

# Freshmen Cagers Meet Altoona Center Tonight

Booster Hap Irvin . . .

## New Lion Captain

By BOB SCHOELLKOPF

Penn State's soccer team, known for its choice selections of captains a la Littles, Colemans, and Klausens, rolled along in fine tradition, last week when it selected Harold "Hap" Irvin as its 1953 leader.

Irvin, a block of granite at left fullback for the Nittany kickers this season, succeeds Kurt Klaus as booter chieftain. The 6-1, 170-pound fullback is a typical example of the exclusive Lion booter fraternity, which is probably the closest-knit athletic organization at Penn State.

Hap only hopes he can do as good a job as center halfback Klaus did this year at captaining the Jeffreyemen.

"Kurt is a good model to look up to as a soccer captain," the sturdy youth from Kennett Square said. "If I do as fine a job as he has done the past season, I will consider it a success."

### Girard College Product

Oddly enough, Hap was strictly a lineman before he came to the Nittany campus and a good one at that. At Girard College he operated at the center forward and inside left slots, receiving honorable mention on the All-Scholastic booter team in Philadelphia in his last year at high school. In eight matches that season he scored nine goals.

Girard didn't lose any games during Hap's last two years with the club—except to a powerful Northeast High team in the inaugural Terry Memorial Bowl in 1946, 4-3, in two overtime periods.

### Learned New Post

After a stretch in Uncle Sam's armed forces, Hap enrolled at State—as a lineman. And in his first year on the varsity he operated at his customary center forward slot. Coach Bill Jeffrey, however, felt the sturdy booter would be better adapted to a full-back position.

And so, with the advent of the 1952 season, Hap began to learn his new position. Hap credits his running mate and right fullback Paul Dierks and Coach Jeffrey with teaching him the finesse and finer points of the game.

"In high school and on the



Hap Irvin

club soccer team I played on before coming to State we were good hard soccer players, but we certainly never were 'polished' in the way we handled the ball," Hap says.

Hap's greatest thrill as a booter came in last year's match with Maryland, which the Lions won, 1-0. Irvin, then playing center forward, slipped an 18-yard shot past All-America goalie of 1951, Eric Baer, to decide the game.

The switch Hap has made was a complete success. His fine play on defense has been a bulwark in the Nittany success story this year which shows seven wins, one loss, and one tie.

With a host of this year's winning booter squad returning next season to form another powerful eleven, from this scribe's viewpoint the Jeffreyemen couldn't have selected a better man as their '53 leader than Hap Irvin.

The freshman basketball team, victorious in one of its two starts thus far, will host the Altoona Center quintet in Rec Hall tonight. The game will be played as the preliminary to the varsity-Colgate tilt and will get under way at 6:15 p.m.

The frosh, after dropping their opener, 36-26, to the jayvees in an intersquad game, came back to capture the second contest against the same ball club Saturday, 58-44. In winning that game, the yearlings looked very good. Their floor work was exceptionally smooth, and although their shooting was a little ragged, it was still good enough to enable them to score a respectable 58 points.

### Fields, Mori, Start

Frosh Coach John Egli will be minus his number one floor man, Hal Brown. Egli's trickster guard will not be able to play, and that could seriously hurt the frosh's chances. A smooth passer and ball handler, he has been an outstanding playmaker in the two contests and has scored a total of 18 points, 14 of which came in the Saturday night win.

With the exception of Brown, Egli will start the same five he used Saturday, inserting Jim Brennan into the lineup. Hugo Mori and Earl Fields will be at the forward slots. Mori, standing only 5-9, has poured 21 points through the hoops in the two contests, while the 6-2 Fields has totaled 22. He scored 17 of these in the Saturday game to lead the freshman scoring.

### Fast Style Game

Rudy Marisa, 6-3, and Brennan, 6-1, will be at the guard positions, with 6-6 Ed Hauck at the pivot position. Jim Rudler, a husky six-footer, may possibly start, but otherwise will see plenty of action. The aggressive forward came off the bench Saturday to score 10 points.

Not too much is known about the Altoona quintet, but the game promises to be an interesting one in any case. The frosh play a fast, pass-and-cut type of ball game, mixing fast breaks and set play patterns effectively.

Altoona is the first of three outside teams which will invade Rec Hall this season to meet the frosh. Following the center squad, they will engage the Bucknell freshmen and the Lycoming College jayvee team.

## Sports Thru The Lion's Eye

By JAKE HIGHTON  
Collegian Sports Editor



DEAR SANTA,

With the arrival of the Merry Christmas season, it has always been the custom of the Daily Collegian sports staff to besiege you with a preposterous gift list—champion teams in every Penn State sport. As strong as the temptation is to do likewise, we will be different. We won't even ask you for one championship team.

Instead, good St. Nick, we will thank you a thousand times one thousand for making practically every Nittany sport season a Christmas season. You have been so good to Penn State over the years that we wish to show our appreciation just in case students and alumni have not. This letter then, is to thank you for the gift-bulging athletic stockings hanging above the Rec Hall fireplace.

Thanks, Santa, for giving Penn State a wonderful bunch of coaches like Rip Engle, Al Michaels, Frank Patrick, Jim O'Hara, Earl Bruce, Joe Paterno, Sever Toretti, Bill Jeffrey, Elmer Gross, John Egli, Charlie Speidel, Eddie Sulkowski, Gene Wettstone, Joe Bedenk, Chick Werner, Norm Gordon, Nick Thiel, Sherm Fogg, and Bob Rutherford. Much thanks also for those in close association with Nittany sports like Graduate Manager of Athletics Ike Gilbert, publicist Jim Coogan, "Doc" Greiss, trainers Chuck Medlar, Ray Ulenski, and Sulkowski, and radio men Bob Prince and Mickey Bergstein. And Santa, don't forget Dutch Sykes and Gene Bischoff, who direct State's vast intramural program.

Then too, Santa, especial thanks for the good seasons State has had during the past year. Gee, you were good to us. Nearly every squad a winner. The basketball team won 20 and only lost six to make the NCAA district playoffs. For the second year in a row the wrestlers were unbeaten and won the Eastern Intercollegiate title. The baseball team won 17 and lost six and you gave Bedenk his first NCAA playoff gift. State's grid team had a better mark, 7-2-1, than any Lion eleven since 1948. The booters had a fine 7-2-1 record but for some unknown reason weren't given a chance for national honors by a soccer bowl bid. The cross-country team matched the gymnasts with good 4-1 logs. The netmen were on the right side of the ledger six of nine times, and the golfers squeezed among the winners with a 3-2 showing.

Thus only three of the Nittany teams failed to get your blessings. The lacrossers wound up 2-5, the boxers 1-3-1, and the trackmen, 0-4. But shucks, you couldn't give us all winners. And anyway, all of State's athletes are grand guys whether they win or lose—they all "play the game."

Before we forget, Santa. You probably have heard the rumblings all the way up in your distant North Pole about our new phys ed dean, Ernie McCoy. Thanks for him, too. And if you can arrange it, see that students stop crucifying him in letters like the following which was sent to us:

"If you like McCoy's ideas, that's all right. If we don't, that's all right. Don't try to make us like them! Writing a column is a powerful weapon. It should be used with discretion lest the weapon be turned against the writer. Stick to writing on sports, for otherwise you may wind up on McCoy's rail. The one he rides out of town on."

Really, Santa, people should have more of the tolerance of Voltaire in order to disagree with what is said, "but defend to the death the right to say it." And do you know Santa, one day these same brickbat throwers may be singing the praises of a Real McCoy.

Well, thanks again for everything. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Sports Year to all. CHEERIO!

# Bombers Lead IM Cage Loop

By TOM WERNER

The Bombers blasted their way to clear sailing at the top of league H in independent intramural court play at Rec Hall Wednesday night. George Simpson, with 12 points, piloted the squad to its fourth straight win in overcoming the Iron Men, 22-16. The Bombers are the only team in the league without a loss at the middle of the IM basketball season.

Right behind the leaders are the Gilmores with a 3-1 slate. The Gilmores trimmed the quintet representing Dorm 37, 20-18, keeping their three point lead at half-time, 11-8, throughout the game. The losers are at the bottom of league H with no wins and a pair of losses.

### Dorm 43 Wins

Ford City struggled to a 24-23 win over the Atherton Men. John Badura paced the Ford City attack with 13 markers while Bob McFadden did his best for the losers with ten tallies.

Other league H action saw Hallock A.C. losing out to Dorm 43, 34-28. John Westhafer was top scorer of the game with 18 points. Both teams with a 2-1 record are tied for third place along with the Iron Men and Ford City fives.

In league I the battle for top spot gathered momentum, with the Lous and Dorm 38 squads picking up their fourth wins over no losses to tie it up for the lead.

### Dorm 38 Unbeaten

The Lous had no trouble in setting the Satan Seven back on their forked tails, 31-21. Chief back-setter for the winning squad was Lee Maimon with 14 markers.

Dorm 38 remained unbeaten through a gift win from the Mey-

ermen, who failed to show up at game time. This enabled the forfeiters to show the only nonewon-in-four-tries record in league I.

The All Stars wheezed past an unfortunate Dorm 10 quintet after going into an overtime period when the score showed 22-22 at the final whistle. The final score added a win to the All State, 25-24.

In the same league Nittany Co-

op took a win by forfeit over the Lords.

League J action took place in the presence of the 29'ers and Dorm 5. The 29'ers retained their hold on first place by coming out on top, 26-20.

### Talented Toe

Bill Leonard, with two field goals and 21 of 23 extra points, was Penn State's leading football scorer in 1952.

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