

Bedenk Lauds Baseball Charges

By Ed Watson

Thirty-one promising candidates have already caught the eye of Coach Joe Bedenk, who is putting his charges through pre-season sessions to prepare for the baseball opener with Temple April 13.

Faced with one of the toughest schedules since before the war, Bedenk anticipates plenty of trouble from Nittany diamond foes.

The veteran Nittany mentor, beginning his 19th year at the helm of the Lion baseballers, must select an array of starting pitchers to combat the loaded schedule, which lists four games in one week several times.

REGULARS
Only five regulars return to the fold for this year's edition, and thus Bedenk has the task of molding a new outfit. Cy Miller, Dick Wertz, Gene Solomon, Captain Hal Hackman and Al Tkac are the returning first-teamers, while Bill Benyish, outfielder-pitcher, is also back for duty.

Outstanding catching potentials are Clarence Buss, Dick Ford, Jim McCarthy and Art Mengel. Last year's varsity backstop, Eddie Holler, graduated.

Candidates showing promise on the pitcher's mound are Miller, Tkac (a rightfielder last season), Bill Bair, Jim Masticola, Warren "Lefty" Travers, Arny Jurin, Jim Townsend, Joe Kelvington, Bill Hill, Bill Benyish, Bill Clark and Jack Koons.

FIRST BASE
Newcomer John Shaffer is pushing letterman Wertz for the first base post, while little Joe Tocci and Harry Little are seeking Solomon's spot at second base.

Captain Hackman, Bill Ondick

and Jerry Vesling lead the fight for the berth at shortstop, with Bill Tegtmeyer and Red Mayer battling for honors at third.

Outfield prospects are Hen Albright, Stan Laganosky, Clarence "Pete" Gorinski and Steve Vargo.

Bedenk has built up a winning percentage of .679 in the 18 years he has tutored Blue and White baseball hopefuls, by winning 182 games out of 268. His best years were in 1940, when the Lions triumphed 14 times and lost but twice, and in 1946. In the latter year, the Bedenk charges won 10 out of 12 games, with one of the skirmishes ending in a tie. Last year's squad boasted a '12-and-4 record.

Schoolboys Clash In Rec Hall

Altoona and Westmont high schools will battle for the District 6 PIAA basketball championship in Rec Hall at 8 p.m. tomorrow.

AA books will be void for this schoolboy court attraction. Tickets will be sold for 85 cents at the door.

Soccer Call
Soccer mentor Bill Jeffrey urges all men interested in playing on the varsity soccer team to take their physical examinations this week. Organized spring booting drills are slated to start next Monday afternoon on the soccer practice field on the golf course.

Lion Riflemen Set New Mark, Register 1404

Firing a new record score of 1404 points, the Nittany Lion Rifle team topped three opponents and dropped one meet in telegraphic competition last week.

Queens College, Stanford, and Lawrence Tech fell before the eagle-eyed Lion riflemen while only the University of San Francisco, firing a remarkable total of 1412 points, could edge the home team.

Two other rivals, Syracuse and Princeton, have not yet reported their scores from last week's matches.

The sterling week's performance, best of the current season, gave Capt. Carl Unrath's squad a season record of 15 wins and 12 defeats, exclusive of the unreported Syracuse and Princeton matches.

Gerry Prnige led the individual riflemen with a score of 290 points. Close behind were Rod Ingleright with 285 and Jack Hepfer with 277 points.

Members of the team are now sharpening their eyes in preparation for the National competition later this month.

Cage Thrills --

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number of markers against Penn State by scoring 67 points at its New York gym, while the highest scoring duel involved American University at Rec Hall which ended in a 63-50 State win.

West Virginia's smooth home-court man-to-man defense baffled the Lions to the extent that the Pennsylvanians scored only 28 points—their lowest amount of the season.

Following are individual scoring records for the '48-'49 season:

	PG	F	TP
Milt Simon	68	41	179
Marty Costa	45	39	129
Joe Tocci	36	34	106
Lou Lanie	32	32	96
Carl Nordblom	19	50	88
Terry Ruhlman	33	21	87
Ken Weiss	10	4	42
Syl Bosinaki	10	9	29
Jack Storer	5	7	17
Will Parkhill	8	1	17
Lee Schuster	5	8	13
Robert McKowa	4	2	10
Lloyd Ampim	2	1	5
Mike DeBone	0	2	2
George Lawther	1	0	2
John Apichella	0	0	0
Tom Shuptar	0	0	0
	288	246	822

Blue and White Fencers To Compete in Easterns

Penn State's fencers invade New York today to compete in the fifty-second annual Intercollegiate championships today and tomorrow at City College of New York.

A field of 13 Eastern schools is expected for the program. Besides Penn State, such colleges as Cornell, Penn, Princeton, Yale, Harvard, Army and Navy have submitted entries. Hamilton and MIT are representing the smaller institutions while NYU, Columbia and host CCNY are participants from metropolitan New York.

Preliminary sessions are scheduled for this afternoon and evening, and tomorrow morning and afternoon. Finals will be held tomorrow evening.

PRELIMINARIES

In the preliminaries, each event will be divided into three pools with 13 men entered in each one. Each entry in a pool will face all the other men in his group. The two top men in each pool will be eligible for the finals.

This meet will round out Penn State's 1949 campaign. The Lions won contests over Lehigh and Temple while dropping decisions to Army, Philadelphia Fencing club, NYU and Cornell in dual competition this season. Despite the mediocre record, State provided stiff competition for all its rivals. Proof of this is the fact that, out of 162 matches this season, the Lions managed to win 76½ while losing 85½.

Of the nine men who will com-

pete for State this weekend, Coach Arthur Meyer loses three—Rolf Wald, Art Ward and John Kochalka—via graduation. Wald and Ward, both top performers in the epee event, receive their diplomas in June while Kochalka, foil standout, graduates at mid-semester of next year.

Meyer announced that Co-captain Harry McCarty, Kochalka and Ralph Meier will see action in the foil, with Wald, Ward and Bill Fairchok taking part in the epee. Dick Dyer, Co-captain Paul Younkin and John Richards will be State's sabre contestants.

Back in '82

Penn State's first intercollegiate baseball game was played against Bucknell at Williamsport, June of 1882.

Brothers Victors

The Drazenovich brothers, Joe and Chuck, were intramural horseshoe pitching champs last year.

The Nittany Realm

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turned to college. Despite the layoff, he fit in fast with Wettstone's schemes.

Last season he hit his peak, winning the EIGL tumbling championship, snaring the runner-up position in the national intercollegiate, and copping a fourth place in the NAAU for all amateurs.

This season, Bill repeated as Eastern Intercollegiate champion in tumbling.

Meade has tried his hand at about everything on the gym floor, working the horizontal bar, the flying rings and the rope climb at one time or another. But he judges tumbling to be the hardest.

"That's the event to try first if you're going out for gymnastics," he says. "Learn to tumble well, and the others come a little easier."

TOUGH TWISTS

Asked which he thought were the most difficult tumbling maneuvers, he answered quickly: "The double and triple full twists, and the double backflips." Incidentally, it was a well-timed double full twist he performed when fans saw him rack up 277 points and first place against Temple in his last dual meet here.

Bill has his future and that of next year's Lion gymnastic squad pretty well figured out. "I want to coach gym at some college," the physical education major said about his plans.

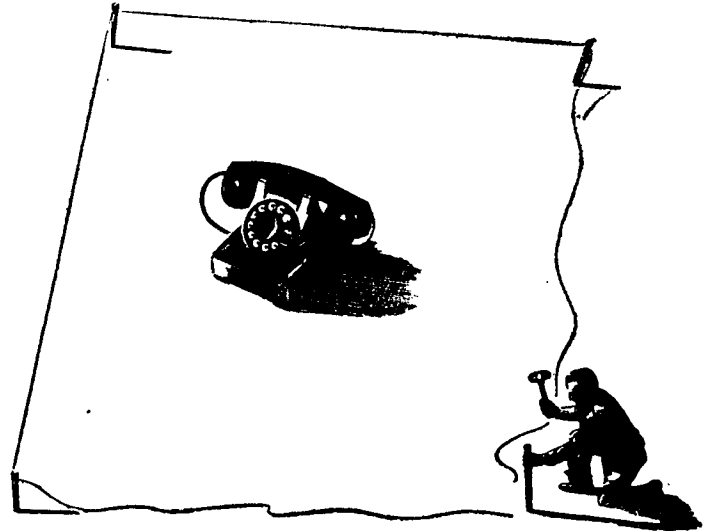
"Next season's squad here should be better than average. We'll have strong tumbling with Rudy Valentino back, and the parallel bars and rope climb should pan out okay. I think Syracuse will be rough, however."

LAUGHS

All this tumbling and gymnastic work hasn't hurt Bill, who's built along the lines of the proverbial Mr. America. He laughs at that.

"Buying clothes is a problem," he said. "I need a 42 coat and 29 trousers; most of my suits come from the tailor, or if I'm lucky, I catch an odd lot somewhere."

"My wife went to buy a shirt and belt for me one day, shirt size, 16½ neck, with a 31-inch sleeve. The clerk finally found one under a shelf, but he was flabbergasted when my wife asked for a 29 belt to go with it. He wouldn't believe it was for the same guy." But that's the same guy all right — tumbling Bill Meade.



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