

Nittany Cage Squad Preps for Scrimmage

By RAY KOEHLER

Following a comparatively easy-going initial two-and-one-half weeks of practice, Penn State's head basketball mentor, Elmer Gross, and his assistant, John Egli, are starting to crack the whip.

Friday will find the team engaging in its first inter-squad scrimmage on the Rec Hall court. Out of the original turnout of 100-plus candidates for varsity berths, the list has been whittled to about 35.

What kind of offense will be used this year? According to Gross, his platoon of basketbombers will use the reverse-offense system.

Reverse-Offense

What is it? Simply that the Nittany basketball team will win more games than the opposition by limiting said opposition to less points than the State machine will gather.

It is a surety that whatever this new head mentor will lack in manpower during the coming season, he will make up in confidence.

Confronted with somewhat humorous intent, Gross was asked whether Penn State had any chance of winning the NCAA tourney this year in New York.

"Well, I can tell you one thing," he answered, "if we do get in, we'll win it!"

Skipping over to State's weakest link in a chain of misfortunes last year—their lack of altitude—Doc Gross was positive that a remedy would be effected this season.

COSTA

By way of emphasizing that point he said fervently, "We've just gotta get some big man to spell Marty (Costa)."—last year's varsity center.

As former Nittany Coach John Lawther once aptly put it, the big guy is the life of the club and while he's in there he gives the fellows a big lift. But he isn't too long on wind and in a hot game tires easily.

Jay McMahan, a 6-foot, 6-inch center from Altoona who has particularly impressed Gross came in for a bit of praise. "I think he may make out alright."

"Of course we'll have to have little Joe Tocci come through for us again this year in order to enjoy a successful season. And the schedule they gave us isn't the easiest one in the world."

Last year Tocci and high-scoring Milt Simon at the guard positions were one of the few bright lights in an otherwise lackluster season.

WEISS

Will Ken Weiss—former member of the State Champion Allentown High whiz-kids—replace the tow-headed Simon, whose departure through graduation leaves a big gap to be filled?

"I don't know," was the forthright answer, "last year Kenny was prone to shoot the long ones and although he did come through for us against Colgate in one game, many a time as a consequence, the ball was lost."

What to do about Weiss and Tocci represents a "problem" of major proportions to Gross and Egli. Although both are scoring threats of the first order, the Lions do lose valuable height advantages when the two are in action at the same time. It's a question which will have to be fought out on the practice floor.

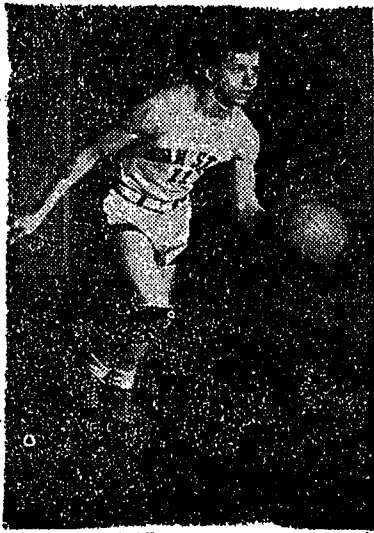
DIXIE

How about the Dixie Invitational tournament at Raleigh, North Carolina to which State has been invited?

"Before we returned any answer to the invitation committee we put the question up to the members of last year's team," Gross said. "We'll be meeting some of the toughest teams in the country in Rhode Island, Wake Forest, North Carolina, Duke and others, but the boys wanted to make the trip so it was O.K'd."

High Scores

Michigan State holds a two-one edge in three triple figure football games marking its all-time record. It defeated Olivet College 109 to 0 (1920) and Kalamazoo College, 103 to 0 (1928). In 1902 Michigan dusted off the Spartans, 119 to 0.



MILT SIMON

IM Athletes Chalk Wins

The Colonials, Dorm 25, Dorm 44 and Dorm 10 gained victories in independent touch football games played under the lights of Beaver practice field Monday night.

Phi Kappa Sigma squeezed by Beta Theta Pi, 21-20, and Pi Kappa Alpha routed Theta Chi, 29-12, in fraternity swimming contests.

Dorm 25 registered its second triumph of the season, besting Dorm 32, 1-0, in overtime, while Dorm 2 forced Dorm 44 into an extra period before bowing by the same score.

LONE SCORE

The Colonials accounted for the evening's only touchdown in setting down Dorm 11, 7-0, and Dorm 10 moved along into the second round of play when the Lions failed to appear, resulting in the first touch football forfeit in three years.

Bob Richardson and Ted Lieb swept first and second places in the diving to give Phi Kappa Sigma its one-point margin over Beta Theta Pi, while Larry Cummings won both the breaststroke and the diving to set the pace in Pi Kappa Alpha's one-sided triumph over Theta Chi.

SCHEDULE

Tonight's independent touch football schedule pits Dorm 38 against Altoona at 7 p.m., Dorm 24 against Dorm 14 at 7:45, the Coal Crackers, defending champion, against Dorm 39 at 8:30 and the Brown Baggers against Dorm 40 at 9:15.

Alpha Chi Sigma, which the IM office yesterday declared the victor by forfeit of an Oct. 10 meet with Phi Epsilon Pi, swims against Alpha Sigma Phi, and Theta Kappa Phi meets Delta Chi, at Glennland pool tonight.

Future Lion Rivals Keep On Winning

Only West Virginia of Penn State's future rivals failed to come up with victory Saturday. The Mountaineers were swamped by Boston University, 52-20.

Penn State's future rivals in caps:

MICHIGAN STATE 42, Wm. and Mary 13
SYRACUSE 21, Rutgers 9
Boston U. 52, WEST VIR. 20
TEMPLE 20, Bucknell 19
PITT 35, Miami (Ohio) 26

Records to date of Lion opponents:

	Won	Lost	Tied
Villanova	4	1	0
Army	4	0	0
Boston College	1	2	1
Nebraska	2	2	0
Michigan State	3	1	0
Syracuse	2	2	0
West Virginia	2	3	0
Temple	3	1	0
Pitt	4	0	0

Charley Draz Now Assigned Fullback Slot

Quarterback Relieves Injured Fran Rogel

Hulking Charley Drazenovich, regular Lion blocking-back for the last two football seasons, has temporarily taken over the Blue and White fullback slot.

Drazenovich, apparently fully recovered from an ankle injury, moved into the plunging role for signal sessions Monday night, and last night carried the ball from that position in scrimmages.

Head grid Coach Joe Bedenk said last night that the change was made, "temporarily", when it became fairly evident that regular fullback, Fran Rogel, would not be ready for Saturday's game with Michigan State. Rogel sprained his ankle in action against Nebraska, and has not been in uniform this week.

OTHER FULLBACKS

The Lions have two other fullbacks, Pete Gorinski who is still favoring an injured shoulder and can be used for punting only, and Len Shephard, a sophomore who is coming along fast but isn't quite ready for full-time duty.

Drazenovich, 215 pounds of solid gristle, looked like what the doctor ordered in scrimmage against the reserves last night. He was still feeling his way around in his new position, and had trouble holding onto the ball on a few direct passes from center, but when he hit the line his weight and drive usually carried him through and into the secondary. He must, of course, relearn all the plays from the new position before he will be ready for the Spartans.

Chuck Drazenovich, brother of guard Joe, is playing his fourth season with the Nittanies. He played before the war, then returned to the campus again in 1947. Until his injury in the Army game two weeks ago, Chuck had not missed a game and was a 60-minute man. He is generally regarded as one of the best blocking backs in the business and last season was named to the All-American blocking team.

Seventh Largest

Macklin Field stadium, Michigan State's home football field, is the seventh largest in the Midwest. Its seating capacity is 50,009.

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State

"ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET THE KILLER"

Nittany

MARK STEVENS COLEEN GRAY

"SAND"

JV Gridders Prepare For Second Contest

Beaten on the field by a strong Navy team, but not beaten in spirit, the Lion jayvees are looking forward to their next game with Lock Haven State Teachers College this Saturday.

No serious injuries were sustained by the Nittany gridders and barring injuries this week, the team should be ready to field a much stronger team this weekend.

Coach Bill Gutteron stated that the score might have been a little different had his boys played at least one more game before journeying up to Annapolis.

"After all," Gutteron said, "don't forget that the Navy boys didn't have to learn an entirely new system and new set of plays in three weeks, and then play their first game against a team like Navy."

The stocky grid coach said that the boys were tired, since he could substitute only one or two men at a time.

According to Gutteron, the next game will be different. "I'm not predicting a win, but the boys have been under fire, and even in the last part of the Navy game, they showed a little improvement."

The jayvees scored their lone touchdown on a pass from halfback Emory McCourt to end Bill Barber.

Besides McCourt and Barber, who played a consistently good game all afternoon, Gutteron thought that center George Harvin, guard Stix Slabonik and quarterback Fred Huston put on the best performances for State.

Switch

Michigan State's new end coach, Earle Edwards, filled a like position in Penn State football for 13 years.

No Place Like

Michigan State's 1949 football schedule lists six straight home games. The Spartans play only three games on the road this year.

Collegian Yogis Show Slight Gain

Sports Editor Elliot Krane and Ray Koehler topped the past week's Yogie efforts among the Collegian's quartet of seers by picking six out of eight correct grid battles.

"Georgeous" George Vadasz, who had been leading the pack since the opening week, slipped to five out of eight. He and Koehler are now tied in percentage with a .676 mark. Bob Kotzbauer, football scribe, also managed to grope his way to five right and three incorrect callings.

	This Week	Total	Pct.
Krane	6-2	21-16	.568
Kotzbauer	5-3	23-14	.622
Koehler	6-2	25-12	.676
Vadasz	5-3	25-12	.676

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Salad
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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

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From Oct. 20 to Oct. 31

No Exceptions Made