

# Bedenk Starts 25th With Brilliant Slate

By RON GATEHOUSE

Within 11 days Joe Bedenk will begin to add 21 games to the fine 24-year record he's established as head Penn State baseball coach.

When Bedenk pits his Lion nine against Western Maryland April 13th at Beaver Field he'll be looking forward to a campaign that could make his Nittanies NCAA District Two contenders for the fourth time in seven years.

Over a 24-year span, the Lions under Bedenk have won 266 contests while losing only 118—a .693 mark.

Bedenk's best season was in 1952 when the Lions took District Two honors and went on to place third in the national tournament.

In 1949 the Nittanies were runners-up to the District titlists, winning three of five tourney games.

The Penn State overall baseball record shows 662 wins, 320 setbacks, and five ties.

Last year the Lion nine was victorious in nine of its first 12 outings, and then dropped its last four games to post a 9-7 slate.

Four of those nine wins came via the shutout route, one a 21-0 thumping of Bucknell. The Nittanies squeaked out a 1-0 verdict against Rutgers, just three games after losing an 11-inning heart-breaker to Gettysburg by an identical score. They outhit the Bulls, 4-3, but four costly errors proved to be the difference.

Over a 16-game card the Lions posted 102 runs on 132 hits to gain a wide scoring margin over their opponents, who earned an overall total of 42 runs and 92 hits. Twenty-seven times the Nittanies connected for extra bases—four of those for the circuit.

The 1955 schedule is almost a carbon copy of last year's, with all 16 of the 1954 foes again facing the Lions. Western Maryland, a newcomer to the Penn State card, Syracuse, and Georgetown round out the present schedule. The Nittanies are scheduled for a doubleheader when they travel to Syracuse, and the Georgetown meeting will be a Beaver Field twin-bill.

When the Nittanies close out their campaign against Penn, it will mark the first time the Quakers have traveled to the Nittany Vale in many years.

Ten of this year's contests are at home.

## Baseball Candidates

Candidates for second assistant baseball managers are to report to the athletic association office in 204 Rec Hall. Candidates are required to have an 1.0 All-University average.

Tommy Meeker, star hockey player of Clarkson College of Technology, is the brother of Howie Meeker, coach of the Pittsburgh Hornets of the American Hockey League.

## Tribe to Cop Flag -- Reichler

By JOE REICHLER

NEW YORK, April 1 (AP)—The Cleveland Indians are this writer's pick to capture the American League pennant for the second straight year because they have more and better pitching and greater power than any of the other seven clubs.

The runnerup spot must go to the New York Yankees whose wealth of talent everywhere but in the pitching department makes them far superior to any of their rivals with the exception of the Indians. Only the uncertainty of their pitching keeps the Yankees from being a match for the defending champions.

The hustling, aggressive Chicago White Sox, with abundant pitching, a well-knit defense but inadequate power, don't appear to be in a class with the Indians and Yankees but they are much too strong for the others.

The rest of the league can be divided into two groups, with Boston, Detroit and Washington battling for the remaining spot in the first division and Baltimore and Kansas City struggling to stay out of the cellar.

This is the order of finish as seen from here: Cleveland, New York, Chicago, Detroit, Boston, Washington, Baltimore, Kansas City.

## Ag Students to Sign For Caps and Gowns

Seniors and graduate students in the College of Agriculture should sign up for caps and gowns at the Athletic Store on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The deposit for seniors' cap and gown is \$5. The cap, gown, and hood deposit for graduate students is \$10. Students who will graduate in military uniform do not need to sign up for a cap and gown.

Invitations and announcements may be ordered at the Student Union desk in the HUB on the same days.

## Lack of Returnees Plagues Rutherford

When the Nittany Lion golfers open the 1955 season at Bucknell April 26, it will be their sixth successive season under the tutelage of Coach Bob Rutherford.

Rutherford has compiled a very impressive record since he took charge in 1949. In the past three years his team has copped 17 of 19

dual matches, and has finished second in the eastern tournament once. During one stretch, embracing the 1952 and 53 seasons, his teams won twelve matches in succession before being spragged at Colgate.

This year's edition of the link squad will have to work hard to equal the successes of their predecessors. Gone are three of the mainstays of last year's team. Rutherford is left with only four returning lettermen. But even worse than that, Rutherford is fighting a losing battle with the weatherman. The weather has been extremely uncooperative thus far. The golfers have been able to squeeze in only two days of organized practice so far this year.

### Open in 12 Days

To add to his miseries, the Easter vacation will intervene just when the team is beginning to round into form. There are only 12 actual days of practice left before the opener with Bucknell. Before that Rutherford must determine those most able to represent the team.

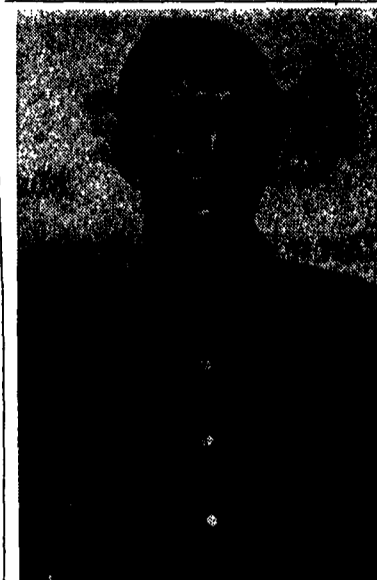
As it stands now, veterans, Capt. Warren Gittlen, Gary Gearhart, George Kreidler, Jim Mayes, and Jim Ginsberg seem to offer five dependable starters. The problem is to dig up two more men to go along with them.

### Four Sophs Promising

Sophomores Jack Boyanowski, Charlie Decker, Leo Kukkola, and Joe Bishop all former freshman standouts, will fight it out for the other two positions. Kukkola and Boyanowski have the inside track because of experience; but nothing is being decided yet, especially at such an early date.

Another serious, though not insurmountable problem is the small size of the team. Rutherford points out that with a little team there is a minimum of competition for a starting spot.

There are only nine golfers competing for seven jobs on this year's team.



Bob Rutherford Opens Sixth Season

## UCA to Hold Square Dance

The University Christian Association will sponsor the weekly square dance from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Hetzel Union Building.

Chauncey P. Lang, professor of agriculture extension, will call for the dance.

Students may sign up at the Hetzel Union desk for a six-lesson series of square dance lessons, to be given from 7 to 7:30 p.m. each Tuesday. The series costs \$1, and will be taught by Kevin Gelderman, instructor for the Park Promenaders, a square dance exhibition group.

Folk dancing and mixers will be held as a part of the square dance. The next dance will be held after Easter vacation.

## Tennis Squad Prepares For Rugged Schedule

Under the critical eye of coach Sherm Fogg, Penn State's tennis squad has been pointing toward one of the toughest schedules that has faced a Blue and White net team in a number of years.

Having finally received a break from the weather, Fogg now must combat spring vacation. Three days after the Easter break, the Lion netmen will usher in the 1955 season against the University of Pennsylvania, expected to furnish some rough competition for an opener.

However, Fogg currently has been working with the nucleus of this year's squad—eight returnees plus an influx of four sophomores.

Captain Bill Ziegler will lead this year's net team and will have the assistance of Chris Christiansen, Doug Zuker, Ed Seiling, Dean Mullen, and John Clarey, who sat out last season after performing the previous campaign. Four sophomores are also in the running for first team positions.

Ziegler will have the benefit of three years' experience going for him and will be the Lions' number one man. However, according to coach Fogg, the rest of the players are on an equal basis and it will be some time before selections are made for the Pennsylvania encounter.

"Last year's team was the strongest I ever coached," Fogg said. "However, I'll know more about this team following the spring vacation."

Last year's squad posted a 3-2 record, having been nosed out by a powerful Navy squad and an equally strong Colgate outfit.

The Lion netmen are facing the same schedule as last season, with the exception of Pennsylvania. However, every opponent has improved considerably, while Penn State will feel the loss of the number one and two men from last year's squad—Dick Robinson and Lew Landon.

## White Skies Fails to Win Paumonok

NEW YORK, April 1 (AP)—Cheers for White Skies turned into boos for Eddie Arcaro today as Bobby Brocato, a 19 to 1 shot from Louisiana, zipped down the Jamaica stretch to capture the \$29,550 Paumonok Handicap before a crowd of 35,450, opening the New York racing season.

Bobby Brocato had won only one stakes race in his career, the 1953 Sanford, but the dark bay slipped through on the rail to grab the first money of \$20,500 by a length over Morris Sims' Blessbull. The favored White Skies was third.

Bobby Brocato is a four-year-old colt owned by Joe W. Brown of New Orleans.

White Skies had won the 1954 Paumonok with Arcaro and was seeking his eighth straight stakes victory in New York. The six-year-old horse owned by William M. Wickham was voted the 1954 sprinting champion and had never lost a stakes race in New York until today. His 130-pound burden, same as he carried a year ago, proved too much. White Skies tired nearing the finish after battling Blessbull in a head and head duel down the stretch, and lost second money by a nose.

Blessbull, who had won two stakes in Florida earlier this year, carried 119 pounds while Bobby Brocato had only 113. C. V. Whitney's Cold Command was fourth, 8½ lengths behind White Skies in a field of 12 starters.

The winner was timed in 1:10-3/5 for the six furlongs or one fifth of a second faster than White Skies a year ago.

Bobby Brocato paid \$40.90, \$13.10 and \$5.10. Blessbull returned \$4.90 and \$2.90, and White Skies was \$2.50 to show.

## Maxwell Fires 68, Leads Tournament

WILMINGTON, N.C., April 1 (AP)—Billy Maxwell of Odessa, Tex., came in with a four under par 68 late today to take the 36-hole Azalea Open golf tournament lead with 133. He was one shot ahead of Bob Toski, Livingston, N.J., whose 63 set a new course record, and Mike Souchak, Durham, N.C., who fired his second 67.

Sharing fourth place at 137 were Eric Monti, Los Angeles, winner of last week's Miami Beach, Fla., Open, and Doug Ford, Kiamesha Lake, N.Y.

Fred Haas, Claremont, Calif., whose first day 65 shared the lead with Maxwell, dropped to 73 for a four-way tie for sixth place at 138.

## Soccer Candidates

Candidates for spring soccer practice are to report to coach Ken Hosterman in 202 Rec Hall to secure physical checkup cards.

The most teams entered in a state bowling tournament for women was 2169 at Fond du Lac, Wis., in 1953.

## A Sure Sign of Spring . . .



—Photo by Walker

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE—that's the grind which baseball coach Joe Bedenk is putting his team through now in preparation for the season's opener. The Nittany Lions will open the campaign April 13th against Western Maryland. This will mark the opening of the

25th year as Penn State's head baseball coach for Bedenk, who has compiled one of the most amazing records in the collegiate coaching ranks. Several of the candidates for this season's team prepare for action by taking part in a practice game on the Beaver Field diamond.