

Sports Thru The Lion's Eye

By JAKE HIGHTON
Collegian Sports Editor



It was like asking a man who had just broken his arms, legs, teeth, nose, neck, and sacroiliac, "How about a statement for the press?" You just didn't have the heart to talk to Nittany lacrosse Coach Nick Thiel about anything yesterday except the weather. Two successive weekend drubbings by Swarthmore, 22-6, and Navy, 19-1, were topics of conversation about as pleasant as eating lunch in a septic tank.

However, Nick, in the words of fight announcer Bill Corum, was "dead game." Bravely forcing a smile, he said, "I've probably got my poorest team ever."

Now this despairing lament may prove to be true, but it's hardly fair to say it so early in the season. After all, Navy's perennially hardy bloomers from the nation's hothouse of lacrosse defeated State even worse last year—21-0, and they weren't using football scoring rules. What's more, in the 19 years that Thiel has been coaching the Lions, his teams never have beaten the Middies.

No wonder Nick says he will "drop 'em before he will beat 'em."

Although the lacrosse team owns the dubious distinction of being one of the few Penn State teams in the red as far as victories go, reasons are abundant. One reason—and enough in itself—is the fact that Nick has to teach first, and then coach. Practically 90% of his pupils arrive needing a kindergarten education. They have to be taught the game first. Nick cannot polish and iron out flaws as in college level education—his players have to be given something to polish and iron out first.

Thus, when you ask Nick about requirements for a Penn State lacrosse player he will tell you bluntly: "two arms and two legs." Elaborating, Nick says there are nearly 100 freshmen out for varsity football. Of this number, only 25 are likely to be on the squad in the fall. Any number of those who fail at football, can succeed at lacrosse—a game featuring rough body contact which most football players revel in.

To make a tale of woe shorter, there is only one high school in the whole state of Pennsylvania which plays lacrosse—Lower Merion. This makes it easy to see through the fact that last fall's freshman class had only four men who had ever played the game before. And the football coaching fraternity has the nerve to wring out crying towels. Shame!



Nick Thiel

Despite the lack of finesse due to inexperience and learning pains, Nick's Indians play a thrilling game. Whether or not State wins or loses when it plays its home opener against Hobart Saturday, the persons who attend can be guaranteed spills and excitement in the old North American Indian game which is frequently given the picturesque modern nickname, Murder on the Lawn.

DOWN THE CREASE: Thiel got his master's degree in the back-busting sport at Syracuse where he was first team All-American. . . . Nick has only scouted opponents once. The first experiment years ago proved a dismal failure since the three teams Thiel scouted, Army, Navy, and John Hopkins, all licked the Lions. . . . With seven first team seniors, Nick figures he will "thin next year." If things get any thinner for State, wise-guy sportswriters will be drubbing the lacrossers the Thin Men.

Thorpe Buried

SHAWNEE, Okla., April 13 (AP)—Oklahoma buried its most famous Indian son today—the legendary Jim Thorpe, who was laid to rest after traditional rites of the Sac and Fox tribe and Catholic church.

The body of the collegiate, Olympic and professional star, who died in Lomita, Calif., March 28, was placed in a mausoleum until a shrine can be built to immortalize him as the world's greatest athlete.



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Between the movies

Navy Defeats Lacrossers; Foggmen Await Opener

By BOB DUNN

A smooth and talented Navy lacrosse squad handed Coach Nick Thiel's Penn State stickmen their second defeat of the season Saturday, downing the Lions, 19-1, at Annapolis.

It was the second game in two days for the Nittanians. Friday the team lost to Swarthmore College, 22-6, on the latter's field.

Thiel had his men employ a zone defense against the Middies, and for a time it worked wonders. Navy was forced to shoot mostly from outside. Tom Goldsworthy scored the Lions' lone goal of the day in the first period, (with Dick Klein assisting) and at the end of the period the Midshipmen had but a 3-1 lead. A Navy tally came when Lion defenseman Jim Dean accidentally deflected a Navy shot into the Lion goal.

But from the second quarter on, Coach Dinty Moore's team had little difficulty breaking through State's zone. They smashed eight tallies into the nets in the second stanza, three in the third, and five more in the last period to cop the verdict.

Ten Middies broke into the scoring column, with Midshipman Bernard leading with four, and Bill Hargrave and Bill Hunter following with three apiece.

HERE AND THERE: Navy took 87 shots in scoring their total. . . . Penn State's next three games are all at home, meeting Hobart this Saturday, Penn and Syracuse following. . . . Lacrosse news pushes aside everything else on newspaper sports pages around Baltimore—the sport's that big down there. . . . 'Tis said that with the Baltimore Orioles baseball team and the Johns Hopkins lacrossers in town the same day, Hopkins will outdraw the minor leaguers every time.

Pos.	Penn State
Navy	McCullough
Hubbell	Dean
Martin	Hay
Swanson	Schaeffer
Roepke	Hockersmith
Kins	Pavloski
Hornor	Arnold
Hargrave	Goldsworthy
Deale	Klein
Hunter	Bostmeyer
Navy	3 8 3 5-19
Penn State	1 0 0 0-1

Substitutes—Penn State: Erwin, Bickel, Haupt, Youtz, Girard, DeVie, Steimmuller, Horikawa. Navy: Wright, Smith, William, Bernard, Hamilton, Hoover, Koonce, Southworth, Brendel, Turner, Youce, Morrison, Snively, Ulickas, Kolmorgan, Krumviede, Farnert.

Scoring—Penn State: Goldsworthy (assist by Klein at 10:32). Navy: Bernard 4, Hargrove 3, Wright 2, Hunter 3, Ulickas 2, Smith, Tirie, Brendel, Turner, Morrison.

Track Manager

Penn State's graduate manager of athletics, H. R. "Ike" Gilbert was track manager as an undergraduate.

By GEORGE BAIREY

Varsity tennis Coach Sherm Fogg and his 1953 contingent will put in their first appearance of the season April 21 at Lewisburg when they take on the Bisons of Bucknell in State's traditional net opener.

Last year the Nittany net crew split two matches with the top-rival Bucknell, dropping the curtain-raiser, 7-2, at Lewisburg, and capping off a five-match win streak at the season's close by nipping the Bisons, 5-4.

Rain, as well as inexperience, hindered last year's outfit from bettering its 6-3 seasonal mark. This year, said Fogg, one-half the problem has already been licked. State's squad is no longer plagued with inexperience, he explained.

Fogg has six first-line performers—all lettermen—returning from last year's team. Veteran lettermen returning this season will be senior Captain Bill Forrey, juniors Dick Robinson, Bruz Ray, seniors Dick Gross, Bill Ray, and sophomore Bill Ziegler. Also figuring highly in this year's singles ladder will be transfer student Lou Landon. Landon, a junior and formerly of Lycoming College, Williamsport, was forced to sit out last season because of the eligibility-transfer ruling.

Others included in Fogg's early-season plans are junior Bill Wallis and sophomore Otto Hetzel, John Cleary, Tad Potter, and Gordon Sterner. Only losses through graduation are last year's captain, Ed Davis, and Gus Bigott.

This season the Lions will wade into an 11-match schedule with five home matches. They will play such ace Eastern tennis schools as Navy, Maryland, and Colgate (twice).

Barring bad weather, the Lions will play all the home contests on the College clay courts next to the caddy house. If the courts are too wet, the home matches will be shifted to the asphalt community courts.

Home opponents this year are Syracuse, Maryland, Pittsburgh, Bucknell, and Colgate.

IM Results

VOLLEYBALL

In intramural volleyball action Friday the Iron Men dumped the Rebels, 15-9 and 15-10; Joe's Boys skimmed past Big 10, 14-16, 15-13 and 15-4. Dorm 34 defeated the Ex. 9'ers, 15-5 and 15-12; Charlie (NROTC) whipped the Engles, 15-9, 13-15 and 15-12; Beaver House-B stopped the Penn Club, 15-11 and 15-10.

Sigma Nu's A team beat Phi Kappa Tau A 15-9 and 15-3; Alpha Tau Omega-A defeated Theta Xi-A, 15-7 and 15-9; Sigma Chi-A dropped Beta Sigma Rho-A 15-7 and 16-14; and Phi Sigma Delta-A trimmed Sigma Alpha Epsilon-A 8-15, 15-6 and 15-9.

Umphlett In Center Field

BOSTON, April 13 (AP)—It's official now. Tom Umphlett can play centerfield for the Red Sox when the Boston American Leaguers open the 1953 baseball season here tomorrow against Washington.

The Sox signed Umphlett to a contract today. The speedy rookie had been a member of the American Association's Louisville Colonels until today. He won the starting centerfield assignment two weeks ago.

Lion Boxers —

(Continued from page six)

it 30-29 for Kois while the others voted for Zale, 30-28 and 30-28.

Zale used a longer reach to good advantage, taking most of Kois' blows on the arms. Kois kept going in but couldn't get through Zale's guard effectively. The Nittany puncher lost one point in the final round for holding and punching in the clinches.

- 119—VIC KOBE, Idaho State
- 125—MIKE GUERRERO, San Jose
- 132—PADDY GARVER, Idaho State
- 139—CAL CLARY, Louisiana State
- 147—PAT SREENAN, Wisconsin
- 156—ELLSWORTH WEBB, Idaho State
- 178—RAY ZALE, Wisconsin

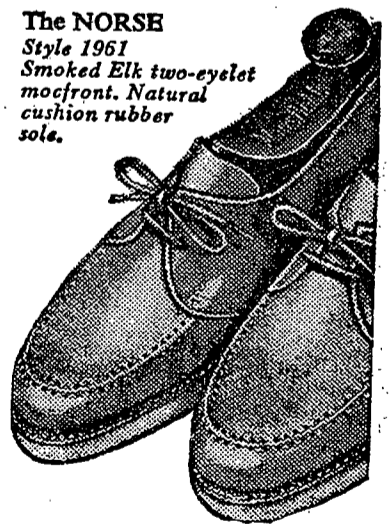
Hwt.—ART STATUM, North Carolina A&T

Two-Way Athlete

Penn State's ace pitcher, Keith Vesling, of Clarendon, also is right halfback on the football team.

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