

"Some Enchanted Evening!"

Sam's Song

By SAM PROCOPIO
Collegian Sports Editor



One of the most spectacular achievements in college wrestling is a fall. A flashy bit of maneuvering which brings about this feat has brought crowds to their feet in wild applause, has caused throats to moan in despair, has led to the winning of exciting matches, and has brought about all shades of emotion.

The pin—Hud Samson's over Chuck Weber of West Chester in the 1953 National tourney—that put thousands of Penn Staters into a frenzy at Rec Hall last March may have been the beginning of a new wrestling era, one that will have the former monopolizing West consider the East.

Had not Samson won, Penn State would have had a National Collegiate Athletic Association wrestling title without an individual champ—a feat unheard of in tournament competition.

Just before the Samson-Weber match, the spectators were informed that Penn State's gymnasts won their NCAA title at Syracuse. This was quite an accomplishment—something to cheer about. The fans did. Although it was apparent that Coach Charlie Speidel's matmen had mathematically clinched the wrestling title, there was something missing. An individual champ!

That night of March 28, Penn State had two National team champs. An all-around gym titlist in Jan Cronstedt. But Speidel's aggregation didn't have that champ. That is until Samson did the honor. But the fans didn't cheer when he won the 191-pound title. The 6000 hectic spectators stood up and screamed their heads off for several minutes.

That chapter in Penn State's sports history, which may never be written again, did not end here. Aside from Indiana, which won one crown, Penn State's wrestling championship team was the first in the history of the tournament ever to carry the banner outside the states of Oklahoma and Iowa.

Oklahoma and Oklahoma A&M has monopolized NCAA and individual crowns for the past 24 years. In fact, their influence had been getting so strong in wrestling circles that the only way to stop them would have been to pass a law.

The Aggies have won 16 of the 23 tourney championships. The Sooners captured three. Because of this, each year the entries from the state of Oklahoma have been looked upon to finish either on top or very close to that position.

In 1915 E. C. Gallagher of the Aggies, who never wrestled himself, disregarded the popular conception that a good wrestler had to be big and stupid. His well-trained teams looked like anything but wrestlers. Yet they did remarkably well.

This weekend at the Sooners' Fieldhouse Oklahoma A&M proudly carries the favorite role. Will the Aggies win? Not if the potent wrestlers in the East have any say! And they will.

There is one drawback, however. The Aggies have a wrestler named Gene Nicks who grapples in the unlimited division. He was a runnerup last year. Because he has pinned every opponent this year, they call him "Ninety Seconds" for short.

Short, my eye. That's quick!

—30—

Baseball Citrus Dope

FORT PIERCE, Fla., March 24 (AP)—The Pittsburgh Pirates scored seven runs—five of them on homers—in the seventh inning today as they walloped the Philadelphia Athletics 10-4 in a Grapefruit League contest.

Outfielder Frank Thomas' round-tripper with one on tied the game in the seventh and moments later infielder Curt Roberts slammed a home run with two on to put the Pirates ahead.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 24 (AP)—Bill Skowron, the broad-shouldered rookie who is trying to stick with the New York Yankees as a pinch hitter, drove in six runs today as the champions defeated the Boston Red Sox, 11-7.

VERO BEACH, Fla., March 24 (AP)—St. Louis staged a four-run rally in the ninth inning to trounce Brooklyn 5-2 today.

With the score tied, 1-1, Alex Grammas opened the attack on Johnny Podres with an infield hit. Wally Moon, Red Schoendienst, and Stan Musial also contributed singles as Don Hoak and Don Zimmer committed errors for Brooklyn.

CLEARWATER, Fla., March 24 (AP)—The Washington Senators made it two in a row over the Philadelphia Phillies today, scoring a 7-1 decision behind the six-hit pitching of Chuck Stobbs and Johnny Schmitz.

LAKELAND, Fla., March 24 (AP)—Rookie Harry Bright knocked in the winning run with a two-out single in the bottom of the ninth inning as the Detroit Tigers ended a five-game losing streak with a 5-4 victory over the Milwaukee Braves today.

TAMPA, Fla., March 24 (AP)—Ted Kluszewski and Jim Greengrass smashed home runs but it wasn't enough power to take care of the Chicago White Sox, who defeated the Cincinnati Redlegs 6-4 today.

IM Volleyball —

(Continued from page six)

Delta Upsilon got back on the winning road with a victory over Sigma Chi, 15-9, 6-15, 15-5. Kappa Delta Rho won a hard fought game from a stubborn Zeta Beta Tau, 15-10, 13-15, 15-12. Acacia beat Pi Kappa Alpha, 15-13, 3-15, 15-13, while Alpha Zeta walked all over Alpha Epsilon Pi, 15-1, 15-9.

Tuesday night was devoted in large measure to independent play.

The Sixty-Niners opened the show with an easy 15-7, 15-11 win over the Jolly Rogers. Irvin-B took a forfeit win from the Mighty Termites, while the McElwain Men were too much for the Farmers, 15-11, 15-5. Irvin Heights continued unbeaten by virtue of a win over Beaver House-A, 15-1, 15-6, and the Sabitini Six beat Dorm 21, 7-15, 15-3, 15-5. Jones Boys smashed the Wildcats, 15-6, 15-6, and Alpha Chi Rho smashed Alpha Phi Delta, 15-5, 15-0.

Delta Chi was too strong for Sigma Phi Epsilon, 15-7, 15-7. Tau Phi Delta rolled Phi Kappa Sigma under, 15-3, 15-10. Sigma Nu came from behind to hand Sigma Alpha Mu its third successive loss, 12-15, 15-10, 15-11. Beta Theta Pi beat Tau Kappa Epsilon, 15-8, 10-15, 15-12, while Delta Upsilon-B concluded the evening's program by beating Theta Chi 15-10, 13-15, 15-12.

Lion King Hopeful

Twice Eastern titlist at 178 pounds, Adam Kois will be Penn State's main hope for National honors when the NCAA championships are held here April 8, 9 and 10. The Uniontown senior went to the finals of last year's championships.

Fornicola, Hayes Get Boxing Berths

By ROY WILLIAMS

Larry Fornicola, a varsity wrestler earlier this season for Coach Charlie Speidel, will climb through the ropes this weekend for Coach Eddie Sulkowski's boxing team.

Fornicola made the switch from the mats to the boxing ring when Sulkowski recently selected him for the 139-pound slot against

Penn State's final boxing foe, Louisiana State University, at Baton Rouge, La.

The scrappy junior will fight the same weight class that was previously occupied by Don Martin. Martin was forced to drop from the boxing scene before the Easterns when he was declared scholastically ineligible. Fornicola, however, has not been completely absent from the boxing scene. He won the 135-pound intramural title two years ago, and captured the 145-pound title this year.

Sulkowski's second lineup change for the LSU tilt was made in the 156-pound bracket. Dick Hayes, the fourth sophomore in the Lions' first team, has been chosen to replace Don DeMay.

Hayes was pitted against senior Dick Ahern, regular 165-pounder, for the 155-pound position. But the sophomore newcomer was given the nod by Sulkowski when Ahern failed to reduce to the required weight. Ahern, in an effort to make the 155-pound class, was unable to maintain his strength to win the decision over Hayes.

But the Lions will have to be at their full strength Saturday night when they meet LSU's Tigers. LSU boasts wins over Idaho

State College, national champions last year, Idaho, Maryland, Virginia, and Wisconsin. The Terps bowed to LSU 6-2, while Virginia lost 5½-2½. The Badgers were dropped, 5-3.

Harry Papacharalambous, Jack Stokes, and Captain Adam Kois will be facing rugged competition. Papacharalambous meets Bobby Freeman, an experienced lightweight. Stokes will be seeking his fifth victory against Cal Clary, 139-pound national champ last year who has moved up to the 147-pound class. Kois, fighting his last dual meet for Penn State, meets Crowe Peele.

Peele defeated Wisconsin's ace 178-pounder, national champ Ray Zale, last week at LSU on a split decision score, 30-29. Peele and Kois along with Zale will be probable chief contenders for the National crown in April.

In 64 fights Peele has won 62. Of those 62 wins, 47 have been knockouts.

Bolstered by eligible freshman competitors, an experienced-laden lineup and coupled with the fact that LSU will be at home against the Lions places a good size block for the Lions to overcome for a victory in their final 1954 appearance.

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