

Cagers Face Bisons Tonight

Bucknell Shooting For 2nd Win

By DICK McDOWELL

Penn State, home from a holiday basketball trip to Michigan, opens the centennial year sports program tonight when it meets ever-dangerous Bucknell at 8 p.m. in Rec Hall.

The Lion passers, carrying a 6-3 record, meet the Bisons following a freshman preliminary game, scheduled to get under way at 6:15.

The game will match two clubs who have shown lots of scoring power all season, and despite its poor record to date, Bucknell—always a tough customer for Penn State quintets—could give the Lions a busy night when they stride for their 39th consecutive win on the home boards.

Coach Ben Kribbs club has won only one of five games this year but has scored heavily in every contest, including a 102 point out-pur in their lone win against Albright. Despite four losses to Lehigh, Colgate, Rochester, and Rutgers, the Thundering Herd has averaged 82 points a game, putting it three points behind the Lion average of 85.

Two Common Foes

The fact that two of the Bucknell losses came from opponents which were literally swamped by the Lions (Penn State topped 100 points against both Colgate and Rutgers) might indicate an easy night for John Egli's cagers. However, Bucknell, for several years, has always been able to give the Lions a good fight. Last season Kribbs employed a stalling offensive game and came within six points, 49-43.

This year the Bison coach says he might use the same tactics again against the Lions who seem almost unbeatable on their home court.

Kribbs, of course, recognizes the big problem that faces any Penn State opponent. He knows that he must put the stopper on center Jesse Arnelle, currently cutting the nets at a 25.9 point pace.

Arnelle 'Tough'

"Arnelle? He's going to be tough," the Bucknell coach said. "If you stop Jesse you can beat Penn State. But the question is how to stop him. He's tall and he's wide so it takes a fellow with a lot of scrap to give him trouble."

Kribbs puts most of his hopes in John Beatty, the Bison center, and one of five sophomores scheduled to start tonight.

"Beatty is almost as tall as Arnelle, but John has to give away 25 pounds. Arnelle is about 230 and that weight makes him real effective on inside play. If Beatty plays like he did against Rutgers, however, we may not be in such bad shape after all."

Lineup Juggled

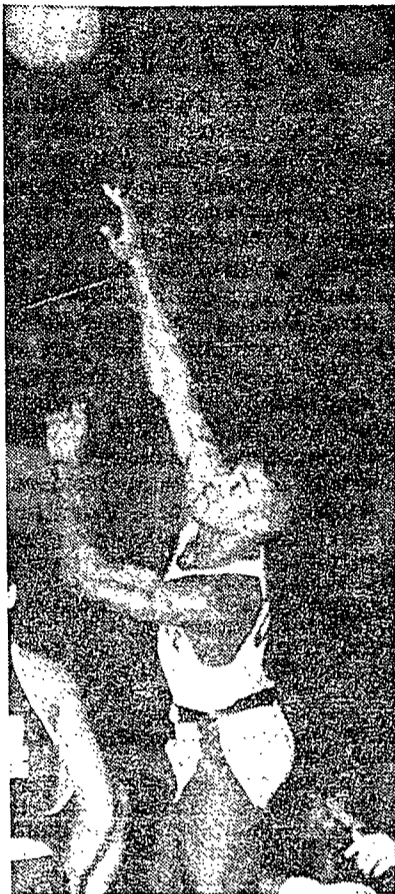
The rest of Kribbs' lineup, juggled in an effort to snap a four game losing streak will show Joe Baccelli (6-0), Norm Voorhees (6-1), Marty Tannebaum, (6-0), and Mike Corrigan, (5-10). Beatty stands 6-4.

The Lions, too will be trying to cross back to the winning path after losing to Michigan State in their last outing.

Egli's starting cast will probably include Earl Fields and Rudy Marisa at the forwards, and Ron Weidenhammer and Bobby Hoffman at the guards along with Arnelle, with Bob Rohland, Joe Hartnett, Jim Blocker, Dave Edwards and Bob Ramsey standing by for extensive use.

Egli's quintet, setting a white heat pace until it moved north for the vacation action, will be looking for its seventh win of the still young campaign.

The Nittanians will be home for two more contests before they travel to Pittsburgh for a two-night stand against Carnegie Tech and Pitt on Jan. 14 and 15. Navy makes its first Rec Hall appearance Saturday night and Syracuse will visit the Lions next Wednesday.



Jesse Arnelle
He Leads Lions

Frosh Meet Bisons Tonight

Penn State's freshman basketball team opens its season against the undefeated frosh of Bucknell in a preliminary game at Rec Hall tonight.

Game time is 6:15 p.m. Bill Lane's charges, led by 5-9 John Strizzi, have defeated Albright, Lehigh, and Lycoming (twice). The Lion five has defeated the Penn State junior varsity twice.

The first game ended 64-55, as Nick Musulin, a JV performer, led the scorers with 17 points. The frosh turned in a complete rout in the second contest as they easily beat the JV's 72-38. The frosh showed exceptional accuracy in their shooting and also demonstrated fine defensive play in this game.

The frosh have four contests remaining. Altoona Center provides their opposition in the next game at Rec Hall next Wednesday, then two road games follow with a contest against the Navy plebes at Annapolis and a return engagement with the Altoona team at Altoona. The final contest is slated for Feb. 26 with the Pitt Panthers as opponents.

Speidel Prepares For 29th Campaign

Penn State has been one of the standouts in the intercollegiate wrestling arena since the sport was initiated at the University 45 years ago. And one man—Charlie Speidel—has been the sparkplug for Penn State's wrestling competition on an eastern and national basis for more than a quarter of a century.

On Saturday the Lions open their centennial wrestling season and Speidel opens his 29th season as Penn State wrestling coach.

Predictions for the Lions' hopes for title recognition in 1955 are practically impossible now, but a glance into the past will show what kind of a hand will be guiding the Lions in their title run this year.

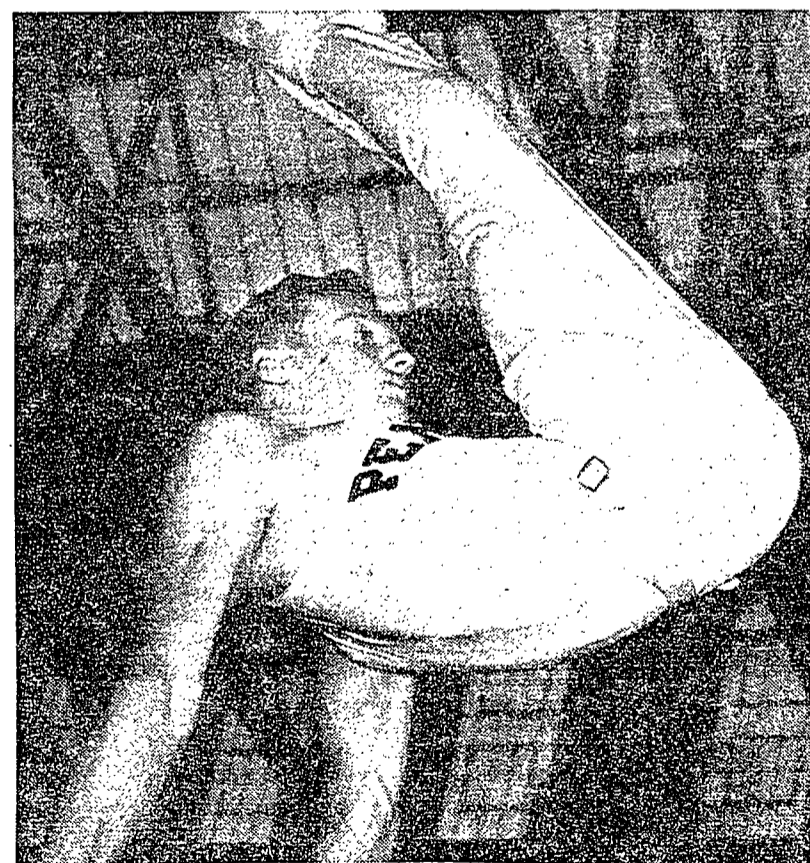
Speidel came to the University in 1926 to coach the sport which was only 17 years old at the University. Since that time he has piloted Lion teams to 134 wins, 30 losses, and seven ties. The all-time Penn State wrestling record is 224 wins, 53 losses, and nine ties.

Speidel—often tabbed dean of Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association coaches—has produced half of the Lions' 12 all-time Eastern Intercollegiate team champions.

Since 1909 66 Lion wrestlers have been named Eastern Intercollegiate individual champions; 43 of these wrestlers (more than one a year) have been from Speidel-coached teams from Penn State.

Speidel has coached the Lions to three titles as National Collegiate champions.

Homecoming Champ...



ACCOMPANYING THE SWEDISH gymnasts when they make their Jan. 15 stop at Rec Hall will be Jan Cronstedt, Finnish-born gymnast who gave up his final year of eligibility at Penn State last year to begin medical schooling in Sweden. In his three years as a Lion gymnast, Cronstedt amassed a collection of records never before achieved in Eastern or National Collegiate competition. He had been captain of this year's team before deciding to return to Sweden.

Gymnastic Exhibition Again Top Attraction

The coming Rec Hall exhibition, including the nation's collegiate gymnastic champs for two-year's running—Penn State—and Sweden's world-famed gym aggregation, has already reached the point where Jan. 15 has a big red circle around it on nearly everybody's calendar.

Proof of the high calibre of the attraction with an international touch came when it was announced Rec Hall would be filled to its 6000 capacity for the Jan. 15 encore appearance. Last year's sell-out was the first of its kind.

The Swedish men gymnasts, who will be accompanied by the 1952 Olympic championship women's drill team, open their tour at Paterson, N.J., Friday. They will stop at Madison Square Garden, West Point, West Chester State Teachers College, and the University of West Virginia before visiting Rec Hall.

Made 32 Stops

A year ago the men's team toured this country, visiting 32 towns and cities in 25 states, and largely through the influence of Gene Wettstone, Penn State coach, the women agreed to join the 1955 tour.

Wettstone, who handled arrangements for the 1954 tour, last summer went to Sweden as visiting lecturer at a gymnastics clinic.

What prompted Wettstone to become interested again was the evidence he gathered in Sweden that the previous tour had contributed to a better understanding of America and the American way of life.

"I never encountered such hospitality as was bestowed on me in Sweden," the Lion mentor said, "and when I protested, the Swedes would proclaim that they were only trying to repay me for the kindness with which they were treated in America."

Gymnastics At Its Best

To see a Swedish men's team perform is to view gymnastics at its best, and with the added color of the touring women's team, this year's exhibition should be the greatest gymnastic festival ever assembled.

Among the routines that will compose the two-hour show will be lightning speed tumbling, synchronized calisthenics, jumping and vaulting, high table jumping, and apparatus routines—all performed simultaneously by ten men and eleven women gymnasts.

This combined group has toured practically every European nation including Russia.

World-Wide Reputation

According to an article prepared last year by Wettstone, who doubles as secretary of the National American Amateur Gymnastic Conference, Swedish gymnastics enjoys a world-wide reputation.

In his article, Wettstone gave a brief history of Swedish gymnasts, beginning with the founding of the Royal Institute of Gymnastics by Henrik Ling. Ling originated the gym sport in Sweden. The institute, founded in 1813, soon became the Mecca of gymnasts to which the whole world flocked.

Today gymnastics, combined with games and sports, is an essential part of the educational program of all Swedish schools.

Over a quarter of a million Swedes of both sexes and all ages have regular gymnastic programs in over 5000 sections covering the entire country.

In Factories and Offices

This activity has also made its entry into factories and offices where it is an important and stimulating counteraction to the uniformity of modern forms of work.

Gymnastics for the housewives is one of the most notable features in the latest development of Swedish voluntary gymnastics. Gymnastics are held for youngsters too, and many start long before school age.

In Olympic competition the Swedish women's team won the 1948 Olympics in addition to winning the team calisthenics event in 1952.

Sweden's men's teams were winners of the 1908, 1912 and 1920 Olympic Games but in recent years have been displaced by the Germans, Finns, and in 1953 by the Russians.

Phils Count Losses - Will Trade Anyone

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 4 (AP)—The Philadelphia Phillies lost a quarter of a million dollars last year and the future isn't very rosy unless a real pennant contender is developed.

Owner Bob Carpenter said today that even the departure of the Philadelphia Athletics for Kansas City, which makes Philadelphia a one club town, won't change the ink in the ledger from red to black unless his team is a winner.

Will Trade Anybody

Carpenter isn't talking about the first division. He means a first or second place finish. And to attain that end the Phillies' owner claims he'll trade anybody on the ball club.

"Yes, that includes Robin Roberts, Curt Simmons, Granny Hamner, Richie Ashburn and Del Ennis," Carpenter said. "But remember, I've got to get value for value..."

Carpenter is anxious to get a second baseman and a outfielder. He wants to move Hamner back to shortstop.

Rookie on First Base

The Phillies' owner is counting on a young, hard hitting rookie from Syracuse named Marvin Blaylock to take over first base.

Carpenter said there would be few raises handed out in the 1955 contracts to be mailed shortly. The team wound up fourth and drew 758,000 customers at home. The Phillies need to draw 950,000 to meet actual expenses. And Carpenter feels that even with a contender he'll be lucky to get over the million mark.

Giants Sign Canadian Ace

NEW YORK, Jan. 4 (AP)—Half-back Alex Webster, leading scorer and top ground gainer in Canada's Big Four football union last season, has signed with the New York Giants of the National Football League.

Webster, 24, played briefly with the Washington Redskins in 1953 after finishing his college career at North Carolina State. He joined the Montreal Alouettes in the middle of the '53 season. He gained 984 yards and scored 80 points for the Alouettes in '54.

The Giants announced no salary figures but Vic Obeck, vice president of the Alouettes, said "He's getting a fabulously high salary, one that Canadian football just can't match."

"The trend seems to be back to the U.S.," said a Giant spokesman. "This is not an isolated case. It is the first of several similar announcements we expect to make, some concerning Canadian-born players."