

# Lion Cagers Drop in Polls But Hope to Continue Streak

## Grossmen Play RI State Five Away Friday

Penn State fans are wondering what their team has to do to get recognition in the weekly cage polls of top collegiate quintets.

Yesterday's United Press listings had Coach Elmer Gross' basket-keepers in 24th position while the Associated Press ranked State only 17th.

The Lions' 17th place was a three position drop from last week despite impressive victories over Rutgers and Georgetown, West Virginia, a one-point victim of Gross' dribblers, was rated 14th.

### Play Rams Friday

The Lions will hit the road this weekend in an attempt to improve their 15-1 record and break some more records.

The Nittanians will play Rhode Island State in Kingston Friday night, then travel to West Point to meet the Cadets Saturday afternoon.

In compiling their fine record and 13 game win streak the Lions have snapped three school records and two individual marks. Their 13 consecutive triumphs bettered the former mark by one; 83 points against Georgetown was a Rec Hall high, and the 155 points scored by the Lions and Gettysburg in State's 85-70 win was a game record.

### Zone vs. Fast Break

Jesse Arnelle, six-five freshman, also set two individual scoring marks. His 28 points at Dickinson was tops for Lion cagers away from home, and his great 40 point outburst against Georgetown smashed the all-time standard.

Friday's night contest with Rhode Island State will be a contest which pits State's zone defense against another high-scoring team. The Rams were ranked eighth in the nation in offense after their first 11 contests with a 76.3 average. The Blue and White are 14th in defense with a 51.3 average.

### High Scoring Team

The Rhode Islanders also have a player among the country's individual scoring leaders. Bill Baird, five-eleven guard, tallied 186 points in the first 11 contests to rank 44th with a 16.9 average.

The Rams are the team which made the fast break famous, and are well known for prodigious scoring. They have scored over 100 points twice this season, and did it six times during the 1944-45 campaign.

### Ram Starters

This year Coach Robert "Red" Haire's aggregation has won five and lost seven games. They walloped Vermont, 105-73, and New Hampshire, 112-86. Their losses were to St. Josephs, Boston College, twice, Holy Cross, St. Johns, Springfield, and Bucknell.

Other starters besides Baird are Chuck Stewart (5-9), Fred Congleton (6-3), Ed Hole (6-1), and Hellwig (6-7). Stewart and Hole are three year veterans, while Congleton is the top rebounder.

## Turf Conference Opens Monday

Reports of experiments on control of insects, disease and weeds in turf will highlight the 21st annual Turf Conference at the College.

The conference, which attracts more than a hundred greenkeepers and golf course superintendents, will be held Monday to Thursday, Professor H. B. Musser, general chairman, said.

### Lacrosse Managers

Candidates for the second assistant managers of Penn State's varsity lacrosse team are asked to report to the Water Tower after 3 p.m. today.

## Kutztown Freshman Sparkles For Lions

By DAVE COLTON

Before the present basketball season opened, Lion coach Elmer Gross scanned his roster and said, "we've got a good first team, but are weak in reserves."

For Gross, much to his pleasure, underestimated the ability of freshmen to crack the starting lineup so soon, and prove such a value to his winning quintet.

One of the many freshmen on the coach's list was a long, hard-to-pronounce name spelled WEIDENHAMMER. This bespectacled frosh came to State with a great high school record but skeptics wondered if he could fare as well in big-time collegiate competition.

### Named All-State

Ron, a six-one guard, played four seasons of varsity basketball at Kutztown High, perennially one of the best Class B teams in the State. His final two seasons he was the offensive star for the squad which won the PIAA championship.

Both his junior and senior seasons he was named All-State for his outstanding play. His best shots were a one hander from the foul line and an amazing set shot. Against Avalon, Pittsburgh, in the state finals he clicked for 18 important markers.

This season Ron returned to Pittsburgh to once again haunt the Smoky City's cage team. But no longer was it as a schoolboy performer, but as a first string hustler for the Nittany Lions. In the Steel Bowl tournament he scored 21 points in two games.

### Made All-Tourney Team

In the final against Pitt he made six of 12 shots to spark the Lions to a rout of the favored Panthers. Everytime Pitt started to rally, Weidenhammer would pop a set to demoralize his opponents. Rabid fans remembered the crew cut blond from his Kutztown days, and roared approval of his remarkable set-shooting ability.

Weidenhammer's poised ball handling and team play were not overlooked as Pittsburgh papers named him to the first string all-tournament team. The Pittsburgh press also selected him the district player of the week after his tournament showing.

### Scored 108 Points

The 170 pound frosh got his break in the second game of the season against Bucknell. Hardy Williams, Lion co-captain was unable to play because of illness, so Weidenhammer started at guard. He played a fine floor game and scored six points.

Since then he has been prominent in the Lions' meteoric rise to the top among Eastern court powers. He has scored 108 points in the first 16 games for an average slightly under seven per contest. This doesn't compare to his high school scoring figures, but belies his worth to the team. A 13 game winning streak will attest to his—and his teammates' play.

## Speedy Rope-Climbers Wanted for Gym Team

"Wanted: speedy rope-climbers for Penn State's gymnastics team."

That was Coach Gene Wettstone's wish after the Lion gym meet with Army in which the Cadets defeated the Nittanians, 58-38, at West Point.

Instrumental in the Cadet win was a poor showing in the rope event by the Lions. Dave Shultz, State's ace rope-climber, failed to record any time, while two other ropemen finished fourth and fifth.

Wettstone was well pleased with the showings of Jean Cronstedt on the high and parallel bars, and Bobby Lawrence on the sidehorse. The gym mentor was especially pleased with Bill Sabo's performance on the parallel bars. Sabo's 233 points gave him a fourth place in this event.

### Meet Navy Next

Cronstedt and Lawrence registered the Lions' only first in the meet in their specialties, while the former also came in second in the p-bars event.

The Lion gym men swing into action again Saturday afternoon at Rec Hall when they engage another top flight team in Navy.



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## Syracuse Boasts 3 Undeclared Matmen

Syracuse, Nittany wrestling opponent Saturday, will bring to Rec Hall a trio of top-flight EIWA matmen on a par with the big three Army threw at State last weekend.

The difference will be that Army was loaded in the upper weight brackets whereas Syracuse is stacked in the lower weight classes.

Syracuse's "Murderer's Row" lineup will be Lou Tschirhart, 123; Bob Gerbino, 130; and Bob Bury, 137.

## Boxers 'Up' For Tough Syracuse

As much as their hopes may be heightened by appearing for the first time this year in the friendly confines of Rec Hall, Penn State's boxers are going to have to be more than spirited for Saturday's match with Syracuse.

The Nittany Lions rebounding from a tie with Catholic U. and a loss to Army, are sure to be "up" for the Orange, but Eastern champion Syracuse is loaded again and out to repeat.

### Familiar Names

Syracuse Coach Roy Simone ran into a stroke of luck in the freshman eligibility ruling and has come up with four frosh in his starting lineup.

In Syracuse's first two matches this season, Artie Nelson, 132 pounds, Johnny Granger, 139 pounds, Gus Fiocco, 147 pounds, and Vince Rigoloso, 165 pounds, all freshmen, have been starting boxers.

Familiar names in the Syracuse lineup are Tommy Coulter at 125, Bill "Hooksie" Miller, Eastern 156 pound champ, and Captain George Kartalian at 178 pounds.

### Beat Catholic U.

Syracuse beat the Lions in a 5-3 thriller last year and then went on to score 22 points to the Lions' 16 to thwart State's bid for the Eastern title.

So far this season the Orange has defeated Army, 6½-1½, and Catholic U., 7-1. The Lions tied C. U., 4-4, and dropped a 4½-3½ decision to the Cadets.

## 4 Sororities Take League Leads in IM's

Alpha Xi Delta, Simmons, and Kappa Alpha Theta netted their second volleyball wins last night to remain undefeated and leaders in their leagues in the WRA tournament.

By topping the Alpha Epsilon Phi keggers, Phi Mu moved into the lead in their bowling league.

Alpha Xi Delta was the master of the V-ball court as it soundly trounced Delta Gamma 50-19. Simmons overpowered Women's Building 45-26 while Kappa Delta took Zeta Tau Alpha 40-32. Atherton bowed to Alpha Omicron Pi in a fast 44-24 game. The evening's scoring honors went to Dee Heins of AOPi who accounted for 13 points.

Kappa Alpha Theta retained their league lead when McElwain forfeited. The Co-op received a win by an automatic default since it was scheduled to meet the Cottages, a team which has not been organized.

The Phi Mu keggers took command of the alleys as they rolled 515 to Alpha Epsilon Phi's 481. High for the winners and the evening was Betty Zimmerman with 138. Alpha Chi Omega gave Gamma Phi Beta their first win by bowing out 444-345. In the other scheduled game, Thompson B forfeited to Kappa Kappa Gamma.

### Penn State Product

Ken Loeffler, LaSalle College basketball coach, played basketball and baseball as a Penn State undergraduate.

### Tennis Candidates

Candidates for the varsity tennis team are asked to attend a meeting Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at 208 Willard Hall.

Now captain of the Orange, Tschirhart, last year while wrestling at 130 pounds had an unbeaten (6-0-1) dual meet record and wound up second in the Easterns to Lehigh's terrific George Feuerbach.

### Bury Finished Fourth

Gerbino, Eastern titlist in 1950 and fourth last year at 123 pounds, owned a 4-1 dual season record last winter. Gerbino and Tschirhart are thus switching each other's wrestling weights.

Bury, third top-notch in the Orange lineup, finished fourth in the EIWA's and had a dual record of 5-1 last year.

To meet these challengers unbeaten in four starts so far, State's lineup may have three unbeaten grapplers also.

### Parents Watch Homan

At 123 frosh Bob Homan continues to astound each time out. He has already defeated Pitt's Hugh Peery and Army's Bob Karns, two of the East's best, in his string of five straight wins.

At West Point Saturday, Bob's parents were present and had to listen to the Cadets crow that Karns would kill "that undernourished kid," until 8:45 of the third period when Bob stopped the crowing and started his parents' pride swelling.

Bob checked and countered EIWA runnerup Karn's every move and displayed beautiful balance and leg wrestling to lead 8-5 before getting his second straight pin.

### Maurey or Maurey

Against Gerbino, Nifty Nittany Dick Lemyre is five times winner in as many varsity starts.

At 137 either Gerry or Don Maurey will start for State against Bury. Gerry successfully opened his varsity career with a 1:44 pin Saturday so would make this Saturday's first three bouts entirely duals between undefeated men if he starts. Bury licked Don 8-3 in regular season but Maurey beat Bury to win the 137 EIWA title.

## Winter Games Ready to Open In Norway

OSLO, Feb. 12 (AP)—Perspiring Norwegian soldiers put the Olympic ski courses into fair shape today and the winter games will open on schedule Thursday despite the lack of good snow.

One slight change was made in the program because of dangerous conditions. The downhill ski race for women was postponed from Saturday to Sunday to give more time to fix the slope.

### Operation Snow Shovel

As a precautionary measure, the United States Army brought a helicopter here from Germany to fly any injured skiers from Norefjell 70 miles to Oslo. There have been some hard spills because of rocks sticking up through the thin snow cover.

Reinforcements were called in to speed the work of bringing in snow. Two hundred infantrymen will be added tomorrow to the crew of 300 working on "operation snow shovel."

### Committee Convenes

American bobsledders just about gave up hope that any major changes will be made in the run, which they consider dangerous for four-man sleds. The No. 3 curve has been modified slightly but the Americans believe this change is not enough. Even Dick Button, the world and Olympic figure skating champion, joined the anvil chorus with a complaint about the rough outdoor ice.

While frantic last minute work went ahead, the International Olympic committee was formally convened by Crown Prince Olav in solemn ceremonies in Oslo's sparkling marble city hall.