

Lions Seek to End Colgate Cage Jinx

Penn State sets its sights on Colgate University Friday night and the Lions, who have fashioned themselves a six-game winning streak, will be hoping to crack a jinx that has held a grip on Nittany basketball teams for five years.

It has been that long since a Lion team whipped the Maroon on their own court, while the Lions, who already hold one leg in this year's home-and-home series — have turned back the New York school in six consecutive outings at Rec Hall.

Coach John Egli's quintet, frequently mentioned as contenders for post-season tournament play, will be attempting to follow-up an earlier 110-75 win against the Maroon when they embark on the two-game trip. They'll travel south to Syracuse for a Saturday night game another contest that traditionally has been a tough one for Lion teams.

And, as is the case in the Colgate game, the Nittanians will be looking for a repeat victory in the second half of a two-game match. The Orange bowed in Rec Hall early this season, 107-75.

Colgate, plugging along at a mediocre pace against tough opposition, boasts a 9-9 record including a recent victory over Syracuse, 77-74. And that one only serves as a confuser when Syracuse is considered.

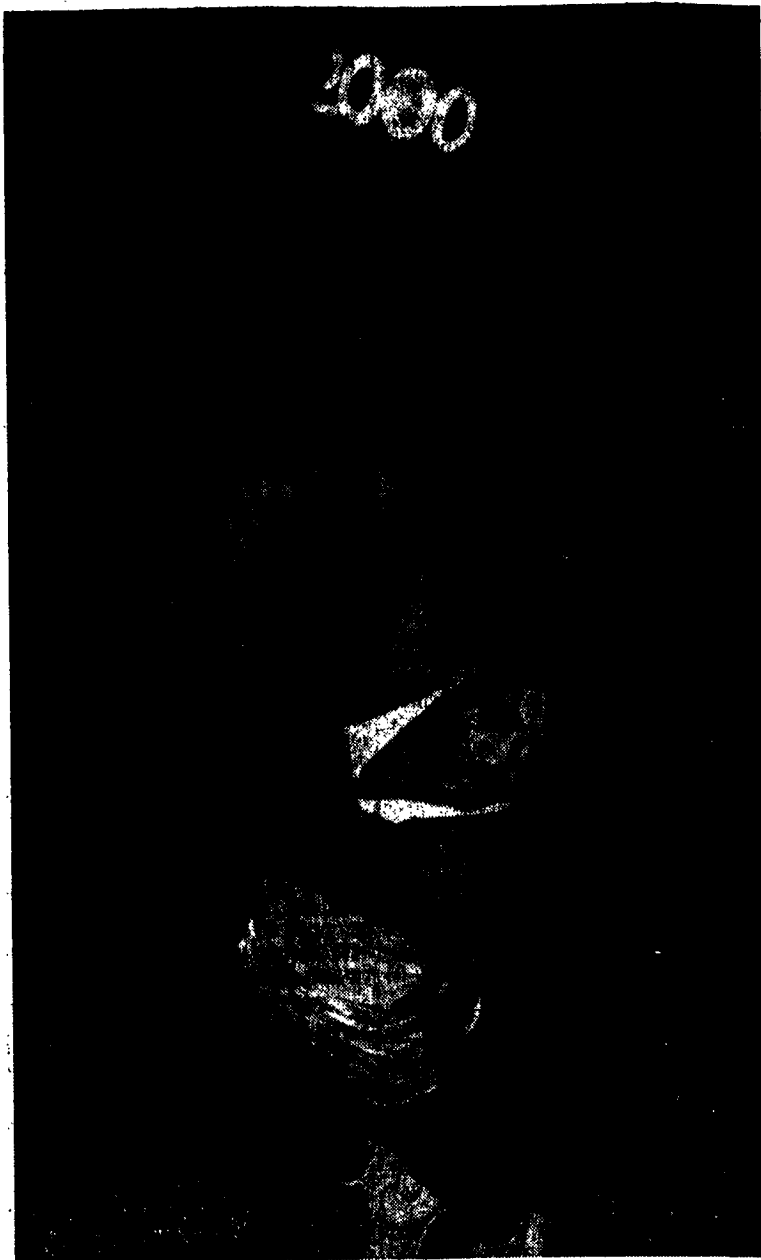
Although both teams showed plenty — particularly in the first half — during their visits here, the Orange appeared to be shaping into the more outstanding of the two. They hit rough sledding against heavy opposition early in the season and then came on fast to become one of the most dangerous teams in the northeastern section of the nation. Nationally ranked Holy Cross, 1954 NIT champion, and Niagara both fell to Mark Guley's quintet last week, before Colgate stepped in to change the picture.

Both Teams Tough

It all points to one thing. Both of the New York clubs will be tough customers for the Lions this weekend. Both teams have height, speed, and shooting ability, plus the advantage of their home courts.

And its a good bet that they will be eager to avenge severe defeats handed them on their visit to Rec Hall. The Lions' 110 points scored here against Colgate were the most ever tallied against any Colgate club, and Syracuse's 107-85 loss here was its worst of the season. LaSalle earlier had topped the century mark against them, 103-54.

However, Egli couldn't be taking the Lions north at a better time. Playing, probably their best brand of ball at the moment, the Lions will be out to continue a winning streak that has found the bulk of its success on the road. Earlier in the season, the Nittany passers had lost five in succession on foreign courts, but since have matched that with five victories away from home.



BY THE TIME Jesse Arnelle returns from this weekend's games against Colgate and Syracuse he should be among the select group of college basketball players who have scored 2000 points. Arnelle needs just 31 points to hit the magic circle.

Matmen Host Army To Continue Series

A wrestling series that has been in the record books for 33 years will have its 14th chapter penned in this weekend when Army visits Penn State.

The Lions have held a decided edge over the Cadets in the past in that they have clipped them in 11 of the 13 encounters. Army owns just one win against Nittany competition; one tilt ended in a tie.

Coach Charlie Speidel's matmen last defeated Army in the 1954 campaign when they extended their phenomenal victory streak to 32 by slashing the Army defenses, 21-9.

To date, the Cadets have a less than mediocre 2-3 record against less than mediocre opposition. Following is a breakdown of Army's 23 record with scores: Springfield 20, Army 13; Army 23, VMI 13; Cornell 19, Army 15; Yale 21, Army 13; Army 15, Columbia 11.

Beat Columbia, VMI

Army's two wins have come against Columbia, which owns a 1-4-1 record, and VMI which also holds an unimpressive 0-2 record. Springfield, Yale, and Cornell gained their present, and only wins against the Cadets.

However, Speidel looks to Army with a cautious eye. Speidel said yesterday that he felt Army had several men who could beat some of the East's best matmen, out that Army failed to have enough grapplers of such caliber to justify calling the Cadets a powerhouse.

Most of the Nittany coach's attention was centered about an Army triumvirate including Pete Fikaris (137), Dale Ward (157), and Jerry Tebben (167).

Three Worries

Three things point to the fact that Speidel has cause for concern. First, all three of the Cadets are undefeated. Fikaris and Ward are 4-0 and Tebben has a 5-0 record. Second, the 157-pound and 167-pound classes for the Lions have been headaches for Speidel during the past four meets. Tebben and Ward will probably start for Army at these weights.

The third reason for Speidel's concern about Army's three undefeated grapplers revolves about their performance last year when they were the only Cadets to score wins against Penn State.

Fikaris Beat Fornicola

Fikaris scored his win against 137-pound Larry Fornicola, 15-8, in a duel that saw both men exchanging points with machine gun rapidity. These two men will probably meet for the second time Saturday because they have been the consistent choices of their respective coaches this season for the 137-pound slot.

Ward and Tebben both chalked up wins last year against the Lions by comfortable point-margins. Ward clipped Lion co-captain Doug Frey, 5-1, after earning two takedowns and compiling two minutes of riding time.

Tebben, at 167 pounds, defeated Bill Krebs 8-1. Krebs, whose regular weight class was 157 pounds, however, was wrestling out of his usual weight for the third straight time when he was dropped by Tebben.

Varsity Basketball

All candidates for outfield and infield positions on the varsity baseball team are to report to 241 Rec Hall 4 p.m. Thursday. Coach Joe Bedenk has announced.

Marciano Set For Title Bout With Cockell

GROSSINGER, N. Y., Feb. 15 (AP)—Rocky Marciano is ready to defend his heavyweight boxing title against Britain's Don Cockell in May, probably in San Francisco's Kezar Stadium.

The champ's celebrated nose passed a three-round test today without springing a leak, so Manager Al Weill promptly pronounced him fit for duty.

Actually it wasn't much of a test for the beak, sliced by Ezzard Charles last Sept. 17 before Marciano scored an eighth round knockout in a title fight at Yankee Stadium. The champion wore a protective head guard as he has since his nose was injured at Holland, Mich., in 1953 when he was training for the rematch with Jersey Joe Walcott.

The special mask has two protective prongs that fit over the cheeks and leave only a narrow gap at the nose.

Although British promoter Jack Solomons is prepared to offer Marciano a \$300,000 guarantee to fight Cockell in London, Weill is expected to sign with promoter Jimmy Murray of San Francisco, as co-promoter with the International Boxing Club.

"Nothing will be done until Feb. 24," Weill said with emphasis. "Solomons, Cockell and his manager will be in New York then to meet with Jim Norris (IBC president). Then it will be up to Norris to decide what to do. After all, we have a contract with Norris."

St. Francis in NIT

NEW YORK, Feb. 15 (AP)—St. Francis of Loretto, Pa., whose star basketball player, Maurice Stokes, captured the crowd at last year's National Invitation Basketball Tournament, today accepted a bid to return for the 1955 NIT, March 12-19.

Coach Since '27

Except for the war years, when he served in the U.S. Naval Reserve, Charlie Speidel has been Penn State wrestling coach since 1927.

12 Unbeaten Teams

In its first 46 years of inter-collegiate wrestling, Penn State produced unbeaten teams an even dozen times.

Eight IM Basketball Teams Advance

Five independent and three fraternity intramural basketball games were played Monday night at Rec Hall.

The Greensmokers, independent League 2 leaders, won their sixth consecutive contest on the strength of a 30-point second half. The winners led Dorm 34, 12-9, at the half. But when the Greensmokers' John Wagner and Larry Berk got hot in the second portion and netted 14 and 13 points, the game turned into a 42-15 walk-away.

Dorm 3 displayed the most powerful offensive attack of the night, however. Led by John Olsen and John Cacciola, the team held a commanding 26-10 halftime margin over the Asps. The loser's Chuck Craft salvaged 11 points in his team's 46-19 defeat. Although

Olsen scored 16 for the winners, it was the capability of every Dorm 3 player to "cut the cords" that produced the most decisive blow. Cacciola aided Olsen by adding 10 points of his own. Not one of the winners' starting five scored less than five points.


On the fraternity side, Phi Sigma Delta took over sole possession of second place in League E and now trails Theta Xi by one-half game. Delta Theta Sigma was Phi Sig's sixth victim, 43-20. Bob Kaytes led the defending champions' scoring with 11 points and Milt Linjal added nine counters.

Phi Kappa Tau defeated Alpha Gamma Rho, 22-20, but had to hold on to win it. Phi Kappa Tau led 16-10 at the half, but AGR started rolling soon after the second half jump was taken by the

winners. Ken Smith swished the nets for 15 AGR markers, but the losers began moving too late to pull the game out of the fire.

In other games, Dorm 38 beat Balok's Bombers, 22-12; Dorm 44 won a 29-23 count from Dorm 11; the PUNCHY Five slapped back Dorm 40, 14-16; Phi Kappa earned a close 24-20 decision over Alpha Phi Delta; and both the Whiz Kids and 36 Vets received losses by default for not turning up for their scheduled game.

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