

Sports Thru The Lion's Eye

By JAKE HIGHTON
Collegian Sports Editor



Penn State has had many Golden Ages in sports, but perhaps the greatest all-time Nittany era was the period between 1946-49. These years for the Lions were comparable to the Fabulous Twenties with its Babe Ruth, Jack Dempsey, Bill Tilden, and Bobby Jones. For during that post-war II period, Penn State first magnitude stars were names like Steve Shuey, Sam Tamburo, Horace Ashenfelter, Jim Gehrdes, Chuck Drazenovich and Fran Rogel.

Although these stars shown brightly enough to still generate light, only two—Ash and Rogel—still sparkle in the sports firmament today. Ash is an Olympic champ and Rogel is playing for pay—and more than earning his salary—with the Pitt Steelers. Since it is the grid off-season, Francis "Punchy" Rogel has returned to his alma mater to pick up credits required for future teaching and coaching hopes.

Yet, Franny came dangerously close to doing his grad work at Kentucky University and a listing in the Blue Grass Hall of Fame. After Rogel graduated from North Braddock High, the football scouts wore out his door step and fired his imagination with lucrative offers in the spring of 1946. Kentucky was particularly insistent. They had him on the campus and the gridiron for an entire week while they dangled half of nearby Fort Knox's gold in front of him.

The Kentuckians next sent Franny way up to a northern Michigan camp "to work" (and be safe from prying rivals). For \$5 a week, Fran toiled and moiled with a fishing rod and rowboat. Later on in the spring, Fran was again on the Kentucky campus and operating as Coach Bear Bryant's first team fullback—all the time as a "visitor." He hadn't definitely committed himself. When he finally decided he would rather go to school closer to home, Bryant was furious. He cussed Franny, called him a "quitter," and cut him off from meals and train ticket home. And still in the same breath, he excommunicated Rogel from the Sovereign State of Kentucky.

"Visiting" Penn State next, Fran immediately "liked the place" (even though it was his worst offer financially). He stayed at the home of Coach Bob Higgins and although Hig was away at the time, his wife's baking proved more persuasive. As Franny said to her, "you bake apple pies and I'll play here forever." So he did and his deeds have since become legendary.

Perhaps most typical of Rogel is the story told by his former Coach Higgins, who says that "Rogel is one of the greatest I've had." A piston-leg, piledriving runner who played as if he would die if he was knocked to the ground, Rogel often tore loose after he seemed to be stopped. One day the ref blew a "fast whistle" just as Rogel spun away. Very much perturbed, Rogel marched up to the ref and said, "Never blow the whistle on me—I'm never, never down." Penn's great All-American center Chuck Bednarik found



Fran Rogel

this out in 1948 when Rogel scored both touchdowns which beat Penn, 13-0. Late in the second period Fran, on a full spinner, burst through the mouse-trapped guard's hole. Backerup Bednarik came up fast to meet the Nittany fullback. Momentarily stopped, Rogel kept churning and spinning to his left, ripped loose for a 44-yard touchdown gallop. Then late in the fourth period, Franny completed the Penn's misery with a sensational "pro catch"—dipping first, and then shagging the ball in the endzone.

However, there were times when Fran's Herculean efforts weren't so well rewarded. Toward the close of the same season, State's Cotton Bowlers were pushing for a second successive unbeaten season. But Pitt, the last obstacle to another bowl bid, rose up to sidetrack the Nittany bowl express just as the 1952 Lions derailed a Panther bowl train. The 7-0 loss was no fault of Rogel's. In one series of downs the 200 pound battery-ram hauled the pigskin from his own 15 to the Pitt 15 in 13 carries. State's other three rushes in the drive lost or failed to gain.

Aside from having reaped all kinds of gridiron glory, Rogel owns another distinction—he's probably the only unbeaten heavyweight wrestler in Penn State history, if not in the entire archives of the EIWA. One season Charlie Speidel's regular varsity heavy was injured and the sorepressed mat coach signed up Rogel for the Temple meet. Extremely short on savvy, Rogel made up for this deficiency in strength and his fierce competitive spirit.

Before the match had hardly begun, Fran picked up his foe's left leg and heel-tripped the other leg. In 20 seconds the Templar was pinned. But the ref ruled an illegal body slam and Fran was forced to grind out an 8-5 decision. Perhaps another bright career? No, Fran's horrified grid coach would not have his prize steer subject to such manhandling. Rogel had to retire—unbeaten and untied.

WHAT A MAN!: Fran played for Coach Earl Bruce's unbeaten California STC team as a frosh. With STC losing 7-0 at the half in one game, Fran sparked the team to victory in the second half with two touchdowns. On one scoring plunge his pants were on the five yard line, but the irrepressible Franny was in paydirt... Once at STC a dance was held and the

6 Intramural Matmen Get Pins; Sinkers, Capitols Gain Cage Finals Stanat, Oberg, Dash, Jim Garrity Nabs 31 Messermen Get Wins For Defending Champs

By HERM WEISKOPF

In intramural fraternity wrestling last night at Rec Hall six matches were decided by pins, four by points, two by decision of the referee and 11 by forfeit.

Kirby Stanat, Delta Tau Delta, started the night off by pinning Delta Sigma Phi's Chuck Berryhill in 1:50 of the first period. Up to that point the score was deadlocked at two apiece. Stanat scored when he was credited with a take down, while Berryhill countered with two points on a reverse. The bout was in the 175 pound class.

Whitey Messerman, Delta Chi, used all his tricks as he first outscored and then pinned Bob Smith, Sigma Phi Sigma, in a 135 pound battle. The time was 2:59. In the heavyweight class, Bill Souleret, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, pinned Charlie Sowers, Alpha Sigma Phi, in a grunt and groaner that would have done the pros proud. Sowers was ahead until he was pinned at 2:50.

Bill Walters, Phi Gamma Delta, was on top of Mel Shira, Delta Chi, after 3:20. At the time of the pin he led, 4-0. Alan Dash, Beta Sigma Rho, pinned Delta Tau Delta's Burt Houseworth, in 2:58. The one remaining pin went to Triangle's Bert Oberg, as he applied the pressure to Carl Meixsell, Theta Xi. Oberg was leading, 6-1, at the time of his pin, which was 3:50.

Tom Lozaw, Delta Sigma Phi, nipped Ralph Laudenslayer, Phi Kappa Sigma, 5-3. Lozaw had two take downs and an escape, while Laudenslayer scored on a reverse and an escape. Red Remsnyder, Pi Kappa Phi, edged Alpha Gamma Rho's John Gazlay, 3-1. The other two winners on points were Dick Headlee, Chi Phi, over Joe Sendek, Theta Kappa Phi, 3-0, and Tom Schott, Phi Gamma Delta, by a 5-3 score over Kappa Delta Rho's John Lutsch.

Two matches ended in ties and were decided by the referee. Joe Barclay, Phi Delta Theta, was awarded the nod over Tom Smith, Delta Upsilon, after they had battled to a 2-2 stalemate. Bob Broomfield, Chi Phi, was also the recipient of a similar award after he and Carl Godshall, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, tied.

Sax Has Natural Speed

Penn State's Ollie Sax, rookie sensation of the 1952 indoor track campaign, comes by his speed honestly. His father, Ollie, Sr., of Kearny, N.J., stole 61 bases for Scranton of the New York-Penn baseball league during the 1927 campaign.

on-his-own Rogel had no suit. So, he invited his brother down for the weekend, packed him in bed, and made a dazzling figure at the ball—in borrowed robes... Fran's lifelong athletic career is exemplified in his own words, "If you don't play from the heart, you might as well quit—in sports or life."

By TOM WERNER

The Sinkers, defending champions of the intramural basketball league, toyed with the Leopards for twenty minutes last night. The Leopards were increasingly wild in shots from the field and passes as the contest progressed.

By the end of the half the final score, or toll, was apparent. The total at the end of that first period read 36-19. The Sinkers made shots and passes that looked great, at their worst, as all ball handlers came down court looking for Jim Garrity, big gun of the night with 31 points.

Bailey Gets 18

The Leopards, making most of their goals from the outside, had great difficulty working the ball and, toward the end of the contest, hardly passed at all in their efforts to roll up points. Two of the Leopards fouled out and the team was reduced to its final five men.

BULLETIN

FRATERNITY BASKETBALL (Semi-Finals)
Sigma Phi Sigma 32, Tau Kappa Epsilon 26
Phi Sigma Delta 42, Phi Delta Theta 40 (overtime)

The Sinkers got help for their winning cause from Don Bailey, who made the score sheet with 18 tallies, and Don Shank who added 16 to the lopsided score.

Takes Advantage
The other winner in the semi-final round at Rec Hall last night was the Capitols who outlasted the Crusaders 19-18. The Capitols played a well coordinated game, having set plays which seemed to have been well practiced, an unusual feature for an intramural squad.

However, their fast breaks were not working, passes too long and shots too short, their tries from the field were inaccurate, so that at the end of the half the Crusaders led, 12-8. The Crusaders took advantage of every mistake, playing on-the-spot ball as well as it can be played, but the Capitol zone defense pulled together in the second period and committed fewer bobbles to shave the score in their favor, by one point by game time.

Bill Kutz led the Capitol attack, especially in the second half, with 10 points for the game, seven of those in the last part of the tilt.

The Sinkers will face the Capitols Thursday night, game time 8:30.

McIntyre, Acacia; Dave Girard, Sigma Nu; and Dave Simon, KDR.

IM Handball Tourney Moves Into 3d Week

With competition getting progressively tougher and hard-fought games becoming commonplace, the fraternity intramural handball tourney moved into its third round this week.

Joe Lemyre, Sigma Chi, and Jerry Maurey, DU, notched second-round victories over Bob Ablove, ZBT, and Gerry Gillispie, TKE, respectively. Dave Lesser, Pi Epsilon Phi, beat Kappa Sigma's Al Ogden, 17-21, 21-9, 21-10. Frank Follmer, Sigma Pi, easily downed Joe Graton, Phi Kappa Psi, 21-7, 21-9, while Tony Vendetti, Tau Kappa Phi, whipped Ralph Laudenslayer, Phi Kappa Sigma.

In other matches, Jim Kilgore, Lambda Chi Alpha, downed Paul Brobst, Triangle, 21-4, 21-9; Austin Marts, Theta Chi, toppled Jim Grove, Alpha Zeta, 21-4, 21-9; Bill Harral, PKA, whipped Theta Chi's Dick Johnson, 21-3, 21-10.

Ron Riley, Phi Kappa Psi, outlasted Don Levan, Acacia, 21-17, 7-21, 21-13; Doug Schoerke, PiKA, beat Herb Cole, Alpha Zeta, 21-8, 21-9; Huber Kline, Beta Theta Pi, downed Russ Johns, Kappa Sigma, 21-2; 21-1; Sigma Chi's Ray Stetler edged Don Siegle, Theta Kappa Phi, 21-14, 21-16; Bill Forrey, Phi Gamma Delta, beat Pete Huey, Phi Delta Theta, 19-21, 21-3, 21-8.

Syl Taub, Phi Epsilon Pi, toppled KDR's Bruce McPherson, 21-13, 21-9; Lou Riggs, Sigma Chi, outlasted Sigma Pi's John Charlton, 8-21, 21-9, 21-17; Cy Dubinsky, DU, beat Bill Aulenbach, AGR, 21-8, 21-13; Joe Strasser, Tau Phi Delta, stomped Bob Greenfield, SPA, 21-1, 21-1.

Bob Hosterman, PiKA, beat Fred Ernst, Delta Tau Delta; Norm Hickey, Sigma Nu, defeated Al Payer, Theta Kappa Phi; Paul Dierks, Phi Delta Theta, defeated Bob Hafly, Phi Kappa Sigma; Acacia's Bill Kilmer won over Joe Jackson, Phi Gamma Delta; and Bill Clark, Sigma Pi, beat John Cranos, Pi Kappa Phi. Forfeit winners were: Glenn

Coming... This Friday, March 13 The FORESTRY BALL

Dancing in Rec Hall
From 9 p.m. to 12 p.m.
To the music of
Jim Erb and
The Blue Notes

\$2 per couple Semi-Formal

The Early Fisherman Doesn't Use Worms



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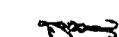
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IM Volleyball Entries
Entries for intramural volleyball competition must be turned in at the IM office in Rec Hall by 4:30 p.m. tomorrow.

NEW
College Diner
Freezer-Fresh Ice Cream
Good Food
Between The Movies