

8 Lions Will Enter NCAA Gym Meet

Due, for the most part, to the dominating role it played in the EIGA individual competition meet at Annapolis over the weekend, the Eastern champion Penn State gym team will enter the NCAA tourney March 25-26 at UCLA in top potential strength.

Eight Nittany Lions will travel to Los Angeles in defense of the title the Lions have captured the past two seasons.

Captain Karl Schwenzfeier will be the top Lion entry, shooting for the coveted all-around title, which he won with ease in the Easterns. Don Weissend, promising Nittany sophomore, will also enter the all-around competition, which consists of three Olympic, and three standard, events.

Individual event entries, Skeets Haag, Skip Heim, Bill Paxton, Don Rehm, Leroy Fritch, and Chuck Fegeley round out the Penn State aggregation.

The Lions, who won the Eastern title for the third straight year by virtue of an unbeaten season against Eastern foes, will be the top representative from East and will probably visit UCLA with the largest single unit east of the Mississippi.

Thirty teams, including over 100 individual performers, are expected to enter the annual gym festival, with the majority of top-flight gymnasts coming from the west coast.

Wettstone, whose Lion team last year shattered all tourney records by scoring an unprecedented 137 team points, picks Illinois, Florida State, Southern California, and the host team as the major obstacles to clear if the Nittanians are to succeed themselves as national kingpins.

Three of these, the Illini, Florida State, and UCLA were last year's runner-ups in that order, and have a host of veteran performers set to make it rough-going for the Nittanians.

Wettstone also looks in Michigan State, Iowa, California, Texas, and Louisiana State as potential title-threats.

Gone from last year's undisputed winners, in addition to the fabulous Jean Cronstedt who took the spotlight with six individual first places, are Bob Lawrence and Tony Procopio, individual event winners, and Frank and Al Wick, second and third place finishers.

Colorado Unnoticed Contender in NCAA Final Pairings

KANSAS CITY, March 16 (AP)—Colorado's Golden Buffaloes can be the relaxed "spoilers" of the National Collegiate Athletic Assn. basketball tournament Friday and Saturday nights.

Nobody seems to take much note of the Big Seven champions who meet the nation's top-ranked team, San Francisco's Dons tomorrow night.

Iowa's Big Ten champions, on the other hand, are given a fair chance to spill defending champion LaSalle in Friday night's other semifinal.

But Coach Bebe Lee's Colorado team, winner of 15 of its last 18 games, may surprise the capacity 10,000 at the Municipal Auditorium.

Sports Illustrated, TV Will Spotlight Gymnastics

An article on the Penn State gymnastics team appears in today's edition of Sports Illustrated magazine.

A composite color picture of the top members of the team is featured in the story. Photographs were taken a few months ago by Fernand Fonssgrives, world famous photographer.

Lion gym coach Gene Wettstone and Karl Schwenzfeier, captain of the 1955 team, will travel to Altoona this afternoon to appear on the Ted Reinhardt sports show at 6:45 p.m. on WFBG-TV.

KDR, SN Set for IM Cage Finals

Sigma Nu and Kappa Delta Rho meet at 8:30 tonight for the IM basketball fraternity championship. The two cage teams earned their way to the finals as a result of wins over Delta Upsilon and Theta Xi Tuesday night. The independent playoff will start at 7:30 tonight.

The DU's led Sigma Nu at half-time, 17-16, and built up a four-point margin with less than seven minutes remaining to play in Tuesday night's action. Then Sigma Nu poured 10 straight markers through the hoop and was never headed after that. Two main reasons accounted for Sigma Nu's 38-31 victory. The first was the brilliant scoring duel between the winner's Ed Ritter and Ed Barreird of Delta Upsilon. Ritter outscored his opponent, 16-15. But their value to the teams did not end with total points. Both men accounted for several more tallies with their sensational feeding.

Meek Scores Eight
Ritter's winning the individual scoring duel, coupled with DU's Jim Garrity's three quick personal fouls, told the tale of the game. In the first half, Garrity held Richard Meek, Sigma Nu's big center, to one point, but because of the danger of fouling out, Garrity had to "keep hands off" in the second half. Meek poured in eight points and that was the difference.

Theta Xi, for its tense one- and two-point wins, had Kappa Delta Rho on edge until late in the game. At the half, KDR led 19-18. But with only a few minutes left, KDR, paced by Billy Kane's 15 points, broke away and won, 36-28.

In the independent quarter finals, the Geeche Birds and Chug-A-Lugs advanced one step further.

Win With Four Men
The Birds held the rare distinction of finishing and winning a playoff in overtime with just four men. The Greensmokers battled the Birds to a 21-21 tie at the end of regulation time. In the overtime, Barry Schriver dropped in a two-pointer to clinch the game for the Birds, 24-21. Late in the game one of the Geeche Birds fouled out, but that didn't help the plight of the Greensmokers.

The Chug-A-Lugs easily whipped a tall Topper team, 50-24. Six members of the winning squad netted at least five points. John Farls and Emil Caprara each tallied 11 markers for the winners.

Thinclads Prepping For Season Opener

Four weeks from tomorrow Penn State's defending IC4A track champs will get their initial test of the 1955 season when they enter a triangular meet including Penn and Navy at Annapolis, Md.

The Lions' mentor, Chick Werner, will not return from Japan where he is conducting track and field clinics for the Far East Command until April 1, but the bulk of the Lion squad has already opened practice.

Although the thinclads will boast a crop of experienced returnees, the next four weeks will be packed with a heavy practice and training agenda. Because of the unpredictable spring weather, the Lions will have to capitalize on favorable outdoor conditions to work off the extra winter poundage and prime themselves for the season opener.

The Lions will run in a seven-meet card. After an expected tough tussle in the triangular meet with Penn and Navy in the opener, they will compete in the following meets: Ohio State Relays (Columbus); Penn Relays (Philadelphia); Michigan - Navy (Home); Boston University (Home); Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh); and the Intercollegiate Amateur Athletics Association of America (IC4A) meet in New York City.

The Lions are expected to draw much of their strength from their record-breaking captain Rosey Grier, a three-way man in the weights with the shot, javelin, and discus plus seniors Skip Slocum, Art Pollard, Bill Youkers, Rod Perry, and footballer Charlie Blockson.

Grier and Blockson, a junior,

have been the Lions' one-two punch in the weights division. In the middle distances Slocum and Pollard have been valuable mainstays. Pollard was the IC4A outdoor 100-yard king and set the 300-yard indoor record last year. Slocum, in addition to the relay and 880 chores, has been best in the 440.

In the hurdling department the Lions will be tough to beat with Perry, Youkers, and possibly Gary Seybert. Perry tied the world mark of 6.0 seconds and beat Harrison Dillard in the 50-yard high hurdles in the Philadelphia Inquirer Games in January.

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Alum to Be Honored For Athletic Service

Hundreds of sports-minded Penn State alumni and friends will gather Tuesday in Pittsburgh to honor B. C. "Casey" Jones at the first annual Penn State Sports Banquet.

The banquet, which will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the William Penn Hotel, is expected to draw many alums and former Penn State athletes from the Tri-State area. A large delegation from the University—including

former football coach Bob Higgins—is slated to be on hand. Hig, who coached football for 19 years at State, will speak.

"Casey" Jones is being honored, according to banquet chairman David B. Ludwig Jr., "for his untiring, effective service to Penn State athletes over a span of 35 years."

In that time, Ludwig said, "Casey" has been directly or indirectly responsible for raising money to send over 300 athletes to Penn State. Many of them, including some of the greatest All-Americans turned out by State, have shown their intention to be present.

Jones plans to retire soon from his position as assistant manager of lines for the West Penn Power Co. and move to State College.

Sponsoring the banquet are the Lion Scouts of Western Pennsylvania, newly-formed sports-minded group bent on helping Penn State athletics. Robert B. Davis, sportscaster and former football

end for Penn State and the Pittsburgh Steelers, heads the group as executive director. Davis is one of the many Nittany athletes who got their college start through "Casey."

Many Penn State coaches—including Rip Engle, Joe Paterno, Earl Bruce, Charlie Spedel and John Egli—will attend, as will director of athletics Ernest B. McCoy and others from the University. Penn State notables such as Judge James Miholland and George H. Deike Sr.—who are co-members with "Casey" Jones on the University's Board of Trustees—plan to attend. Toastmaster will be Bob Prince, local sportscaster who broadcasts Penn State football games.

A large delegation from Erie, headed by Erie alumni president Tim Wible, has reserved space at the banquet.

Tickets can be secured by writing or phoning C. F. Sheakley Jr., 246 Southvue Drive, Pittsburgh 36 (PL 1-1771, PL 1-2255). Price is \$10. Tables for 10 can be reserved.

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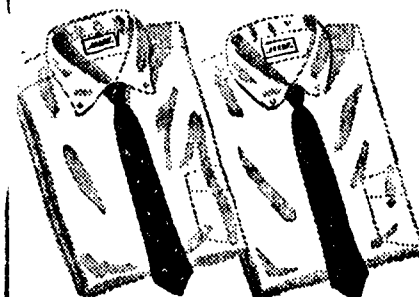
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