

Lion-Spartan X-Country Meet Is Rated Tossup

By HERM WEISKOPF

The annual cross-country meet between the Spartans of Michigan State and the Nittany Lions is as unpredictable as women's fashions. Year after year the team which has been cast in the role of underdog has come through with the victory. The two teams will clash Saturday at East Lansing, Mich.

Chick Werner, Lion coach, pointed out that when the Spartans came to the College for a meet several years ago they possessed one of the finest teams they ever fielded. As far as Michigan State was concerned it was merely a matter of time until they would be able to return home to accept the praises that go with winning.

Lions Won in 1951

As it turned out, the Spartans went home, but they left just one thing behind—the victory. The same thing has happened to Penn State teams, and as a result, a fierce rivalry has sprung up between the two schools.

In 1951 the Lions defeated Michigan State as Werner guided his team through a six game schedule with just one loss. Last year the Spartans won a triangular meet from Manhattan and the Lions. The Jaspers placed third, while the Nittanians were second.

Spartans Beaten Once

It was during last year's meet at East Lansing that Spartan Captain Jim Kepford sped to a new record for the four-mile course. His time was 20:06.6. Red Hollen and Lamont Smith, two stalwarts on this year's Nittany squad, tied for second in the meet. Jim Hamill was tenth, John Chillrud 18th and Skip Slocum 21st.

Michigan State suffered its first setback of the campaign last week when the Badgers from Wisconsin turned them back.

Spartans to Host NCAA's

Just who the underdog will be in Saturday's meet is not known. The records of the teams so far this season mean little, for this is the dual meet victory that both squads have been sighting their guns on.

The race will be run over the same course that will be used for the NCAA championship competition on Nov. 23.

Manhattan's Jaspers will provide the final dual meet competition for the Lions this season on Nov. 7. The Nittany harriers have chalked up two wins in as many meets this season.

Special TV Hookup Lets Leahy See Team

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Oct. 27 (AP) Coach Frank Leahy from his hospital bed a mile away today watched his Notre Dame football team practice via a special television hookup.

Through a special micro-wave closed TV circuit arranged by WSBT-TV, South Bend station, Leahy was able to observe the Irish maneuvering on the practice field.

Leahy, stricken with a stomach ailment, at halftime of Notre Dame's 27-14 victory over Georgia Tech Saturday, is expected to be released from St. Joseph's Hospital Thursday.

Quinn Cops Intramural Tennis Singles Crown

James Quinn became intramural independent tennis singles champion Monday by outscoring John Krug, 6-2, 6-2.

Quinn stopped Richard Yoder to advance to the finals while Krug moved up via a 6-4, 6-4 verdict over William Worley.

Quinn is a first semester chemical engineering major.

Norcik a Mainstay On Soccer Team

By ROY WILLIAMS

Bill Norcik, senior soccerman, has been a mainstay for Penn State's soccer squads during the past three years. Despite the fact that he didn't play during his freshman year, he has been a varsity winner for two years under Coach Bill Jeffrey, and has been holding a firm grasp on the same wing position during the current '53 campaign.

Norcik's athletic prowess, however, in the soccer game hasn't been any accident. During his four-year high school education at Bridgeville High School, outside of Pittsburgh, he was a member of the soccer squad. He won his letter for soccer during his sophomore, junior, and senior years.

Wins 7 Letters

Experience with his high school soccer squad, wasn't his only aid to his knowledge of the game when he graduated from Bridgeville. He also played four years of junior ball with the Heidelberg Soccer League of semi-pro ball. During his stay in high school, he advanced to play a year and a half of senior ball in the same loop.

Despite his 5-8 frame, and light weight of 135 pounds, he has been a successfully active athlete not only at Penn State, but also for his high school. He won two letters in football when he played defensive and offensive halfback for his high school grid eleven. During his two years as a varsity man, Bridgeville won the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic League championship title in class B competition, and carried a victory streak of 26 games.

Liked Jeffrey

Norcik was also a two-year letterman in baseball, as he held down the center field pasture slot. He also alternated at first base, and was a consistent threat at the plate.

"My most memorable experience at Penn State," Norcik said, "was playing for Bill Jeffrey,

the master of the game." Norcik's agile ability afoot was proven by the confidence which Jeffrey had in the Bridgeville product.

Coach Ken Hosterman, new mentor of the Lions squad this season, has also displayed his confidence in Norcik by picking him as a regular wing lineman. "My biggest thrill I think," Norcik commented, "which I got out of playing soccer was last year, when I scored six goals." He was second in team scoring, only to Jack Pinezich who set a record with 23 scoring boots.

Norcik has scored once this season, when he drove a tally home in the Nittanians 7-0 rout of Bucknell. He also assisted in a goal scored by Dick Matacia, sophomore for State, when the Lions lost to Army, 4-3.

"I guess I've been very lucky during my athletic career both in high school and college. I haven't suffered any major injuries—yet." The Lions have four more games to play in which Norcik is bound to be playing a dominant role.

The Nittany booter is a major in marketing, and an active member of the marketing club. He is also a member of Druids, junior men's athletic hat society and is vice president of his social fraternity, Chi Phi. His future—well, as Bill put it, "I think the Army will be capitalizing on that 1-A classification they recently sent me." Norcik, however, is hoping that he will be able to finish his final four games for State's soccer team and the remaining part of his senior year.

Details of Frosh Grid 'Post-Mortem' Are Good

Looking at the post-mortems of Saturday's 19-9 loss by the freshman footballers to Pitt, it is generally agreed that the frosh did not do badly against a team obviously loaded with talent.

The Lions ran out of gas in the fourth period after building up a lead in the third stanza on Milt Plum's "pro-like" field goal and Don McNally's plunge. But the way the Panthers came to life in the early part of the last quarter still has many of the spectators gasping for breath.

Coach Earl Bruce yesterday was more concerned about the way Pitt tallied its last score on a 52-yard punt return by quarterback Corny Salvaterra.

"We definitely need more work on covering punt and kickoff returns," said the Lion mentor. "Our ends especially did not protect the outside, and this showed up on their last touchdown. In general, I thought too that our blocking and tackling could have been better," he added.

The line, which was expected to be a strong point was singled out by Bruce. "All the boys in the middle did a fine job," he said. "Our running attack looked very good at times and Plum's punting and placekicking is bound to be a big help in the future," he reflected. "All in all, I think we did a pretty good job."

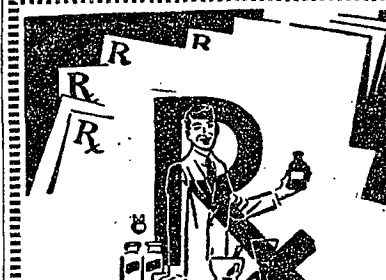
The Lions will now have a week off before engaging Navy at Annapolis a week from Saturday. The coaches plan to spend some time on defense for the punt return weakness before brushing up on the other business at hand.

61 Bands for Band Day

Sixty-one high school bands have accepted invitations to Penn State's fourth annual Band Day on Nov. 7. Musicians will number more than 4000 when the school-boy bands join the college Blue Band on the football field at halftime of the Penn State-Fordham game. The bands also will march in a pre-game street parade.

Frosh Beaten in Opener

Penn State's freshman football team, beaten by a strong Pitt combine in its opener, will go to Annapolis, Md., for its next test against Navy frosh Nov. 7.



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