

Mile Relay Team ...

Will Attempt to Remain in Spotlight

This season Penn State's indoor track quartet will be trying to maintain its place in the spotlight. Last year's squad ranked among the finest in the nation's history. Together with Manhattan and Morgan State, the Lions took part in what was rated as the keenest mile relay competition ever witnessed on the banked boards.

The mile relay is regarded as the No. 1 crowd-pleaser of indoor programs. Last season the Nittany baton-passers finished first three times, third twice, and fourth once.

Penn State coach Chick Werner, who did not keep the same lineup for all mile relay races, will once again have the services of four stars who ran for the record-smashing squad last year. Art Pollard, Dave Leathem, Roy Brunjes, and Skip Slocum will be on hand for another campaign. Ollie Sax, anchorman last season, will be the only one missing.

In the first race of the 1954 season, Pollard, Leathem, Brunjes, and Sax broke the Inquirer Meet record to cop the Liberty Bell Trophy with a winning time of 3:23.8. The old mark of 3:24 had been set in 1950 by Villanova.

Morgan State Wins

The following night Morgan State took command in the Washington Evening Star meet, with Manhattan placing second and the Lions third. Manhattan then took its turn at top of the triumvirate by winning the mile relay in Boston a week later. Morgan State placed second and Penn State third in the Boston meet.

Then came what will be remembered as one of the finest duels ever held on the boards of Madison Square Garden. Pollard led off for the Lions in the Millrose Games and sped to an 0:50. quarter before passing the baton to Brunjes, who covered his lap in 0:50.4. Slocum then posted an 0:50.2 to give the Lions the edge as Sax took over for the final circuit. With Manhattan's Lou

Jones closing the gap with a sensational 0:47.8 quarter, Sax was pushed to a speedy 0:49.1 running to give Penn State a close victory in another record-wrecking performance. The Nittany time of 3:19.7 was a new Penn State mark. Werner pulled a "Casey Stengel" in the New York AC meet, juggling his lineup and still coming up with a winning combination. Slocum was moved up to the starting position, with Leathem, Brunjes, and Pollard following. The Lions' time of 3:22.5 was good enough to edge Manhattan for another win.

Fourth in IC4A's

However, in the IC4A championship meet Penn State placed fourth. A last-lap drive by Sax cut Manhattan's 10-yard lead and gave the Lions a victory in their heat. But Princeton, Colgate, and Harvard posted better times in other heats and finished ahead of the Lions.

Pollard, Brunjes, and Slocum have been named by Werner as the nucleus of this year's relay quartet, with either Rod Perry or Don Matz rounding out the squad.

Leathem, Jack Morin, and Bruce Austin all have a good chance of cracking the foursome, but will not be here until next semester.

With the new year already here, and with a new season fast approaching, Werner is masterminding the destiny of a new mile relay team in an attempt to keep it in the ol' spotlight.

Parker Signs One-Year Pact

DETROIT, Jan. 4 (AP)—Coach Buddy Parker today signed a one-year football contract with the Detroit Lions which he said was bigger and better than last year and "just the way I wanted it."

Parker, who previously had certain "advantage" over last year's pact, but declined to say what they were. However, he did say the terms were "completely new." Informed sources said Parker probably will make \$30,000 as a base salary with 10 per cent of the profits as a year-end bonus.

Grid Coaches Seek 3 Minor Changes

NEW YORK, Jan. 4 (AP)—The rules committee of the American College Football Coaches Assn. today recommended three relatively minor changes for next season as the decks were cleared for the main business of the winter meetings of the NCAA and its allied bodies.

The recommendations will be presented to the full membership of the coaches tomorrow, and, if they are accepted, to the NCAA rules committee next week.

Should Get Okay

The recommendations never have been turned down in the past by the coaches' body, so it's a foregone conclusion that they'll go through.

1. Slight liberalization of the substitute rule. This would allow a player who starts a quarter to reenter once during the same quarter. A player who doesn't start the period may not reenter. Coach Lou Little of Columbia said this never has been tried before and that he doesn't think there would be any trouble with illegal substitutes.

'Sucker Shift'

2. An addition to the rule on false starts or the "sucker" shift. The present rule would be continued with the added note that "once a lineman has taken his place on the line of scrimmage and assumed or simulated a three- or four-point stance, thereafter there can be no movement before the start of play." But if he merely takes a two-point stance with his hands on his knees, he still may shift.

3. Allow the use of an elevated T to get the ball three inches off the ground. This, the coaches say, would make for better kickoff plays.

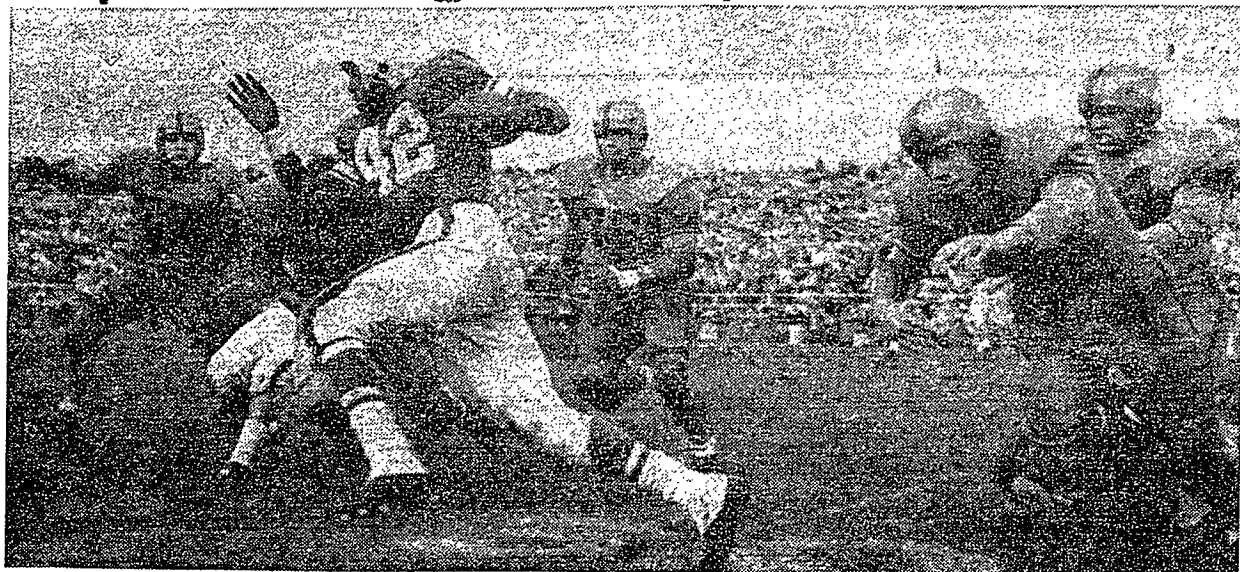
Football Deaths Increase in 1954

NEW YORK, Jan. 4 (AP)—For the second straight year football fatalities showed an alarming rise during the 1954 season, but there is no evidence at hand to connect this increase with the return of one-platoon football.

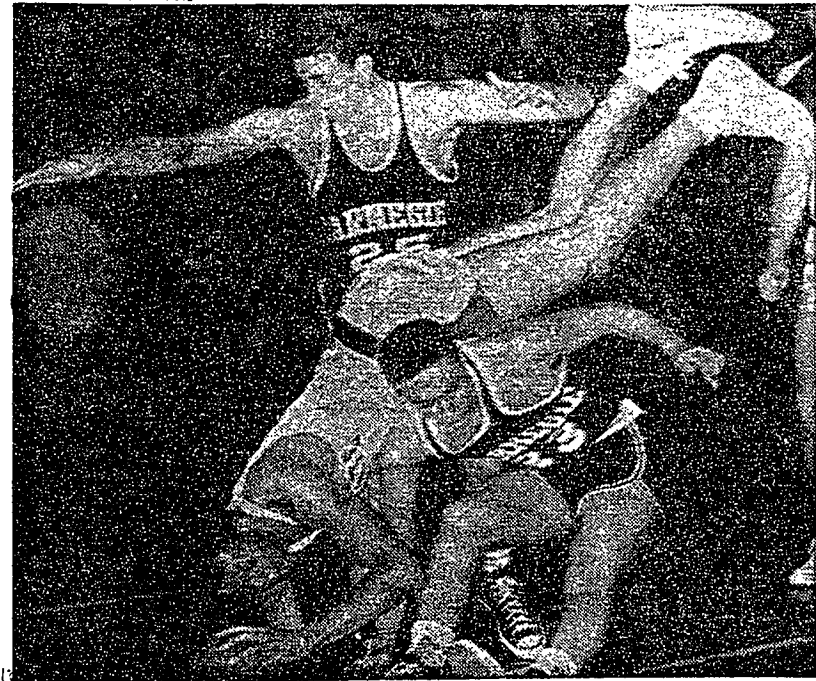
The annual 23rd report of Dr. Floyd Eastwood of Los Angeles State College to the American Football Coaches Assn. showed 19 deaths directly attributable to football and six indirect fatalities during the 1954 season. This was the highest total since 1949 and almost seven per cent higher than the average in the 23 years records have been kept.

As in previous years, most of the fatalities resulted from high school football, which retained the two-platoon system after the colleges abolished it two years ago. The sudden increase in high school deaths was regarded by Dr. Eastwood as "the most disturbing factor." In 1953 there were only six deaths directly due to high school football, one of the lowest figures.

Top Collegian Sports Photos of 1954



TOP SPORTS PHOTOS picked by the Daily Collegian sports staff included Lenny Moore's galloping form as he clicked off yardage against West Virginia—the form that netted him two ground gaining titles last fall. Art Pollard strains to meet the tape to finish the 100-yard dash in 9.6 to tie the Penn State record when the Lions dropped Michigan State College, 71-60. Eastern wrestling titlist Jerry Maurey calmly slams his Syracuse opponent to the mat during the Easterns at Cornell last spring. Soccer fullback Gerry Gillispie puts his full body in a jumping and leaping motion as he "out-heads" his Navy opponent in a scramble for the ball when the Lions dropped the Middies 2-0—one of the soccer men's nine consecutive wins. The last boxing champion to come out of Penn State was Adam Kois, 178-pounder who dropped Don Quarles, North Carolina A & T for the National Collegiate crown. Boxing died in March when the University dropped the sport. Earl Fields does a flip over a Carnegie Tech forward in a dive for a loose ball as the Lions won their third, dropping the Tartans, 91-75.



Olson-Moore Bout Sought by Norris

NEW YORK, Jan. 4 (AP)—A Bob Olson-Archie Moore bout for the world light heavyweight title at a New York ball park in June is in the works for the summer season.

Jim Norris, president of the International Boxing Club, said today he already had started negotiations for the match between the two champions.

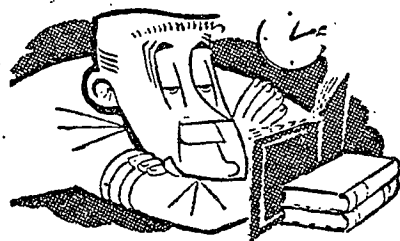
The last meeting between middleweight and light heavy kings was the Sugar Ray Robinson-Joeey Maxim pairing in the steaming heat June 25, 1952.

Three Unbeaten Teams

Penn State produced unbeaten teams in soccer, gymnastics and track during the 1954 sports year.

During spring training the Milwaukee Braves will meet the Brooklyn Dodgers 11 times.

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