

Baseball Squad Optimistic As First Game Approaches

Optimism seems to be the key word as Coach Joe Bedenk and his baseball team make final preparations for their opener with American University Friday.

Although the Lions finished with a good 10-3 record last season and were given serious consideration for the NCAA District 2 play-off position, the general consensus seems to be that this year's squad has the capabilities of bettering that mark.

Experts say that a good team is strong down the middle and the Lions should have that power this season.

Cerchie Expects Good Year
Starting with Sil Cerchie in centerfield, and moving in to the double play combination, pitching and catching, the Nittanians seem well-balanced. Catching is possibly the weakest link in State's armor but this weakness may be overcome by the depth at that important post.

Cerchie, still hasn't hit his batting stride but is a fine fielder and has an arm reminiscent of the Dodgers' Carl Furillo. Last campaign the husky junior was a demon in pre-season drills but slumped to .229 during the year. This year he hopes to reverse the pattern.

Bedenk has one of his best double-play combinations in many seasons. At short Carmen Troisi will probably get the starting assignment over freshman Ron Weidenhammer. Troisi was ineligible last year, but played his sophomore year. Weidenhammer has only been practicing several weeks but looks very good. Last season's regular, Paul Mowry, will return from student teaching this week.

The keystone sack is in the capable hands of Bill Mihalich. Bill, a peppery, hustling fielder, also hit well at the end of last season. This spring his exploits around the bag are as smooth as ever and he's hitting well.

The mound corps may lack one reliable like Owen Dougherty, but it has plenty of potentiality and depth. Veterans Bill Everson, Dick Christensen, Jim Kelz, and Jack Krumrine, and newcomers Keith Velsing, Tom Campbell, and Herb Budin look like the top flingers.

Footballer Bill Leonard will probably move up to the number one catching job. Last season Leonard was the number two man behind Clarence Buss. Other returnees are Gus Vogt and Bill Hirsch. Another griddler, Matt Yanosich, is battling Hirsch for the third string berth.

Hopper Slugger
So far, two "rookies" have been handling the outer infield berths while two veterans have nailed the right and left field positions. Mike Hunchar, a freshman, has been starting at the initial bag with Huby Kline, a sophomore, at third.

Captain Bill Hopper, who made the second All-District team, will patrol right field. Hopper slugged .429 last year and has the ability to maintain that pace. Christ Tonnerly, an all-around player, will probably start in left field. He started at third last year but was sidelined with a broken ankle in the first game.

Phil's Rookie Hurls No-Hitter

SAVANNAH, Ga., April 4—(AP)—Steve Ridzik, Philadelphia Phillies' young rookie, hurled a no-hit no-run game today as the Phils downed the St. Louis Cardinals 3-0 in an exhibition game.

The 22-year-old righthander from Yonkers, N.Y., walked four and hit three batters, but tightened when control was needed in the pinch. In hurling his no-hitter, Ridzik ran his string of Grapefruit League hitless innings to 11 and his scoreless string to 17 innings.

The Phillies' third baseman, Willie Jones, banged out a two-run homer to spark the winners' attack.

Jones also saved the no-hitter for Ridzik in the ninth inning. St. Louis outfielder Wally Westlake—last man to face Ridzik—hit a ground ball that almost went for a single, but Jones went far to his left and made the pick up to throw out Westlake.

State Ballhawk



Sil Cerchie

Jerry Maurey Scores Pin In NAAU Meet

(By the Associated Press)

Penn State's lone entry in the National AAU wrestling championship tournament, Jerry Maurey, scored a pin in the third round to remain in the running, but brother Jim, ex-Nittany, was eliminated last night in Ithaca, N.Y.

Jerry kept his championship hopes alive by pinning Hershel Fulcher, Emora University, in 13:41 of a 136.5 pound bout.

Big brother Jim, representing New York A.C., was decisively defeated by Melvin Norrthrup, San Francisco Olympic Club, and was thereby removed from 147.5 contention since it was his second defeat.

Jerry must pin all of his remaining opponents to remain in title contention.

Up to last night both wrestlers had one win one loss going into the third round. Jerry had been decisively won by Josia Henon, of the Armed Forces team from Annapolis, but pinned Lawrence Wilson of Rochester Tech in 7:25.

Jim was defeated by EIWA 147-pound champ Erank Bettucci of Cornell, and decisively Art Strunk of Hofstra College. Under Olympic scoring rules, a matman with five black points is eliminated. Wrestlers lose one point by winning a decision and three points by losing. Thus another defeat will eliminate Jerry also.

Slammin' Sam Leads Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 4—(AP)—Sam Snead, playing bold and near-perfect golf over a course made for his kind of game, took the lead in the Masters Tournament today with a 36-hole score of 137.

One stroke off the pace in the opening round with 70, the long-driving veteran from White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., shot a dazzling 67 to rush out in front.

That total was seven strokes under par for the two rounds and five under today for the testing, 6,950-yard Augusta National course, whose par is 36-36-72. It didn't exactly shake off all pursuit, for little Ben Hogan, always a strong finisher, still was playing sub par golf.

Hogan finished with another 70, two under par, and a two-day total of 140. That gave him second place.

Sam Marino Battles Hennessey

No results were available on Sammy Marino's attempt at a semi-final victory in the national championship boxing matches last night in Madison, Wis. when the Collegian went to press.

Marino was scheduled to meet Wisconsin's Bob Hennessey in a 119-pound battle. Thursday night he decided Joe Thornton of Louisiana State in the preliminaries.

Murphy Upset

Hennessey is a freshman who hasn't had much varsity competition this season. He did, however, take the university All-Contenders title at 125-pounds, and won the "fightingest fighter" award in that tournament.

Top upset of the tournament thus far was the beating of Wisconsin's NCAA 155-pound champ Dick Murphy by Bill Miller of Syracuse. Miller was defeated in defense of his Eastern title this year at Rec Hall by Army's Carl Crews.

Two of the remaining four defending champs won decisive victories, a third won a close split decision, while the fourth drew a bye.

Unpopular Victory

Wisconsin's heavyweight champ Bob Ranck easily beat Sam Orlich of Minnesota, and 125 pounder Neil Ofstun of Minnesota trounced Allen George of South Carolina.

Everett Conley, Washington State's two-time 132-pound champ, won an unpopular split decision from Jim Randell of Minnesota. The crowd of 7763 watching the bouts, found the decision distasteful.

The fourth titlist, light heavyweight Chuck Speiser of Michigan State drew a bye. Winner of ten bouts this year, Speiser opens his title against Don Quarles of North Carolina A&T, who also drew a bye.

May Be Fullback

Halfback Bob Pollard, Penn State's top ground gainer last year, may open the 1952 football season in the fullback position. Coach Rip Engle is toying with the change in Spring drills.

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APRIL 7 & 8, 1952

Stickmen Will Seek Revenge at Loyola

By TOM SAYLOR

When reminded of the lacrosse game with Loyola of Baltimore last year, a broad smile flashed across Coach Nick Thiel's face.

It wasn't a smile that signified an amusing incident, but a smile that signified an unfavorable recollection.

Thiel's smile was hiding a bitter defeat—a defeat that saw his team run roughshod over Loyola for three quarters, 12-6.

Lion Midfielder



Bud Wolfram

During that time, Penn State rolled along at will. The Lions could do no wrong. They played lacrosse as if they had been playing it all their lives.

'Rogf Caved In'

Midfielders Jack Wilcox and Paul Raffensperger, State's two leading scorers, scored five and three goals, respectively, while midfielder Bud Wolfram, attacker Jim Reed, and midfielder John (Doak) Walker accounted for another four.

But then the roof caved in and Loyola, paced by Ed Miller's three goals, crashed the Penn State goal on eight occasions while holding State scoreless. Final score: Loyola of Baltimore 14, Penn State 12.

Thus, when Penn State travels to Loyola Thursday, it will have revenge in mind if nothing else. The revenge motive might be extra strong since State has nine men back who saw action in that game last year. Included in this list are four men who started and are back for another fling at the southerners.

Stronger Defense

Defensesmen John Henry and Barr Asplundh, Walker, and Wolfram all started last year while midfielders Bob Koons, Tony Eagle, Wayne Hockersmith, and John Yohman and defenseman John Amber saw action in a substitute capacity.

State could very well turn the tables on Loyola, winner of five and loser of four last year. The Lions' defense is much stronger except around the goalie spot where Thiel is trying out Don Bell and Bob Hartman in an attempt to find a replacement for All-American Phil Benedetti, who was graduated.

Another apparent weakness is at midfield where the Lions lost Wilcox and Raffensperger. Thiel has been working with Wolfram, Hockersmith, and Yohman in this position.

Lift the Curtain

Penn State will lift the curtain on its 1952 track and field season in the Penn Relays, at Philadelphia, April 25 and 26.

J. Paul Sheedy* Switched to Wildroot Cream-Oil Because He Flunked The Finger-Nail Test



PAUL was having a sand-wich at the Dromedary-Bar when his roommate said: "Sheedy, every co-ed sphinx your hair's ugly! Your camel's hair coat won't pass the Finger-Nail Test! Therefore, if you fig-ger to get any dates, I humbly beseech you to try Wildroot Cream-Oil! Contains soothing Lanolin. Non-alcoholic. Relieves annoying dryness. Removes loose, ugly dandruff. Grooms hair neatly and naturally all day long. It's your hair's best friend!" Sheedy got Wildroot Cream-Oil and now his hair-a looks terrific! Better desert water, pyramid your savings up to 29¢ and dry-ve to any drug or toilet goods counter for a bottle or tube of Wildroot Cream-Oil, America's biggest-selling hair tonic! Ask for it on your hair at the barber shop, too. You'll really be done yourself a favor!



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