

'ON THE BALL'



By RAY KOEHLER
Sports Editor

**Leo May Be Gone
But Spirit Lives On**

Although Leo Houck, Penn State's beloved boxing coach from 1923 through 1949, passed from this earthly realm last January, stories regarding his colorful career will continue to crop up. You see, Leo was the kind of a guy you just don't forget—the way he looked, the things he said, the wonderfully human things he did. There was only one Leo Houck.

Just as Knute Rockne's fiery spirit dominates Notre Dame football, so too will Leo's personality—alive though dead—ever be an inspiration to Nittany ringdom. He stands today reincarnated in the spirit of Penn State boxing.

Shortly after Houck's death the Penn State Alumni News collected a series of flashbacks that were written in love and respect by just a handful of the hundreds who came in contact with him.

"Will we ever forget," pens Ric Riley, alumni secretary . . . His "office" at Grahams' . . . That stool (very much in the way of traffic) in back of the candy counter . . . One hand on the radio, the other in the pretzel can . . . Those daily trips to church for six o'clock mass. It didn't matter how late the poker session, Leo was there . . . Where did Leo live in State College? Some said in a Rec Hall locker . . . That wonderful family of his in Lancaster. That fierce pride he had in those seven children; those four stalwart sons.



"He never said one critical thing about a member of his own team. Everybody did well . . . Boxing, he'd point out, is a difficult science. Boys shouldn't expect to learn it in college . . . His quiet pride in his own athletic prowess . . . Those glasses he wore despite the violent protests from his family and friends. (My eyes are okay. Just need a little magnification) . . . That time we walked in Graham's and heard him complaining about his newest optical purchase from the 5 and 10. Observing closely we found that he had not removed the small price tag which was pasted in the center of each lens."

Lou Bell, Penn State's director of public information, wrote . . . "A stranger might find it hard to believe that Leo Houck, with his flattened nose and well-worn ears, souvenirs of ring warfare, would fit into the academic picture. But at Penn State he was a mellow daup of color. His homespun philosophy and sly humor made him a frequently quoted man. His polysyllabic admonitions (he liked to look up two-dollar words and use them for a laugh) became a legend at Penn State. He ruled the hot stove league at the corner candy store, squelching argumentative and boisterous students with a soft warning:

"Now, don't get obstreperous." For a long time, "cantankerous" was his favorite word although he constantly added to his store, and confounded his cronies by coming up with a new one every few days."

Jim Lewis, class of '41, remembers the return trip from a dual meet with Syracuse. "I rode in the back of our College limousine with Leo and three other boys. The weather was a few degrees above zero and no heat in the car. We started to play our favorite game, five-cent blackjack. When we finally arrived in front of the Corner Room almost frozen to death and aching with hunger, I was \$4 ahead. Leo was down about \$3 and made us all stay in the car for another half-hour until he got the deal. Naturally, we all griped but sat out another round in which Leo lost not only the deal but an additional twenty-five cents."

Jackie Tighe '48, one of Leo's best-liked proteges, goes back to March, 1947, and the finals of the NCAA boxing tournament in the huge University of Wisconsin fieldhouse.

"A Penn State boxer was having his hands wrapped by Leo Houck. In the meantime, Gov. Renneholm of Wisconsin entered the fieldhouse near the Penn State dressing room and was greeted by John Walsh, Badger coach. Walsh insisted that the governor and his party drop into the State dressing room and meet a "real guy"—Leo Houck. When the governor entered, Leo was still wrapping his boxer's hands and Mr. Walsh politely tapped Leo on the shoulder and simultaneously introduced Leo to the governor.

"Governor Renneholm," Walsh said, "this is the fine coach of Penn State, Leo Houck." The governor put out his right hand while Leo was shifting the gauze bandage from one hand to the other. He turned to face the governor and said, "How do you do, Fred. You've got a great state here, Fred. Oh, excuse me a minute, Fred, I've got to take care of my boy's hands." Governor Renneholm replied: "Mr. Houck, it has been a great pleasure to have had the opportunity to meet you and welcome you to our great state of Wisconsin." Leo answered, "Thanks, Fred, you've not only got a great state but a great fieldhouse as well."

As Ed Malmel '33 feelingly described his reactions at Leo's funeral—"Goodbye, Mrs. Houck, Mary, Leo, Jr., Tommy, etc. What else can you say—we all feel it, but how can we compare what we're feeling? One last thing we want to do. Five steps over toward the coffin. One last lingering look. "Keep moving around—hands high, that's it. Keep that left hand straight out." If we could only shake hands just once more. Tell the old boy just one more time. "So long, Doctor."

**Nittany Diamondmen Meet Strong
Ithaca Nine At Beaver Field Today**

By LOWELL KELLER

Ithaca college, a small school with a power-laden ball club, takes on the Penn State baseball squad this afternoon in a contest slated for 3:30 at the New Beaver field diamond.

Ithaca met Wilkes college in Wilkes-Barre yesterday afternoon and arrived here last night.

The Bombers, boasting a veteran team that won 11 out of 13

battles against collegiate competition last spring, have gotten off to a good start this year in spite of poor weather conditions during their spring practice sessions. They split in their first two '51 contests, and since then have defeated a strong Army contingent, 4-2, and were just edged by a powerful Seton Hall nine, 5-4 in 10 innings. In this latter affair, the Bombers blew a 4-0 lead in the eighth frame.

Cage Stars

On the Ithaca squad are five members of the basketball team that journeyed here to aid the Lions in opening their cage campaign last winter. Among these men are Al Gilberti, third-baseman; left-hander Ronnie Cole,

The probable line-ups:

PENN STATE		ITHACA
Albright,lf	.250	derCola,2b
Little,3b	.000	Blinco,lf
Cerchie,cf	.333	Pafunda,ss
Hopper,rf	.667	Osmer,cf
Laganosky,lb	.600	Weiss,rf
Mowry,ss	.400	Yancey,c
Mihalich,2b	.500	Gilberti,3b
Buss,c	.000	Cole,lb
Dougherty,p	(1-0)	McCarthy,p

**Yankees' Lopat
Limits Bosox
To Two Hits**

Steady Eddie Lopat, the Yankees ace lefthander, came within two and one-third innings of pitching a no-hit, no-run game against the Boston Red Sox yesterday as he twirled the Yanks to a 6-1 win over the Sox.

Lopat allowed Boston only two hits and helped his own cause by smashing a two-run homer in the fifth inning.

Ted Williams ruined Lopat's chances for a no-hitter by getting a line single in the seventh. A walk to Vern Stephens and a single by Bobby Doerr gave the Red Sox their only run.

One, Two Punch

Pitcher Early Wynn and catcher Jim Hegan teamed up to lead the Cleveland Indians to a 4-2 win over Detroit.

Wynn gave up only four hits while Hegan hit a home run and three singles to help the Indians to their second straight win over the Tigers.

Washington and Philadelphia played a night game and the Chicago-St. Louis contest was rained out.

Over in the National league, the Brooklyn Dodgers jumped on reliever Jim Konstanty for two runs in the ninth to down the Philadelphia Phillies, 4-3.

Snider Triples

Konstanty relieved Bubba Church in the ninth after Church had walked Hank Edwards to start the inning. Konstanty retired the first two men to face him, but Duke Snider pounded a triple off the scoreboard to score Edwards. Jackie Robinson then came through with a single to score Snider with the winning run.

Sam Jethroe connected for a home run with two on and two away in the ninth inning to break a 5-5 tie and give the Boston Braves an 8-5 win over the New York Giants.

Koslo Victim

Jethroe's big blow came off Dave Koslo who had just come in to relieve Al Gettel.

The Giants were behind 5-3 going into the ninth but hopped on Johnny Sain and Blix Donnelly for two runs to tie the contest.

Pittsburgh and St. Louis and Cincinnati and Chicago were not scheduled.

**New York, Braves
Play Doubleheader**

NEW YORK, April 18 — (AP) — Probable pitchers for tomorrow's major league games (last year's won-lost records in parentheses):

American League

Boston at New York—Stobbs (12-7) vs Byrne (15-9).

Washington at Philadelphia—Sima (4-5) or Consuegra (7-8) vs Kellner (3-14).

Chicago at St. Louis—Rotblatt (0-0) vs Starr (7-5).

Cleveland at Detroit—Garcia (11-11) vs Gray (10-7).

National League

New York at Boston (2)—Hearn (11-4) and Jones (13-16) or Kramer (3-6) vs Spahn (21-17) and Donovan (0-2).

Philadelphia at Brooklyn—Heintzelman (3-9) vs Newcombe (19-11).

Cincinnati at Chicago—Ramsdell (8-14) vs Minner (8-13). (Only games scheduled).

Jay "Tiny" McMahan, of Hamilton, Ont., son of a former Penn State football great, and Hardy Williams, of Philadelphia, were the choices of their teammates to serve as co-captains of the 1952 Penn State basketball team.

**Ten Fraternities
Represented In
IM Mat Finals**

By TOM SAYLOR

Ten fraternities sent men to the finals of the IM wrestling tournament last night with Phi Kappa Psi and Delta Upsilon leading the way with four and three representatives respectively.

TKE has two men entered in the finals while AGR, Sigma Nu, Phi Delta Theta, ATO, Phi Gamma Delta, Tau Phi Delta, and Delta Theta Sigma have one each.

The finals in the fraternity and independent sections will be held tonight at Rec hall starting at 8 o'clock. One mat, situated in the center of the floor, will be used.

In the 121 class, John Baffa, DU, will face Ray Johnson, AGR. Johnson and Baffa won finals berths in last night's action.

John Allison, Phi Kappa Psi, and Tom Lukas, Sigma Nu, will collide in the 128 class while at 135 Bob Hamilton, DU, and Bill Aiken, Phi Delta Theta, will square off.

In the 145 division, Dick Rostmeyer, Phi Psi, and Bucky Edginger, TKE, are matched; the 155-lb. class will send Al Pancerev, Phi Psi, against John McCall, ATO, in another final bout.

Bob Farquhar, Phi Gamma Delta, and Joe Policastro, TKE, will battle it out in the finals of this class, while the 175 class will send Link VanSickle, Phi Psi, against Adam Kois, DU, in another final match.

In the unlimited division, it will be Les Burdette, Delta Theta Sigma, pitted against Al Schutz, Tau Phi Delta.

Only seven titles will be at stake in the independent section due to a lack of entries in the 121 division.

In the 128 class, it will be Bill Brown against Bernie Yurick while the 135 division will send Frank Wallis against Marv Heinsohn, in what should be a good bout.

In the 145 class, John Clark will go against Sam Butler, who defeated Ferris Antoon last night, 9-2. Clark also won last night as he pinned Andy Schoerke in 2:35.

The 155, 165, 175, and heavy-weight final bouts will line-up something like this: 155—Earl Brubaker against Dick Green; 165—Jack Quinn against Stan Morgan; 175—Dick Rubinski versus Ron LaCue; and heavyweight—Harry Carroll versus Larry Marcella.

**8 H-Ball Teams
Cop IM Wins**

Eight teams advanced to the quarterfinals of the intramural doubles handball tournament by winning matches Tuesday night.

In games played, Dave Bischoff and Kenny Weiss, Sigma Nu, beat Jerry Weisman and Burton Cushman, Sigma Alpha Mu, by forfeit; Phil Benedetti and Don Maurey, Delta Upsilon, beat William Lockhart and James Clark, Sigma Pi, Clarence Buss and Joe Policastro, Tau Kappa Epsilon, beat William Abbott and Charles Brong, Beta Theta Pi, by forfeit.

Art Betts and Ed Hoover, Phi Delta Theta, beat Emerson Knyrim and Bob Krayer, Delta Chi, 21-6, 21-5; Robert Bunnell and Robert Patton, Phi Gamma Delta, beat Vince O'Bara and Earl Hower, Phi Delta Theta, 21-10, 21-14; Art Oberg, this year's singles champ, and Harvey Emig, Pi Kappa Alpha, won by forfeit from James Brown and Ronald Angerman, Phi Epsilon Pi.

Len Bartek and George Jacobs, Sigma Phi Epsilon, beat Fritz and Allan Pancerev, Phi Kappa Psi, 21-6, 21-11; Owen Dougherty and Pat McPoland, Kappa Delta Rho, beat John McCall and Louis Gornick, Alpha Tau Omega, 21-15, 21-11.

STARLITE
DRIVE-IN
ON BELLEFONTE ROAD
Shows 7 and 9 P. M.

THURSDAY

"MR. MUSIC"
BING CROSBY
NANCY OLSEN

FRIDAY and SATURDAY

"FIREBALL"
MICKEY ROONEY
BEVERLY TYLER

— plus —

"GUN SMUGGLERS"
with
TIM HOLT