

Cagers to Face Veteran Team

Lions Meet Syracuse Tonight; Behind in Series

The Lion basketball team gets back into action tonight after a two-week layoff when it meets a veteran Syracuse quintet at Rec Hall. Seeking its fourth win of the year against one setback, Coach Elmer Gross' cagers appear on the home court for the first time since Dec. 5 when they whipped W&J in the season opener.

Game time is 8 p.m.

State will be meeting Syracuse for the 48th time in the history of the 37-year-old rivalry and finds itself on the short end of series records. The Orange have won 25 contests while the Lions have captured 22.

2-Platoon Comeback Is Unlikely

CINCINNATI, Jan. 5 (AP)—The American Football Coaches Assn., convinced there is no chance for an early return to the two platoon system, urged today a liberalization in substitution rules.

The coaches recommended the collegiate rules committee, which meets Jan. 11 in Sarasota, Fla., enact a rule which would permit a player to reenter once in each quarter and to eliminate the present four-minute rule.

The four-minute rule applies only to the second and fourth quarters and allows players to return during that period.

The coaches took no action on the "fake injury" angle, deciding to leave it to the rules committee.

Don Faurot of Missouri proposed and the committee recommended a proposal which would penalize fouls by a defensive team on tries for extra points. Under their present setup, if a defensive team fouls during an extra-point try and the kick is missed, the kicking team's only recourse is to decline the penalty, which is never more than 1 yard, and try for another kick.

Under Faurot's plan, the penalty would be exacted against the defensive team on the following kickoff and such penalties would be accumulative.

Faurot said there have been instances of defensive teams being offside or roughing the offensive center or kicker several times in a single series.

Pass-Catchers Repeat

Penn State's three leading pass receivers in 1953, for the second straight year, were Jim Garrity, Don Malinak, and Jesse Arnelle. Garrity was among the East's top receivers with 30 receptions good for 349 yards and 3 touchdowns. Malinak grabbed 23 good for 262 yards, and Arnelle snared 10 good for 117 yards. Dick Jones grabbed 7 good for 165 yards.

Syracuse coach Marc Guley will bring a squad of six lettermen, four of whom are included in his starting lineup. The Orange fared dismally last season but has won six of its first nine games this year.

Besdin Sharp-Shooter

Leading the Syracuse attack will be sharp shooting forward Mel Besdin, a 6-3 senior who has been the back bone of Guley's squad all season, both offensively and defensively. At this point he's the leading scorer on the club and top rebound man.

Along with Besdin the Lions will probably have their hands full with 6-5 center Dave Kline. The towering pivot man has also been a big scoring threat for the Orange and a tough man on the boards.

Guley will round out his starting five with Ronnie Kilpatrick (6-3) at the other forward, and Jack Larned (5-11) and Manny Breland (6-2) at the guard posts.

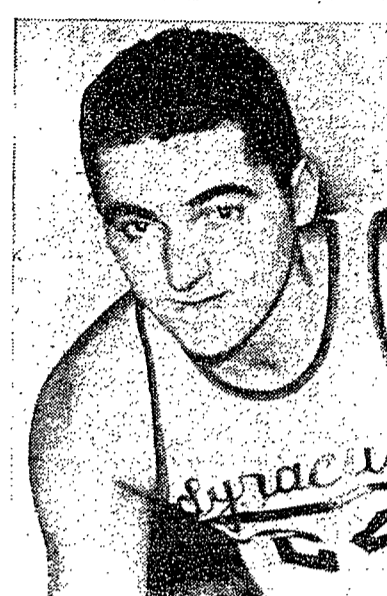
Play Fast Break

The Orange play a fast break game, and have developed a reputation this season as being a deadly shooting outfit. This pressure offense coupled with some fine rebounding ability has made it one of the most dangerous teams in the east.

Gross announced yesterday he will use Jim Blocker, a 6-4 junior at one of the forward positions in place of sophomore Rudy Marisa. Captain Jack Sherry will be in the other forward slot and high-scoring Jesse Arnelle will be at center. Ron Weidenhammer and Ed Haag will start at the guards.

The Lions will be hoping to take up where they left the Orange last season. Last year Gross' quintet downed Syracuse in both games in which the two teams met. The Lions trounced their New York rivals 71-62 in the first contest and then added a 78-74 win later in the season.

The Nittanians will be at home again Saturday when Colgate comes to Rec Hall. Following that contest they will travel to West Virginia, Navy, and Bucknell, before returning home to meet Pitt Jan. 28.



Mel Besdin
Syracuse Threat



Jesse Arnelle
High Scorer

Rabbit Season Slow

HARRISBURG, Jan. 5 (AP)—Only a small percentage of the state's estimated 850,000 licensed hunters were reported taking advantage of the eight-day snowshoe rabbit season which closes Saturday.

A State Game Commission spokesman said today the kill this year as in past years probably will be light. He said the kill could be as low as 1800 or as high as 3000.

Unbeaten Lions Seek Wrestling Team Honors

By SAM PROCOPIO

Every time the power-laden Nittany Lions take to the mat this season, they will be aiming for admission into wrestling's most exclusive circle—the winningest team in the sport's history.

Saturday night in Rec Hall Penn State's National and three-time Eastern Intercollegiate champions will battle the Big Red of Cornell. The match is slated for 7 p.m.

With obstacles like Cornell, Pitt, Maryland, Syracuse, Navy, Army, and Lehigh on the Lion '54 schedule, however, Penn State will need more than its share of wrestling know-how.

Unbeaten in 29 Meets

Coach Charlie Speidel has successfully carried his matmen through 29 consecutive victories. Every triumph has been hard fought, against the best in the East and South.

Although it is quite obvious the Lion matmen have another tough card, there is one asset which speaks in favor of several Penn State adversaries—experience.

Cornell, for example, has won two of its three dual meets thus far and will be seeking its third Saturday. Maryland opened its season two weeks ago with a win.

Participate In Tourney

Then too, during the holidays, Pittsburgh, Syracuse, Cornell, and Lehigh participated in the Wilkes College open wrestling championships held in Wilkes-Barre.

Although it was blanked in the final round of the tourney, Pittsburgh piled up enough points to take the team championship, dethroning defending champion Lehigh.

Except for some intrasquad wrestling, Penn State has yet to face a real opponent.

Swedes to Tour U.S.

Gene Wettstone, Penn State coach, already has the Swedish National gymnastics team booked for 25 stops on its tour of American cities and universities. The Swedes will face Wettstone's National Collegiate title-holders here January 16, in a combined exhibition and dual meet.

Marciano May Meet Charles In June Fight

NEW YORK, Jan. 5 (AP)—Rocky Marciano may pass up a winter defense of his heavyweight championship to wait until June for a New York ball park match with ex-champ Ezzard Charles.

Jim Norris, president of the International Boxing Club which is holding open a Feb. 24 or Feb. 26 date at Miami for Rocky, said today a Miami match for Marciano now is uncertain.

"I talked to Al (Al Weill), Rocky's manager for two hours this morning and I'll see him again tomorrow," said Norris. "I got the impression that Al is not too anxious to box until June. We definitely do not have a heavyweight championship match now. I'm going to stay a week until Al decides."

Norris said four opponents were discussed in his conferences with Weill—Dan Bucceroni of Philadelphia, Nino Valdes of Havana, Don Cockell of England and Charles.

Packer Tops Scorers

Sophomore Dick Packer, of Philadelphia, led the scoring parade with 11 goals as Kenny Hosterman's first Penn State soccer team won 5 of 7 games. Runner-up in the scoring parade was Dick Maticia, of Jackson Heights, N.Y., with 7 goals. The Lion team scored 26 goals.

Swedish Gym Meet Receives Attention

The coming gymnastic meet between the nation's national collegiate champs, Penn State, and Sweden's world famous aggregation has already reached the point where it has attracted nation-wide attention, although in America a rather skeptical attitude toward group calisthenics seems to be prevalent.

To view a Swedish gymnastic team in action is to see gymnastics at its best. Among its routines are the calisthenics exercises. They are composed of 16 gymnasts who do back handsprings, somersaults, and straight-leg-presses to handstand simultaneously.

It is a known fact the tremendous expenses involved in sending a team overseas limits American participation in international tournaments, festivals, and Olympic games, and on the other hand discourages European teams from coming to this country.

Therefore, it is most encourag-

ing news to American gymnastics that Coach Erik Linden, several times coach of the Swedish National and Olympic team, will bring this group of gymnasts to the United States.

Undoubtedly the tour will also serve as an inspiration for the physical education program of high schools and colleges in general.

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