

6 Nittany Squads Seek Victory on Foreign Soil

Six Penn State teams have traveled to the four points of the compass this weekend as the Lions seek wins in basketball, boxing, gymnastics, fencing and track.

Although the major athletic teams will be on the road this weekend, the sporting fare for the College will include a rifle meet at the Armory at 2 p.m. and a battle of high school titans, Clearfield vs. Bellefonte, in Rec Hall at the same time.

Clearfield recently won its 37th straight dual meet and Bellefonte is protecting a 21-meet victory string.

Ashenfelter Returns To Defend IC4-A Title

After weeks of exercise and slow running, Horace Ashenfelter will compete in his first race of the indoor season tonight in an attempt to hold his Intercollegiate 4-A two-mile title.

"Fearless Fosdick" broke a bone in his foot during an Intercollegiate 4-A cross-country meet last fall, and was sidelined with his foot in a cast for the beginning of the indoor season.

By the dint of sheer determination, "Ash" slowly rounded into form after his cast was removed, and his first and most important test, the IC4-A meet at New York, will show if the Nittany distance ace can meet top collegiate competition after a three-month layoff.

Jim Gehrdes will go out after the high hurdle title, and is an odds-on favorite to capture the 60-yard title.

Gymnasts Face Sailors In Annapolis Dual Meet

Two "weak sisters" of the Eastern Intercollegiate gym conference clash today when the Nittany Lions, striving for their first conference win, meet a Navy team which is in literally the same boat in a dual meet at Annapolis.

Syracuse and Army have already downed the Lions while Navy too has bowed to the Orangemen from upper New York State.

Captain Bill Bonsall, favored to take firsts in at least two events, the horizontal bar and flying rings, may be the difference between the two teams. Naval superiority on the ropes is counterbalanced by superior Penn State strength in the tumbling competition.

Navy Captain Roy Grayson, best bet to capture the Eastern side horse title later this year, will be another thorn in the gymnastic side of Coach Gene Wettstone's team.

Grapplers Seek Upset, Engage Middies Today

Navy's formidable wrestling combo, undefeated in dual meet competition since 1942, plays host to Penn State's upset-hungry matmen this afternoon at Annapolis, Md. It will be the Lions' last match of the season.

Coach Ray Swartz's Midshipmen were forced to settle for a tie against Princeton two weeks ago—a team that the Lions beat, 19-9, while at full strength, but managed to protect their unbeaten 52-meet record.

Last week, the sailors squeezed out a 19-16 win over Lehigh, which had previously edged the Lions, 14-11. To further muddle the Eastern mat picture, the Statemen were early-season victors by a 24-6 count over Cornell, a team that copped a 14-13 verdict from the same Lehigh squad.

Three lineup changes have

been made by Coach Charlie Speidel in hopes of strengthening his forces for the battle with the Navy grapplers. Jack Dreibelbis, boasting a clean slate for three clashes this year, replaces Kryder Mattern at 128 pounds, and Bill Corman takes over Bob Hetrick's post at 165 pounds. Bob Markle regains his position at 175 pounds as the result of Corman's drop in weight classes.

Lions End Road Slate, Duel Orange Meshmen

After facing a tough Colgate basketball quintet last night at Hamilton, N. Y., Penn State's varsity dribblers take a short hop to Syracuse University today where the Lions will close their 1948-'49 road menu.

The schedule lists only two remaining games after tonight's skirmish with the Orange has been crated.

With the invasion of Temple U. onto the Rec Hall boards, Nittany Valley cage fans will have the opportunity of watching one of the finest teams in the East Wednesday. From down in the "Gone With the Wind" country Georgetown makes its appearance on Saturday, displaying its perennially strong brand of ball.

Prior to the Colgate tussle, the Lions faced a rheumatic foreign-court, six-game losing streak which had been stretched to eight games over the past two years. The last State win on an enemy court came against Georgetown February 13, 1948.

After scoring nine wins in their first twelve games, the current Orange five ran into an inspired State team which recorded a decisive 63-47 upset win.

Determined not to see a repetition of the early-season loss on the Syracuseans' home court, Coach Lew Andreas will start his strongest combination.

Fully mended from a knee injury which bothered him last year, Ed Stickel will again be the crafty Andreas' best bet to even up this year's series. Running with Stickel at the other guard spot will be bespectacled, but accurate, Bill Fash.

Six-foot 8-inch Royce Newell will start at center, with John Kiley and Red Rosen starting at the forward spots. Newell has produced over 800 points for the Orange in four seasons.

Boxing Rivals Meet At Michigan State

The football feud between Michigan State's Spartans and the Nittany Lions will be carried into the boxing ring at East Lansing tonight when the two athletic powers will settle the question of ring supremacy.

Coach Leo Houck is confident of a win for the Lions. "If we perform up to our potentialities we should win. I think the boys will come through tomorrow," the coach said shortly before the

Lion Cagers Rank Third in East Defensively

Penn State ranks third in the East in basketball defensive play, according to figures released this week by the National Collegiate Athletic Bureau.

The Nittany team, by limiting its opponents to 48.4 points per game, placed third behind Siena and St. Bonaventure.

Leading the nation with the amazing low average of 34.6 points per game is Oklahoma A. & M., while Siena placed second with 40.8.

Kentucky is still at the top of the collegiate heap with an offensive average of 67.3 points per game, and a defensive average of 42.7 points per game.

mittmen boarded the train for East Lansing yesterday.

There'll be two changes in the lineup for the Lions tonight. Pat Heims will make his varsity debut fighting in the 155-pound class while battling Ollie Wallace will replace Lou Guthrie in the 135 weight division.

Highly improved light-heavy, Jack Bolger will compete at his class while Nittany-heavy, Chuck Drazenovich battles in that class.

IM Court Leagues Approach Finals; Loop Playoffs Monday

Intramural cage teams in at least five leagues, and possibly seven, will move into playoff action at Rec Hall Monday night beginning at 8:45 p.m.

Four fraternity leagues are already slated to battle for the circuit crowns Monday, with much interest centered in the third contest between league "D's" Sigma Nu and Chi Phi.

Riflemen Battle Lehigh Invaders

Capt. Carl A. Unrath will send an improved Lion rifle team against the Lehigh University squad in the only home sports event in the Armory at 2 p.m. today.

Nothing is known of Lehigh's previous record this season, but in the years of competition between the two schools Penn State holds a decided advantage. Capt. Unrath expressed cautious confidence that his squad would come out on top.

The Lion team is co-captained by Gerry Prange and Lyle Root, who will lead rifers Harold Swanger, Sam Carnahan, Norman Phillips, Charles Kirk, Jack Hepfer, Alfred Darrach, Jack Agosta and John Stoudt against Lehigh.

SIGMA NU

In the first struggle between the two contestants, Sigma Nu walked off victorious, only to find the result protested because of ineligibility. The resulting clash, February 16, saw Sigma Nu's John Smidansky lead his mates to a 23-16 victory.

Four teams in "A", Phi Epsilon Pi, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and Delta Sigma Phi, all with five-and-two records, will be after the driver's seat in that circuit. Beta Sigma Rho and Theta Kappa Phi will battle in league "E", and Pi Kappa Alpha, Phi Sigma Delta and Sigma Chi are scheduled to bump heads for the "F" title.

BERLETICS

Berletics, Drewlers, and the Penn Points will play for the independent league "D" crown, with the possibility of team ties in "B" and "E" necessitating play-offs there.

The playoff schedule for Monday night follows:

8:45 p.m.—Beta Sigma Rho vs. Theta Kappa Phi, court one; Tau Kappa Epsilon vs. Delta Sigma Phi, court two; Phi Epsilon Pi vs. Sigma Alpha Epsilon, court three. 9:25 p.m.—Phi Sigma Delta vs. Sigma Chi, court one; Drewlers vs. Berletics, court two; Sigma Nu vs. Chi Phi, court three.

Finals will be run off Tuesday night.

The Nittany Realm

By Red Roth

Rudy Valentino, promising young tumbler on the Lion gymnastic team, is used to following in other people's footsteps. He only hopes he can manage the next step which John, his brother, succeeded in doing while attending the College in 1944.

In that year the elder Valentino, then a sophomore, took the Eastern Intercollegiate tumbling title. Before he could make a try for the National title the long arm of Uncle Sam reached out and soon John was a navigator in the Army Air Force.

SAME AIM

Now, Rudy, also a sophomore, is aiming at the same Eastern Intercollegiate title. Coach Gene Wettstone, while he rates Rudy a better tumbling prospect than his brother, doesn't think he'll make it this year.

"Valentino is undoubtedly our outstanding tumbling prospect, and I think he eventually will win the Eastern tumbling crown. I don't believe he'll do it this year, however," Wettstone said.

The quest for the tumbling title isn't the only parallel in the lives of the Valentino boys. Both attended the same high school, McCaskey High, in Lancaster, and both won the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association tumbling championship while in high school.

CREDIT

Rudy credits his brother with most of his tumbling ability. "John taught me most of what I know, and has been my best teacher," Rudy commented. "He started teaching me to tumble when I was in the second grade of grammar school."

Another big influence in the gymnastic life of the current number-one Lion tumbler was Lester Fiester, athletic director of the Lancaster YMCA, where he got most of his tumbling experience.

MEADE

This is Rudy's first year of collegiate tumbling, and already he has managed to oust last year's number-one tumbler, Bill Meade, from his accustomed perch.

Now that the younger Valentino has successfully followed his two instructors by winning the PIAA tumbling championship, the question is: Can he duplicate his brother's feat of annexing the Eastern Intercollegiate crown?

And, if as Wettstone expects, he can, will he go one step farther and win the National tumbling title? Only time can tell.

Lion Coach ---

Continued from page two

at West Chester, "Light Horse" Harry Wilson and Johnny Roepke; guards R. B. Bael and Joe Bedden and ends, Red Griffith and Bob Higgins, present State coach.

Bezdek doesn't exhibit the slightest apprehension about his coaching technique fitting in with the present day strategy. He has said that all he wants is a team that can block and tackle and he'll do the rest.

Elizabeth Arden

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