

# The Lion's Lair

By ERNIE MOORE  
Collegian Sports Editor

The same weekend Penn State plays host to the Eastern boxing tournament, March 7-8, Coach Gene Wettstone's gymnasts will vie for Eastern supremacy in the intercollegiate championships at Syracuse.

With one of its strongest teams in years, Penn State should make a strong bid for the Eastern crown. So far this season only Army has been able to defeat the Lions, and the Cadets will probably be the pre-tourney favorites to win the Eastern diadem.

However, since the Army meet at West Point, the Lion gymnasts have shown a marked improvement and seem to be getting stronger every week. This is due mostly to the improved performances of the No. 2 and 3 men in each event.

This is especially true on the sidehorse and the parallel bars. Frank Wick and Dick Shaffer have combined with the Lions' ace, Bobby Lawrence, to give State a strong trio on the sidehorse.

Wettstone can boast two crack performers on the parallel bars in Jan Cronstedt and Bill Sabo. Cronstedt will be a strong favorite to cop honors in this event. Sabo, who hit his peak against Syracuse last week, will give the Lions added strength in the tournament.

Along with Lawrence and Cronstedt, Jim Hazen is another possible winner for State. Hazen has been the Lions No. 1 man on the flying rings. Last season in the



National Gymnastic Championships in Detroit Hazen tied for fifth place, 1.3 points behind the champion.

Cronstedt, who has been a tower of strength for Penn State's team this year, could be a double-winner for the Lions. The "Flying Finn" is unbeaten on the horizontal bar. He will be backed by Tony Procopio, State's jack-of-all trades this season, who will also be No. 2 man on the flying rings.

Dave Shultz in the rope climb and Bob Kenyon in tumbling will vie for honors in their respective events.

All in all, State's chances of placing high in the tournament are good, exceptionally good. Lawrence, Cronstedt, and Hazen should be the big point getters, with Cronstedt having a good chance of coping individual honors in two events.

The chances for a Penn State championship will depend a lot on how high Kenyon and Shultz can place in the tumbling and rope climb, and the performances of State's No. 2 and 3 men on the apparatuses. Should State's "big three" cop first places and Sabo and Procopio make good showings, the Lions could cart the Eastern crown back to the Nittany Vale.

# Boudreau Thinks Sox Contenders

SARASOTA, Fla., Feb. 27 (AP)—Ted Williams or not, Manager Lou Boudreau rates his Boston Red Sox a pennant contender in the American League.

It's a strange switch from other years. The experts who have been crowning the Red Sox as pennant winners in April, now are consigning them to the second division. Some put them as deep as sixth place.

Boudreau isn't picking his club to win the pennant, but says, "I don't see how we could finish out of the first four."

The new Red Sox boss gives Cleveland a slight edge over New York in the pennant race with Chicago, Detroit and Boston up close.

### Pitching Open

"I think we have enough to be a contender, even if we lose Williams," said Boudreau. "I'm basing that on my pitching. Bill McKechnie has been working hard with Willard Nixon and Maurice McDermott. I'm hoping both will come through for us big. Either could be the stopper we need. Our new catcher, Gus Niarhos, should help both of them."

"Of course Mel Parnell, our 18-game winner, will be taking his turn. Otherwise, we have 24 or 25 pitchers and it's wide open."

Boudreau professes to be as much in the dark about Williams as the next person. Even if Ted does report for spring training, there can be no positive word until his April 2 physical examination by the Marines.

### Waits for Stephens

"I'll just have to shuffle my outfielders around to see who can play left," he said. "In addition to Dom DiMaggio in center, we have Don Lenhardt, Clyde Vollmer and Charley Maxwell."

Boudreau is waiting on Vern Stephens before he attempts to set up his infield. Stephens missed the last six weeks of the season because of a leg injury.

"If Stevie shows me he can play short," said Boudreau, "I'll let Johnny Pesky have a whack at second base with Billy Goodman."

"Whether or not I play, depends on Stephens, too. I might have to two-platoon third base with Fred Hatfield or first base with Walt Dropo and Goodman. And maybe alternate Wood and Vollmer in right field."

# Mintz Will Manage Canonsburg Boxer

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 27—(AP)—Don Alderson, 20-year-old welterweight from Canonsburg, Pa., today became a member of the growing stable of fight manager Jake Mintz.

Alderson, who has won 25 of 30 bouts since turning pro, has done most of his fighting lately out of Miami, Fla.

# Don's in the Army Now



BIG DON NEWCOMBE, Brooklyn Dodgers' star righthander, towers over other inductees as he is sworn into the Army at Newark, N.J., Tuesday. Lt. James R. Huey (back to camera) administers the oath. The 6-4, 240-pound pitcher who won 20 games for the Dodgers last year, signed a \$25,000 Brooklyn contract Feb. 5.

# WDTV Will Carry Duquesne Games

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 27—(AP)—Station WDTV, Pittsburgh's only television station said today it will carry all National Invitational Tournament basketball games in which Duquesne University plays.

The Dukes, boasting a 19-1 record, have accepted an invitation to the tournament which opens March 8 in Madison Square Garden at New York.

The program will be sponsored jointly by the Danforth Company, Westinghouse Electric Supply Company and Westinghouse dealers in the Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio area.

# Sam Snead Won't Play in Baton Rouge Open

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 27 (AP)—Golfer Sam Snead said today that he was not going to play in the \$10,000 Baton Rouge Open Tournament, sponsored by the Professional Golfers Association.

He said he would probably remain here at his winter home for a while.

Horton Smith, president of the PGA, told Snead yesterday that he could not play in the \$10,000 Mexico City Open later this week.

# Crusaders Capture League B Cage Title

By JIM PETERS

With only four more nights of IM basketball remaining, seven independent leagues are still without champions, although the Crusaders clinched the League B crown Tuesday night.

The Crusaders, undefeated in seven games, finished their regular schedule by dumping the Beaver House, 34-19. Glenn Goss led the new champions with 15 points.

The Epars and Sea Hawks both notched victories to close their seasons in a two-way tie for first place in League A. The Mustangs fell before the Epars, 50-18, while the Sea Hawks, dropped Dorm 39 by a 21-13 score. The Epars and Sea Hawks have 6-1 records.

Still in League A, the Fireballs finished their league activity with a 5-2 slate by smashing the Blues, 48-23. Dick Mohan became the night's high scorer as he scored 22 points for the winners. The Radads forfeited to the Puddy Cats.

Dorm 26 romped over Marilyn Hall, 31-18, to notch its third consecutive win after four early season setbacks. Harold Warner and James Good tallied 12 points each to pace the winners' attack. The Pythons forfeited to the Cats to set the Cats' record at 4-3.

Two games were played in League F that had no bearing on the league standing as the Foresters had already clinched the league championship. G.F.O. won its third game by thumping Dorm 27, 33-15.

The Crusaders, Trace A.C., Foresters, and Palmerton are the only teams already crowned in their respective leagues. Dorm 11, Dorm 4, and Edinboro are only one win away from the League C, D, and I championships, respectively. Three other leagues, A, G, and H are in two-way ties. A three-way tie for first place in League J prevails between Dorm 36, Dorm 23, and the Sinkers.

# 5 More Reach Second Round In IM Handball

The 1952 IM handball tourney completed its third day of fraternity competition Tuesday night with five more men moving into the second round on late matches played at the Rec Hall courts.

Robert McFadden and Bill Barnotski, both of Phi Kappa Tau, turned in straight set wins. McFadden eliminated Joe Policastro, Tau Kappa Epsilon, 21-8, 21-11, while Barnotski ousted Pi Kappa Phi's Richard Blythe, 21-5, 21-9.

Robert Goodell, Tau Kappa Epsilon, advanced to the second round by dropping James Kilgore, Lambda Chi Alpha, 21-11, 21-4. Other first-round action found Jerry Maurey, Delta Upsilon, and Kenneth Newman, Phi Kappa, moving up. Maurey took identical sets from Dave Simon, Kappa Delta Rho, 21-6, 21-6, and Newman decimated Alpha Epsilon Pi's Stanley Vitt, 21-6, 21-15.

No matches were scheduled at the Rec Hall courts last night due to the conflicting State-West Virginia basketball game.

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