

Lion Passers Jolt W. Va., 61-60

Hardy Williams' Shot Wins With 15 Seconds to Play

Although the toughest part of the schedule is still to be played, basketball coach Elmer Gross can be almost certain that his worst moments of the current season are behind him.

Gross experienced them in the final seconds of the Lions' nerve-racking 61-60 victory over a top-ranking University of West Virginia team in Morgantown Saturday night.

In a ding-dong battle which never saw the point spread in the second half go beyond four, Gross saw his charges drop behind 59-55 with 1 minute 28 seconds remaining in the contest. Then when the game appeared to be lost, alert play, a miscalculation in West Virginia strategy, and a perfect set shot were combined in a miraculous fashion to give State the nod.

Workman Scores

Hero of the victory was co-captain Hardy Williams, whose set shot with 15 seconds remaining provided the margin. But the veteran guard had assistance in the last-second burst that won for the Lions from freshman Jack Sherry, whose two field goals within 31 seconds enabled State to knot the count at 59-59.

Ahead 55-54 with less than four minutes left to play, the Lions saw the precarious lead slip through their hands when Harry Moore's set shot from the corner connected. Moore made the count 57-55 with a foul shot seconds later and big Mark Workman apparently sewed up the decision for the Mountaineers when he connected from the pivot with 2 minutes left.

There was only 1:28 left when Sherry's one-handed stab from within the foul circle found the mark. But West Virginia controlled the ball and moved up-court. Williams, however, moved in, and deflected the ball. Sherry picked it up at midcourt, and scored on a layup to tie the count at 59-59 with 57 seconds remaining.

Williams' Clincher

West Virginia held onto the ball, hoping to get the last shot. With 25 seconds left, Workman took over in the pivot and, maneuvering with the caginess becoming an All-American, drew a foul from Herm Sledzik. He converted and the Lions trailed 60-59 with 22 seconds left.

That set the stage for Williams, who moved the ball upcourt. His shot from five feet beyond the foul circle with 15 seconds left was perfect.

The Penn State victory over the Mountaineers came under the toughest kind of pressure and on the road. It was the product of a game that was tied ten times, seven during the second half, and saw the lead change hands 12 times, eight in the final ten minutes of action.

High scorer for State was Jesse Arnelle, who gathered 14 points on six field goals and two fouls. Ten of Arnelle's points came in the first half. Williams and Sledzik hit for five and one to gather 11 points apiece.

Workman Held Down

High man for West Virginia and in the game was Mack Isner with seven floor shots and one free throw. Moore had eleven.

But the surprise in the scoring column was the lack of it by Workman, the 6-9 center of the Mountaineers. Averaging better than 25 points per game, Workman was held to three field goals and seven fouls for thirteen points. He had scored 46 the previous night against Virginia Military Institute, as the Mountaineers rang up their twelfth straight and fourteenth victory in 15 starts.

Penn State's edge was from the floor. The Lions made 25 field goals to West Virginia's 21, but were outscored from the foul line 18-11.

Sledzik Shines

After losing a seven-point first period lead, the Lions walked off the court at halftime trailing 33-31. Moore's set from the corner ran it to 35-31, but quick goals by Joe Piorkowski and Arnelle knotted the count at 35. Moore, going hot and carrying West Virginia with Workman on the bench.

(Continued on page ten)

Wrestler Homan, Runner Roessler 'Athletes of Week'

Bob Homan, Penn State's 123-pound wrestler, and Bob Roessler, one of Coach Chick Werner's outstanding runners, have been named "Athletes of the Week" by the Collegian sports staff.

Homan won the award for his 4-2 decision over Hugh Peery, Pitt, who, up till that time, had not lost. In fact, the last time Peery saw defeat was in his sophomore year in high school. Peery, who is the son of the Pitt wrestling coach, was also 114-pound champion at the Pan-American games held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, last year.

Roessler, a junior from Philadelphia, receives the award this week by virtue of his record-breaking 1000-yard run against Army. Roessler traveled the distance in 2:14.9, one-tenth of a second better than the previous West Point record. Roessler had to go all out to win as he was hard-pressed all the way.

Roessler also was lead man on the State two-mile relay team which beat Army. The Lions took the event in 8:03. Don Austin, Dave Pierson, and Bill Ashenfelter also ran for State in this event, with Ash running anchor.

Coed Badminton, Bowling Tournaments Get Underway

By NORMA ZEHNER

Coed competition in bowling and badminton began last night in White Hall. Volleyball begins tonight with more bowling games scheduled.

The Chi Omega bowling team recorded a 525 score to defeat Phi Sigma Sigma. Peggy Dogget was high for the winners with 131. For the losers, Audrey Lipsky took team and evening honors when she rolled 156. In the other bowling contests Atherton West downed Delta Zeta, 466-412, and Theta Phi Alpha took Kappa Delta, 455-444. Last year's champs, Alpha Xi Delta, will not roll until Thursday night.

In badminton only three of the six scheduled matches were played. In those, Beta Sigma Omicron defeated Delta Gamma, Simmons lost to the Co-op, and Alpha Gamma Delta bettered Kappa Alpha Theta. Ath East, Thompson, and McAllister won by defaults. Leonides, last year's titleholder, will begin defending its crown tomorrow.

In volleyball, Kappa Kappa Gamma will defend its title. Volleyball activity begins tonight and will continue every Tuesday and Thursday night. Bowling is scheduled Monday through Thursday, while badminton is played Monday and Wednesday evenings.

The tournaments will continue until the first week in April. In each of the three tournaments 28 teams represent approximately 400 independent and sorority women.

Bobby Thomson Signs For Reported \$35,000

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 —(AP)—Bobby Thomson received another rich reward today for his pennant winning playoff homer against Brooklyn. The 28-year old third baseman signed his '52 contract calling for a reported \$35,000, about \$12,500 more than his salary of last year.

Charles (Chub) Feeney, Giants vice-president, said Thomson got "a substantial increase." The beaming Thomson added he was "completely satisfied."

Cagers Sport Smiles After Road Trip



Coach Elmer Gross and his ten man travelling basketball team relax after their all-victorious road trip. The Lion cagers downed Pitt, Navy, American U. and West Virginia to gain national prominence. Left to right are Ed Haag, Joe Pi-

orkowski, Ron Weidenhammer, Chet Makarewicz, Jesse Arnelle, Gross, Herm Sledzik, Tiny McMahan, Jack Sherry, Hardy Williams, and Bob Rohland.

State Hoopmen Can Set New Win Streak Record

By DAVE COLTON

Penn State's amazing basketball team will attempt to break the school's all-time one season winning streak when it hosts Rutgers and Georgetown in Rec Hall this week.

Coach Elmer Gross' dribblers, who now have an 11-game victory skien and a 13-1 seasonal mark, meet Rutgers at 8 p.m. tomorrow and the dangerous Hoyas Saturday. Only two home contests remain after this week's encounters.

The single season continuous Nittany win streak is 12, established by the 1941-42 courtmen. Gross was co-captain of that team, which finished with a 17-2 mark and played in the NCAA tournament.

The Lions improved their season mark with between semesters wins over Pitt, Navy, American University, and West Virginia. The Middle and Mountaineer wins were the most significant, as Navy has one of its best teams in years.

Lions Ranked 14th

Penn State was ranked 14th in the nation according to the weekly Associated Press Poll released yesterday. It marked a jump of ten places for the Lion cagers who were ranked 24th last week. West Virginia dropped from tenth to 12th. Kentucky retained its first place position.

and West Virginia was ranked tenth in the country.

Tomorrow night the Lions will place their streak on the line against a team which has been both good and bad. At times the Scarlet has flashed brilliancy, but generally has been mediocre. Rutgers will be underdogs against the hot home team.

One of Rutgers' most notable wins was a 75-72 success over Army at West Point. Hal Corizzi and Larry Gordon each scored 19 points and have been the Scarlet's most consistent scorers throughout the season. Gross said Rutgers has a big, rough team. He will scout the Queensmen when they play Bucknell in Lewisburg tonight.

Pitt almost upset the Lions in Pittsburgh, but outstanding play in the final quarter by Co-Captain Tiny McMahan and Jack Sherry enabled State to rally to a 52-45 win. Hardy Williams paced the scoring with 13 points.

Against Navy, freshman center Jesse Arnelle tallied 18 markers, five during the closing minutes of the contest to give State an important 53-49 decision over the top-ranked Middies. Joe Piorkowski was runnerup with 12 points.

The Nittanians followed the next night with a 77-52 walloping of American University which had only lost two games. Sherry and McMahan were tops in scoring.

(Continued on page ten)

A Unique Request

A lacrosse stick is on its way to Switzerland with the compliments of Penn State's coach, Nick Thiel. The unique request came from a sports museum at Basel.

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