

Sporting the Lions . . .

# Sam's Song

By SAM PROCOPIO  
Collegian Sports Editor



Since the founding of Penn State 98 years ago, one of the biggest gripes chirping from the thousands and thousands of students at the Nittany Vale has been "all this rain and no water."

Yesterday Joe Bedenk's District 2 baseball champions were rained out. Although the Lions have had their games called off only twice, it seems every time the diamondmen get their uniforms ready the cumulonimbus clouds begin to shed tears.

"The clouds just hang over the State College area as if it had no other place to go," one student said.

We really can't complain, not when our West Virginia neighbors claim to have seen mighty little sunlight if any when their baseball squad is scheduled to appear on the diamond. Rain to them is like putting a puzzle together—which is the right day to play?

Rain comes but never goes. In nine attempts to play the Mountaineers have seen their games rained out seven times. Because of these postponements and a new Southern Conference rule that at least ten league games must be played in order to qualify for championship contention, the Mountaineers have rescheduled several baseball games. (Quite a few doubleheaders, no doubt.)

Still, not everyone can possess the luck that the Cincinnati Redlegs have had at Crosley Field on Sundays. In some 20 years the Redlegs have been washed out on Sunday only once—and this postponement came this season.

Pitt is shedding its tears in another form. That is, endeavoring to cop at least one Tri-State Big Three crown before this season ends.

Of the sports in which Pitt, Penn State, and West Virginia field teams, the Nittany Lions thus far have successfully captured all the mythical championships—football, basketball, wrestling, and cross-country. Penn State's undefeated golf team and once beaten baseball squad are almost sure bets. The latter title will be settled on Beaver Field today. Coach Rutherford's linksmen have defeated the Panthers in golf 6-1.

Even Sherm Fogg's tennis team which is sporting a 1-4 log for the current season is rated to top the Big Three. This will be settled against the Panthers May 16.

If Pitt is to win a crown in any sport it will have to be in track. Carl Olson's Panther thinclads have started off on the right foot. Last Saturday they routed West Virginia, 100-31. But May 16, when the Lions travel to Pittsburgh, this issue will also settle.

Coach Rip Engle's 1952 gridders who gave an impressive showing last year are well on their way of having Penn State well represented in the professional ranks. Joe Yukica, a draft choice of the Chicago Cards, was signed to a contract yesterday. In addition to the glue-fingered end, last year's co-captains Stew Sheetz and Joe Gratson, Bob Pollard, and Jim Dooley will be performing in the play-for-play form of football.

Pollard and Gratson have been chosen by the Philadelphia Eagles, while the Cleveland Browns picked Stew Sheetz—a year before his eligibility ran out. Center Dooley was chosen by the Detroit Lions.

Tony Rados, Penn State's great passing quarterback and co-captain, who still has one year to play for the Lions was nominated by the Philadelphia Eagles last year.

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# Nittanies Sprout Wings For Spartan Trackmen

By HERM WEISKOPF

Nittany track coach Chick Werner is hoping that the wings his team sprouts at 9 this morning will still be present when they meet the Spartans of Michigan State at 2 p.m. The Lions will travel to East Lansing by plane today and will return again tonight.

They will take a bus to Martinsburg, where they will board the plane for the flight to Michigan.

Once again Werner is hoping for some sunshine. He feels that with some Vitamin D the Lions "may outdo themselves." He said that his team has had to practice in competition with inclement weather and a bad track. Then he pointed out that when the Lions traveled to Annapolis for their first meet and were blessed with a few minutes of sunshine and a good track, the results were amazing. Don Austin, Red Hollen, and Rosey Grier for example, put on performances better than any they were able to give while in the Nittany Valley.

Joe VanTassel will be the No. 2 high jumper, while Ken Parker will fill the same capacity in the pole vault. Werner announced yesterday. Jim Hamill will go along as a two-miler and Dave Eskey will round out the squad by taking part in the sprints.

Werner said the Lions may get more support from the sprinters than had been counted on earlier. He pointed to Skip Slocum, who ran the century in 0:10.0 this week, and said that he is even a better 220 man.

The ruddy-faced Lion mentor beamed happily yesterday over a strange turn of events that may spur his team to greater heights. The spur is freshman Charlie Blockson and the event is the discus, which he heaved 152 ft. 1 in. in a telegraphic meet this week. The distance resets the record Blockson created last week in a meet against the Navy frosh with a toss of 138 ft. 2 in. and eclipses any throw on the Penn State books, frosh or varsity.

Werner said that as a result of the new record, ace Lion field star Rosey Grier has been given some incentive that he had been unable to instill in him.

To point up the fact, Werner said that he called off any work-out for the 22 trackmen who will be competing in the Spartan meet. However, he couldn't stop Grier, who was out practicing despite his chance to take it easy. Werner said that when he asked Grier where he got the sudden ambition, he replied, "I can't afford to let Blockson get ahead of me."

Grier and Blockson are very good pals, Werner said with a chuckle as he foresaw a friendly rivalry between the two. "Now," he said, "all we need is the same kind of incentive for about 30 more guys on the team and we'll really go places."

# Tennis Team Faces Colgate Today In N.Y. in Try for Second Win

The seven-man Lion tennis outfit, in the throes of a three-match losing streak, will meet another of the "toughies" at 2 p.m. today as it takes on the mighty Raiders of Colgate at Hamilton, N.Y.

If it isn't the quirks of the weather, it's the quirks of the schedule. The Lions have dropped three straight decisions to Navy, 8-1, Georgetown, 6-1, and Maryland, 8-1, all pretty top-heavy scores, but at the same time, those three teams plus Colgate will be the roughest the Lions have to face this season.

Colgate has yet to lose this season, while Coach Sherm Fogg's crew has a 1-4 log.

The Lions left late yesterday afternoon for Hamilton by car.

The singles and doubles choices will be the same that absorbed the Maryland shellacking. They will be Dick Robinson, number one; Bill Ziegler, number two; Bruz Ray, number three; Lou Landon, number four; team Captain Bill Forrey, number five; and Dick Gross, number six.

The doubles combinations will be Robinson-Landon, number one; Ray-Dez Long, number two; and Forrey-Ziegler, number three. The Forrey-Ziegler doubles win was the only point that Maryland lost.

The Raiders are hard to beat on their hardsurfaced homecourts. Besides the home advantage, Colgate will field an almost all veteran team, headed by Ben Bishop, former national junior singles champ. Only Jim Stern, last sea-

son's number two singles performer, will be missing from this year's lineup.

Last season's two matches with the Raiders both wound up as Lion losses. The first, at Hamilton, was a 8-1 Colgate win. The second, at home, was recorded as just another loss to the elements as the match was washed out.

After the Raider match, the Lions will meet Lehigh at Bethlehem on Wednesday and then settle down for a three-match home stay with Pittsburgh, Bucknell, and Colgate. The season will be wrapped up with Duquesne at Pittsburgh on May 30.

## Marciano In Good Shape

CHICAGO, May 8 (AP)—Heavyweight Champion Rocky Marciano's celebrated nose was pronounced in good shape, and the referee was cited as sole authority to rule any disqualification in the champion's title defense against Jersey Joe Walcott at the Chicago Stadium a week from tonight.

Vincent College announced it will enter a varsity basketball team in intercollegiate competition next season for the first time since 1951.

# Lacrossemen Seek First Win Today

The "Banks of the old Raritan" and surrounding scenery will offer the setting at 2:30 p.m. today at New Brunswick, N.J., as the Penn State and Rutgers lacrosse forces square off in another renewal of their stick rivalry.

Records of the two squads offer somewhat of a contrast for this one. Rutgers ran up a seven game victory skein Wednesday before toppling to Princeton. The Lions, on the other hand, have dropped their first five encounters, losing to Swarthmore, Navy, Hobart, Penn and Syracuse.

The Lions' best showing of the season, however, against Syracuse last Saturday, when they lost to the powerful Orange, 18-13, has given Coach Nick Thiel hope that his men can give the Scarlet a real battle.

Events of the past week have forced Thiel to make a few changes in his lineup. Dick Rostmeyer and Jim Dean both were unable to make the trip. Rostmeyer suffered a dislocated kneecap against Syracuse. Ron Youtz will see ac-

tion in place of Rostmeyer on attack and Herb Horikawa will start at Dean's defensive post.

The rest of the Nittany starting array will include Dick Klein and Tom Goldsworthy on attack; Dave Arnold, Wayne Hocker-Smith and Lou Girard at midfield; and Dick Schaefer and Jim Hay on defense with Bill McCollough at goal.

If the game comes anywhere near matching the thriller played last year by the two squads, it will be quite an afternoon for the fans. The Scarlet barely squeezed by the Nittanymen on the golf links last spring by a 16-15 count. And, at that, Rutgers had an outstanding team, losing only to Army and Princeton, perennially two of the nation's strongest.

**SHORT SHOTS**—Rostmeyer's injury, though painful, is not the

kind of recurring ailment that is found in many knee injuries. He will be out for the remainder of the season, however . . . Lion defenseman Dick Schaefer played probably the best game of his career last Saturday.

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