

Academies Will Drop Unbeaten Lions?

Matmen's Weak and Strong Weights Matched by Navy

Upset Minded Cadets Loom As Big Hurdle for Gymnasts

This afternoon Coach Charlie Speidel's defending wrestlers will leave for Annapolis, Md., where they will meet a traditionally-tough Navy team. With the trip the Nittany Lion matmen will carry the risk of having their unblemished record marred in the lost column.

The all-important dual meet will be settled at 4:15 p.m.

As Coach Speidel put it: "Navy starts off with three good men and finishes with two strong men. We'll have to win in the early weights to insure a victory."

A veteran and experienced team represents the key to Navy's success. With this, the Midshipmen will seek to upset a fine Nittany squad.

What is probably built-up as the bout of the afternoon is found in the heavyweight class where the most outstanding Navy matman, Pete Blair, will compete against Penn State's hopeful, Bill Oberly.

Oberly is a sophomore. He is unbeaten in competition this season with only a draw stopping the Lion heavyweight from possessing a perfect record in his first season.

However, it will be this hurdle—Blair—which Oberly must clear before the Nittany Lion fans can rightfully claim the best in the East. The match is outlined as his major test. Blair has pinned four out of the five men he has met this season.

Then too, in the 177-pound class Joe Krufka will face his first real test should he meet Midshipman Joe Gattuso. This veteran Navy standout may possibly be dropped to the 167-pound division. In this case, Krufka, a 1952 Olympic alternate, may likely battle Blair. Last year Blair wrestled in the 177-pound class. He was defeated by Joe Lemyre—brother of Dick.

In examining the possible line-ups for both teams, there is a similarity that exists. That is, Penn State and Navy are strongest and weakest in same weight classes.

Freshman Mat Meet Canceled

The freshman wrestling meet between Penn State and West Chester State Teachers College, originally scheduled for 2:30 p.m. tomorrow at Rec Hall, has been canceled, assistant coach Don Watkins announced yesterday.

No reason was given for the cancelation of the match, which was to have been the lone home sports event of the day. The Penn State frosh matmen, however, will wrestle the University of Pittsburgh freshmen Feb. 27, at Rec Hall.

The dual meet is scheduled for the afternoon. On the same day Penn State's varsity wrestling team will meet the Pitt Panthers at 7 p.m. Following will be the Nittany Lion basketball game against Rutgers.

Former Penn Stater

North Carolina State's new football coach, Earle Edwards, is a Pennsylvania product. He played the game at Greensburg High School and Penn State, then coached at Ebensburg High School and Penn State before joining the Michigan State staff in 1949.

It's a Tradition

Penn State traditionally plays four of each season's football games on its home field at State College.

2 Lions Entered in AAU Meet

By HERM WEISKOPF

Chick Werner, Nittany track coach, said yesterday that two of his aces—Art Pollard and Ollie Sax—will compete tomorrow in the Amateur Athletic Union meet.

Another talent-laden field will be on hand to test the Lions once again on the Madison Square Garden boards.

Pollard will be vying for honors in the 60-yard sprints against the world's finest field of sprinters. He will resume his battle with such standouts as Olympic 10-meter champ Lindy Remigino and 20-meter Olympic Gold Medal winner Andy Stanfield.

National sprint titlist in the 60-yard event, Johnny Haines,

will also be in the field. The rivalry between the Penn sophomore and the "Coatesville Comet" dates back to high school. This is "one event where you cannot pick a winner by flipping a coin, because there are only two sides to a coin and there are at least six top threats to cop the laurels.

Last week at the New York Athletic Club meet in the Garden Pollard was eliminated in the semi-final heat by Remigino and Haines. The latter duo finished one-two in the final race. Haines copped the AAU crown last season.

Sax will also have his hands full in the 600. Mal Whitfield, who edged the Nittany speedster last year, will be back to defend his title. Marvelous Mal and Sax have

met three times this season and each time Whitfield was victorious. Sax was defeated twice in the 600 and last week he placed fifth in the 500-yard run.

Werner has been sending his squad outdoors to workout whenever the weather permits. The thinclads have been practicing on the golf course and on the outdoor board track which is located between Rec Hall and the Nittany Lion Inn.

The trackmen are preparing for the meet of the year, the IC4A championship tussle, which will be held next Saturday at the Garden. Penn State is ranked as one of the top threats to remove the crown from Manhattan. Other top contenders are Cornell and Yale.

When Gene Wettstone's gymnastic Nittany Lions go against the U.S. Military Academy Saturday, the Cadets will have one thought in mind—upset the Lions.

The gymnasts left for West Point at 8 this morning. The winner of the Penn State-Army dual stands an excellent chance of completing the season unmolested, and will undoubtedly carry the most weight into the Eastern Intercollegiate finals on March 13.

Record-wise Army holds the edge over the Nittany Valers. They own a five-won-none lost slate compared to State's 3-0 log.

Lions Met Stronger Foes
However, each of the three foes the Blue and White performers have faced thus far was a stronger team than any of the five the Cadets have met. Thus, in the latter category, the Lions have the edge.

Wettstone's gymnasts will also be carrying a 12 game undefeated skein into the dual meet—a streak that had its birth in 1950 and car-

ried them to the throne room in the Eastern and NCAA finals last year.

Captain Jack Charles will lead the Cadets in their bid to dethrone the Lions. Charles is the number one tumbler for the Military and is undefeated in their five outings. Against Temple, probably the most respectable opponent the Cadets faced, Charles registered 258 out of a possible 300 points.

Paxton Number One Tumbler
Bill Paxton, who has stood out in the tumbling department for the Staters in their past three outings is looked upon as the only one capable of giving Charles a run for his money. Paxton's highest scoring effort so far has been one point short of the 250 mark.

In the remaining five events, side horse, horizontal bar, rope climb, parallel bars, and the flying rings, the Lions appear to hold the upper hand.

The Cadet performers have tallied 250 points in only two events, parallel bars and the rings. On the other hand, at least one Nittany performer has gone over 250 points in each event in the previous meets.

On the rope, the Military has failed to penetrate below the four second mark, while the Lions' Skeets Haag has registered two 3.8's and a 3.7 in going undefeated.

Bright Record

In 28 seasons under Coach Charlie Speidel, Penn State wrestling teams have lost an average of only one dual meet a year.

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