. Briselli stopped Hopkins in the first round of their fight, while Maloney, opening Dave Warrington's nose in the second round, slugged to a decision win.

DRAZENOVICH WINS

Heavyweight Joe Drazenovich, Delta Upsilon, braved a third round storm by Dalton Rumberger, Alpha Zeta, to move into the finals. With his corner yelling "On him, Joe," the stocky Nittany guard charged into Rumberger's swinging fists to twice floor his taller rival, and cop the decision.

Charley Vitabile, Theta Xi, outlasted Clyde Wilson, Alpha Gamma Rho, in a 175-pound bout, and slipping under Wilson's longer

Continued on page five

Between The Lions



By Tom Morgan
SPORTS EDITOR

On Redwoods

Expressions like "tall men control the boards" and "basketball games are won under the boards" have boosted a theory that five human skyscrapers are standard equipment if one is to produce a better-than-average basketball team.

One of the first questions often asked by coaches and fans about a prospective basketball player is: "How tall is he?" If pint-sized, he sometimes is not afforded much chance of making the first five, for what can a small shrub do among redwoods?

But occasionally one of these "shrubs" asserts himself by running rings around his taller brethren on the hardwood. By demonstrating that he is better coordinated, trickier, faster, a superior dribbler, a better ball handler, more exacting in starts, stops and change of direction, he helps disprove the premise that basketball is only for giants.

Simon, Weiss, Tocci

Out to prove there's a place for the little fellow on Coach John Lawther's '48-'49 cage team are a few Statemen whose respective heights reach less than 5 feet 10. Competing for starting assignments with "redwoods" who sport up to a 10-inch height advantage are Mill Simon, Ken Weiss and Joe Tocci.

A first-stringer last year after playing no varsity basketball in high school, Simon is 5 feet 9, weighs 158 pounds and comes from Erie.

The two newcomers, both smaller than Simon, are Tocci, of Ridgewood, N. Y., who started against Pitt in the season opener, stands 5-7 and weighs 155, and Weiss, of Allentown, who is 5-8 and weighs 150.

Unfortunately, current Nittany students who double as fans of the court game will be unable to see these midgets in action till the January 8 home game with Colgate. That is, unless they're around these parts come Saturday when the Lawthermen open the home slate during Christmas vacation.

More From Spartans

Although he didn't mention it specifically, that long touch-down run called back in the Michigan State-Penn State football game has prompted Spartan Coach Clarence "Biggie" Munn to suggest a rule change.

Munn would have officials

Continued on page five

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Gift wrappings that will add to the spirit of giving, a bright, cheerful greeting that will always be remembered.

- Ribbon
- Wrappings
- Cards
- Stickers

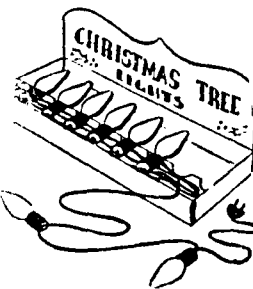
24 Hour service on Personalized Xmas Cards.



Special on Tree Lights

An 8-light set, complete with G.E. bulbs 95c

NOMA—Indoor and Outdoor Lights 1 95



To highlight your Christmas with the proper spirit, decorate your tree with these listening trimmings.

Ornamental Balls—Tinsel—Angel-hair—Wreaths



DO ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING NOW at . . .

METZGERS

NOW AT YOUR WARNER THEATER

Cathann
Edward G. Robinson
"NIGHT HAS A THOUSAND EYES"

State
Veronica Lake
Billy DeWolfe
"ISN'T IT ROMANTIC"

Nittany
HELD OVER!
French Hill
'Jenny Lamoor'

YOU'LL FIND QUICK, CLEAN, COURTEOUS SERVICE AT
MARSHALL'S Automatic Laundry
454 E. COLLEGE AVE.—REAR

