

Nittany Wrestlers Prep For Nat'ls At Lehigh

Graduations Leave Gaps At 1st, 2nd Base Positions

By LOWELL KELLER

Lack of infield depth and experience reserves is the dilemma Coach Joe Bedenk faces as the Collegian continues to scan the '51 Nittany baseball squad. This is the fourth in a series of articles viewing the coming diamond season.

Penn State's loss through the graduation of Captain Dick Wertz and Joe Tocci, 1950's power hitters at first and second base respectively, has left a wide gap in those key infield posts.

This spring's crop of diamond candidates for infield positions have been unusually meager compared to the great number who have reported in past years.

One of Bedenk's least worrisome problems will be at third base where Harry Little, a three-year veteran, is back at his old stand.

Little, a two-time winner of All-American soccer honors, is

Lion Swordsmen End EIFA Action

The Penn State fencing aggregation will complete competition today in the Eastern Intercollegiate Fencing tournament at West Point, N.Y.

Thirteen saber matches are scheduled for today's morning, afternoon, and evening sessions.

Representing State and battling for top honors will be Captain Ed Merek, Bob Searles, and either Jerry Clauser or Charles Richer. Of the group, Captain Merek and Searles are the best possibilities to cop top laurels.

Rough Workouts Mark Lion Drills

By GEORGE GLAZER

Penn State's eastern wrestling champions will probably spend most of the spring vacation on the mats of Rec hall in preparation for the coming National Collegiate Athletic Association championship tournament next weekend at Lehigh.

All this week the squad has been engaging in rugged workouts. Coach Charlie Speidel will probably have his charges taper off early next week.

Early yesterday afternoon, 167-pounder Joe Lemyre, and assistant Coach Charlie Ridenour went at it hot and heavy. Later, 157-pounder Bill Santel and Lemyre threw one another around.

Maurey Vs. Maurey

Freshman wrestler Jerry Maurey was scheduled to take on his brother Don, 137-pound champion. Captain Homer Barr's workouts have come from Lynn Illingworth, while 177-pound titlist Mike Rubino usually takes on Bill Barker. Don Frey's competition sometimes comes from Lemyre or Santel, sometimes from jayvee wrestlers in heavier weights. Dean Harbold and Jack Reese also have had varied partners in practice.

This year's nationals will mark the last collegiate appearance of Barr, Rubino, Santel, and Reese. Jack Dreibelbis, the only other

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AGR's Top APA Cagers, 28-25; DIR's Score 1st Round Title Win

With Dick Stanley spearheading the attack, Alpha Gamma Rho flipped the Alpha Phi Alpha courtmen, 28-25, to capture the league F championship. Stanley tallied 10 markers to put the AGR's in command, after they trailed 13-8 at the half-way marker.

In the first round of independent title play Thursday night, DIR eclipsed the Newmanites, 23-

21. Don Gaddess scored 8 for the victors.

Myron Mueller contributed 13 points as Edinboro submerged the Sinkers, 40-31.

Last night Tau Kappa Epsilon defeated Sigma Phi Epsilon, 25-19. The TKE's will meet Pi Kappa Alpha on Sunday. Alpha Gamma Rho vs. Phi Sigma with the winner to face Phi Kappa, Sunday.



LOTS OF HUSTLE is shown by Bill Mihalich (l) and Harry Little as the two infielders go through a pepper game during baseball practice yesterday. Mihalich is leading contender for the second base job, while Little is a veteran third baseman.

probably the smoothest fielder on the team besides owning a better-than-average hitting eye. In last year's campaign, Little did most of the work at the hot corner where he led the inner cordon men in fielding, and sported a .265 batting mark.

Dick Hart is also working hard at the position, but still needs a good bit of seasoning.

The opener with Western Maryland will no doubt see Carmen Troisi at the shortstop post. Troisi, like Little, saw most of the action at his position in 1950 when he clubbed rival hurlers for a .336 season average. This is Troisi's second year with the nine. He is regarded as an excellent fielder. Spelling Troisi will be Al "Red" Nerino, a good-looking soph from Bangor.

The keystone sacker for the new campaign will either be Bill Mihalich, an all-around athlete from McKeesport, or speedy Paul

Mowry, a left-handed swinger from the Scranton district.

At the initial sack, Bedenk has his greatest problem—other than the pitching staff. Four boys have been battling it out for this position, and it is extremely doubtful that it will be decided until just before the curtain-raiser on April 7. Captain Bill Ondick, Stan Laganosky, and Jim Pollard are returnees from last spring, while George Bope, the only southpaw among the group, is competing for the first time. Bope was ineligible last year since he was a transfer student.

Next issue: the outfield

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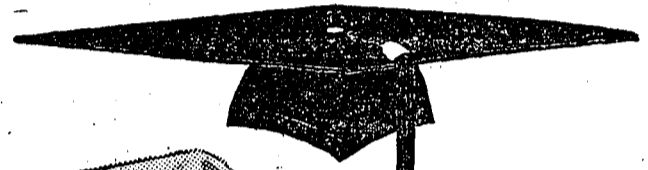
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