

Owl Gymnasts Seek First Win Saturday

Gymnastics Coach Gene Wettstone put his charges through another full workout yesterday, the third of the week, in preparation for another "must" EIGA meet Saturday with the Owls of Temple at Rec Hall.

The Owls have yet to win in Eastern play, while the gym Lions are well on the way to their first Eastern crown since 1948 with two victories over top Eastern foes, Navy and Syracuse.

Temple and once-powerful Army are the last two remaining EIGA clubs that the gymnasts must get by for the 1953 crown. The Cadets, three-time Eastern defending champs and losers of only one meet in the past three seasons, will come to Rec Hall March 7. The Army meet will be the Lions' second and last home meet and will wrap up the dual meet season, both in Eastern play and in the all-season meets.

Navy Mutual Foe

The season will end with the running for the Eastern and National individual titles. The Easterns will be held March 14 at West Point, while the Nationals will be held March 27-28 at Syracuse.

The comparative score department shows only one mutual opponent of the Owls and the Lions, they being the Navy gymnasts. The Nittany forces nipped the Middies, 50½-45½, while the Owls succumbed by ten points, 53-43.

In one of Wettstone's mid-week lineup changes for Temple, Tony Procopio will replace Karl Schwenzfeier on the horizontal bar, thus reducing Schwenzfeier's jobs to two and making Pro-

copio the only triple-duty man for the Lions against the Owls.

Procopio, a junior working in his second year on the squad, has shown "great possibilities," according to Wettstone. Procopio's other two events will be the flying rings and the sidehorse.

Schwenzfeier will still work the rings and the parallel bars.

The rope climb event, after top man Dave Schultz, is a case of three men after two jobs, the number two and three positions. Johnny Baffia and Bob Boudreau, who have been the Lion two-three men the past two meets, have been joined by Norman Yu in contention for the two jobs.

Light Practice Today

Wettstone will announce all starting positions today.

The gymnasts will undergo a light session today and lay off completely tomorrow because of preparations for Mil Ball.

In other events, Jan Cronstedt will probably be in his top spots on the horizontal bar and the parallel bars. Cronstedt took two firsts against Syracuse last week.

Hazen on Rings

Ropeman Schultz will put his undefeated slate on the line when he tangles with Owl ace Gene School. The Temple speedster has traveled the 20-foot distance in 3.8. Schultz has turned in 3.9 clockings the past two meets.

Jim Hazen, Bobby Lawrence, and team Captain Bob Kenyon will probably work in their customary number one jobs. Hazen will be on the rings, Lawrence, the sidehorse, and Kenyon, tumbling.

Kois, Flore Only Undefeated Men on Nittany Boxing Team

Adam Kois and Tony Flore, Penn State boxing aces, are the only members of Eddie Sulkowski's squad still boasting an unbeaten status as the team readies for Saturday's encounter with Virginia University in Charlottesville.

Kois, 176-pounder, leads the entire team in victories with three in four starts. Only a draw with Michigan State's Alex Tsakiras mars Kois' record. Last year Kois had a 1-1 record and three draws before gaining the finals of the Eastern championships only to be kept out by a broken hand.

Flore too, has only a draw blotting a perfect record. He has won twice and drew last week with Wisconsin's Chuck Magestro. Last year Tony, 139-pounder, compiled a 4-1 dual record and then brought off an EIBA runnerup position.

Tournament Rush

Keeping pace with Flore in the win column is Captain Sammy Marino. Against the Badgers last week Sammy won his second straight match to bring his record up to 2-1-1 on the season.

Last year Sam was unbeaten in dual competition but was held to three draws. However, he came on with a tournament-rush to capture the EIBA 125-pound title and then finish second in the 119 division of the NCAA tourney.

Heavyweight Bill Andresevic owns the next best record with a mark of 1-1-2 in his first season of varsity competition.

State's only other first-year mittman who has been able to win is 156-pounder Hank Arnold. Arnold won the first bout of his career in the season opener against Maryland, but since has lost twice.

Individual Records

- 125—Sam Marino 2-1-1
- 132—Sam Butler 0-2-0, Joe Reynolds 0-2-0
- 139—Tony Flore 2-0-1
- 147—Stan Engle 2-0-1
- 156—Hank Arnold 1-2-0
- 156—Steve Melmeck 0-2-0
- 167—Dick Cameron 0-4-0
- 177—Adam Kois 3-0-1
- Hwt.—Bill Andresevic 1-1-2

Three Title Hopes

Penn State's three veterans—Sam Marino, Tony Flore, and Adam Kois—loom as good bets for individual titles in post-season Eastern and National Collegiate boxing competition.

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Matmen Trip Terps—

(Continued from page six)

Maryland's Dick Crowley, who was seeking to halt Dick-Lemyre's 12 dual meet winning streak, saw his plans vanish when the cool and agile Lemyre took him down and later obtain a reversal of position to decision him, 10-2. State's 130-pound EIWA champion had his Maryland foe perplexed with his easy-moving style. In fact, Lemyre left Crowley escape from his hold in the third period. This was for a few seconds, however, for the mighty mite took Crowley down for a 2-to-1 trade.

In the bout which saw two perfectionists risking excellent records, Coach Sully Krouse's Rod Norris edged State's Jerry Maurey, 5-3, in the last 15 seconds with a take-down.

First Defeat

The defeat was the first in high school and college dual meet competition for the Clearfield product. Norris, on the other hand, not only was the first to win from Maurey but was the first to score a point from Maurey this season. Maryland's 137-pound Southern champ also kept his record unblemished in 44 appearances.

Gap Narrowed

Leading 6-3, Penn State went out in front five more points when Co-captain Don Frey pinned Bob Dreier with a half nelson inside croch in 2:45.

The gap was narrowed to 13-8 when Bob Fischer, part of Maryland's accomplished brother act,

drew with Doug Frey in the 157-pound class, and Jack Shanahan decided George Dvorozniak, 2-0. The latter battle was an aggressive nip-and-tuck affair until the second period when Shanahan gained a near fall.

Ernie Fischer made the dual meet even more interesting when he added three points to Maryland's score, decisioning Co-captain Joe Lemyre, 7-1. It was at this point—Penn State 13, Maryland 11—that Samson won his fifth consecutive dual meet win and his sixth of the campaign. He has one loss.

Ollie Sax, Penn State's sophomore swiftie, and his wife, a coed, are classmates at the College.

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Sports Thru The Lion's Eye

By JAKE HIGHTON
Collegian Sports Editor



Travel has long been recommended as one of life's most broadening experiences. Certainly Penn State's gymnastics Coach Gene Wettstone would have to agree with the educational value of travel. From Wettstone's travels to Helsinki, Finland, last summer for the Olympic games stems part of the reason for the current successes of State's unbeaten gymnasts.

As a judge of the gymnastic competition, Wettstone wasn't merely an Innocent Abroad. He was a Student Abroad. And what he learned from the gym-sweeping Russians has been paying off for the Lions this year.

Wettstone says the Soviet gymnasts were not the most beautiful performers, nor did they perform the most difficult routines. But the Russians did employ the correct techniques with the exactness and precision of a finely-jeweled watch. In gym parlance, the Russians used the "security" method to score romping victories in both men's and women's gymnastic events. (With such predominant gym strength, the USSR practically beat out the United States for the unofficial Olympic title.)

Russia's Security Plan is simply the constant repetition and drilling on exactness in more ordinary routines. It is what Wettstone terms "rigid discipline." This is exactly contrary to the American idea of performing the most difficult routines—which is less conducive to perfection of the more basic exercises.

Although Senator McCarthy and numerous subversive committees may eventually get on Wettstone's neck, the hustling Nittany Coach is using this lesson learned from the Russians. This lesson should be in much evidence Saturday night in Rec Hall when the Nittany G-men make their first home appearance and continue their assault on the EIGA title.



Despite the value of Russia's lend-lease, it doesn't begin to answer the question, What makes the gymnasts so good this year? Some of the more obvious reasons to Wettstone are these:

(1) Factors Over Which A Coach Has No Control. It is typical of the unassuming character of the relentlessly driving Wettstone to discount his own coaching skill. However, he does have a squad which has individuals with outstanding physical attributes.

State's NAAU calisthenics champion and EIGA all-around champ Jan Cronstedt possesses "The Golden Body." His build is perfectly proportioned in classic Greek style and gives him a tremendous natural advantage. Jim Hazen, flying ringman, has such powerful shoulders that he is called "The Wedge." Captain Bob Kenyon, tumbler, owns the diver's grace for somersaulting, twisting, and turning routines. The Wick brothers, Al and Frank, are both tall and thin and are hardly towers of strength. But they have an attribute of smooth, free-swinging style which is winning. Ringman Tony Procopio is midget-sized, yet is well-proportioned throughout to get top ability.

(2) Depth. The rings show the gym team's depth. For example, Hazen, Karl Schwenzfeier, and Procopio slammed the first three spots in the Syracuse meet. Cronstedt and Al Wick took one-two in the parallel bars against the Orange.

(3) Intelligence. Although Wettstone doesn't say you need brains to be a winning gymnast, you can be sure that commodity doesn't hurt any athlete. Eight gymnasts have better than a 2.0 average and five are on the dean's list.

(4) Spirit. That old intangible with which no winning team can be without. For the last four years Wettstone has tried to stir up wild-eyed spirit. But such stuff usually has to come from within as is the case this year. The all-season come-from-behind habit of the Lions typifies their spirit. Against Navy with two events left, Wettstone had given up the ghost—"but the kids didn't quit" and State won.

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