

Lions Seek 3rd Win In Duel With Colgate

By RON GATEHOUSE

Colgate's basketball team will face off with the Lion cagers at 8 tonight at Recreation Hall, and chances are the Red Raiders will find themselves up against a much riper Lion team than the Penn State quintet which opened its season four games ago.

John Egli's Nittanies, greener than a flock of Irishmen on St. Patrick's Day at the season's outset, have rapidly come along in the first two weeks of the 1955-56 season. Although room for improvement still remains, the Lions, filling in with hard work and desire where

Frosh Meet JVs Tonight For 2d Time

The Nittany Lion freshman basketball team gets its second taste of action at 6:15 tonight when it tangles with the JV squad on the Recreation Hall hardwoods.

Both clubs have met once before, and frosh winning 73-70 last Saturday afternoon.

Coach Don Swegan said his probable starting lineup would be Bob Edwards, 6-6, and Carmen Palmiero, 6-5½, at forwards; Vance Brehm, 6-6, at center; and Paul Bauer, 6-0, and John Myers, 6-1, at guards.

Sledzik Names Starters

JV mentor Herm Sledzik, captain of the varsity cagers in 1952, named forwards Ed Ritter, 5-10, and Jim Jordy, 6-4; center Don Stickler, 6-1; and guards Bob Greif, 6-3, and Mike Rohrbach, 6-0, as his probable starting five.

The JV squad is composed of varsity players who do not travel with the varsity team.

Swegan also named Dick Geesey, 6-7; Tom Hancock, 6-5; Frank Bartkowski, 6-3; John Reim, 6-3; and Ted Kubista, 6-4½, as frosh likely to see a good bit of action.

Frosh Average 6-3

The 26-man freshman aggregation averages 6-3 in height, and, as Swegan put it, shows a good deal of potential for the varsity team.

"However," the frosh coach added, "although we have the height, we still have a lot to learn."

Need Practice

"No one player has won himself a spot on the first team. We still have a great deal of work to do on our shooting and, despite our size, we are not quite as good as we should be on rebounding," Swegan said.

"Our main problem at the moment is lack of aggressiveness, particularly on defense," Swegan said.

ability and experience are lacking, are showing firm indications that Egli may well be as successful with his rebuilding program as P. T. Barnum was in putting three rings under a circus tent.

A win tonight would put the Nittanies in the black for the first time this year. At the present they show a 2-2 record.

Egli's starting team tonight will find Co-Captains Bobby Hoffman and Earl Fields at forward, Bob Ramsey at center, and Norm Hall and Steve Baidy at guard.

Hoffman is currently setting the scoring pace for the Lions. His 64-point total gives him a per-game average of 16 points.

All five of tonight's starters scored in double figures against Rutgers Wednesday. Hoffman had 24, Hall 18, Fields 17, Baidy 14, and Ramsey 10. Three of the five, Baidy, Ramsey, and Hall collected 10 or more rebounds. Baidy pulled in 14, Ramsey 11, and Hall 10.

Ramsey has fouled out in three of the four Lion games so far, and now has a total of 19 personal fouls. Keeping the pivotman in the game has become one of Egli's major headaches, for Ramsey's 6-7 frame is a vital Penn State asset under the boards. He played against Rutgers with an injured hip, but should be back to normal for tonight's game.

Hoffman and Fields, both hitting consistently on long set shots, have been largely responsible for keeping opposing defenses loosened up.

Although bench strength is also high on the list of Egli's concerns, Rudy Marisa, Joe Hartnett, and Ron Rainey have looked capable in reserve performances.

Tonight's game will be the 40th between the two schools in a series which began in 1918. Penn State has copped 20 of the 39 games. The widest Penn State-Colgate scoring margin came in last year's Rec Hall meeting, when the Lions topped the Raiders, 110-75. The 110 points was a new Rec Hall record. In the second meeting last season, the Lions scored a 69-59 win at Hamilton, N.Y.

The Lions' next court engagement is the Motor City Tournament in Detroit, Mich., Dec. 27-28. They return to Rec Hall Jan. 3 to host Carnegie Tech.

First-half Titles Still Wide Open

With only one match remaining on the first-half bowling schedule of fraternity Leagues C and D, five teams are within striking distance of the crown.

Sigma Chi and Alpha Sigma Phi are deadlocked for first place in League C, while Beta Theta Pi is leading the other circuit. The only other teams having an outside chance of copping the crown are Theta Chi in League C, and Sigma Alpha Mu in loop D.

Until Thursday night's matches, Sigma Chi had been setting the pace in League C. But it was thrown for a 3-1 loss by Alpha Chi Sigma while Alpha Sigma Phi was defeating Kappa Sigma, 3-1. Both clubs own a 24-12 slate.

Theta Chi Wins, 4-0

Second place Theta Chi, with a 23-13 record, kept up to the league leaders by sweeping a 4-0 win from Lambda Chi Alpha. In other loop C contests, Phi Kappa Sigma beat Delta Upsilon, 3-1, and Pi Kappa Phi shut out Beta Sigma Rho, 4-0.

League D leader Beta Theta Pi, maintained its slim one-game lead over SAM as a result of Thursday night's action. Both teams recorded 4-0 shutout wins over their opponents. Beta, with a 31-5 mark, topped Phi Delta Theta, and SAM beat Sigma Nu.

Two other League D matches ended in whitewashes: Phi Sigma Kappa defeated Triangle, 4-0, and Kappa Delta Rho decimated Tau Kappa Epsilon, 4-0. Theta Kappa Phi and Alpha Tau Omega tied, 2-2, in the only other game played.

Lambda Chi Loses

Although Lambda Chi lost a decisive victory to Theta Chi, it received one satisfaction when Dick Blankenberker won the high individual single of League C with 215 points and Dick Lind-

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TIME OUT...



By RON GATEHOUSE, Asst. Sports Editor

... FOR 1955 BACKFLASHES

Each December it's been the custom for a Daily Collegian sportswriter to regress a bit and take a look at the previous 12-month goings-on in the Penn State sports arena.

Our turn came last night.

Upon leafing through the 1955 calendar and noting the daily banner headlines exploiting the splendid performances turned in by the past year's athletic teams and their coaches, we couldn't help feel justly proud of the 1955 Nittany Lions.

Their success stories seem even more vivid when we take into consideration the fact that the stress on athletics in the Vale takes a seat behind classroom responsibilities. This has been brought out on numerous occasions. The compact union provided by a conference, an excess of scholarship funds, and strong alumni backing—all integral aspects of most successful collegiate athletic programs—are also lacking at Penn State. Nevertheless, the Lions continue to more than hold their own on the sports front. Why? Who knows the real reason. The fact remains that they do, and here are the figures to prove it.

During the past year, the University's 100th, the 11 varsity sports combined for a sparkling record of 85 wins and 37 losses. A bit of short division enlightened us to the fact that these 85 wins in 122 contests provided a .693 winning percentage—outstanding in anyone's book. Two years ago the Lions compiled a .693 all-sports record, and since Penn State's entrance into the sports world in 1875 the Nittanies have won at a .635 clip (.614 with ties).

Soccer and golf, with unbeaten records, highlighted the Penn State sports parade the past 12 months. Kenny Hosterman's soccer team, which won national championship honors in 1954 and will be a candidate again this year, won nine and lost none, thus stretching its win streak to 18 consecutive games for a new Penn State record for the sport. No previous team had ever put two perfect seasons together. Hosterman's teams have been licked only twice since he assumed command three years ago.

Bob Rutherford's unbeaten golf team, winner of 24 of its last 25 matches, owns the second best win streak of 12 straight. Last year it won 8—lost 0.

The gymnasts, under Gene Wetstone, in seven meets dropped a lone decision to Illinois and were good enough to win top honors in the East and second honors in the nation. The gym team has now won 21 of its last 22 starts.

Karl Schwenzfeier was the sport's individual standout. He won Eastern and National Collegiate all-around honors, and tied for first place for the NAAU's individual title.

Ronnie Weidenhammer was the top baseball performer, easily leading the team in batting and winning the third base position on the all-district nine. His coach, Joe Bedenk, labeled him "one of the greatest athletic competitors I've ever witnessed." The Lions won 17 and lost 5 in baseball.

Jesse Arnel, now among the professionals, continued his scoring antics to finish his four-year career with every honor in the Penn State record books and led John Egli's Nittany cagers to an 18-10 season and an "at large" berth in the NCAA regional playoffs.

Chick Werner coached his spring track team to a 3-1 record and two of his charges, speedster Art Pollard and weight man Rosey Grier, captured individual titles. Pollard was the IC-4A 220 champ. The mammoth Grier took the IC-4A shot put title.

Werner's cross-country team was the only Lion squad to finish in the red. Captain Doug Moorhead turned in several fine performances, but the Lions failed to win any of their four dual-meets.

In wrestling, Larry Fornicola won Eastern and National honors at 137 pounds, and Bill Oberly walked away with the national heavyweight title. Charlie Speidel's grapplers, who posted a 5-2 season card, were runners-up in both the Eastern and National tournaments.

Nick Thiel's lacrosse team and Sherm Fogg's tennis squad each compiled 7-5 records, fine performances in view of the fact that Fogg underwent a major rebuilding program and Thiel worked, as in the past, mostly with players who had never as much as seen a lacrosse game before entering Penn State.

Rip Engle's sixth Lion football team won five and lost four, but was thought by many to be a better squad than the record indicated. Lenny Moore didn't equal his performance of two years ago, but nevertheless, along with Co-Captains Otto Kneidinger and Frank Reich, he performed well enough against such foes as Army, Navy, Pitt, West Virginia, and Syracuse to get an invitation to play in the East-West Shrine game in San Francisco.

Moore finished his fabulous three years of collegiate football by being picked by the Baltimore Colts in the first round of the professional football draft.

These, then, were the why's and wherefore's of the 1955 Penn State players and coaches. There were ups, and there were downs. But, all-in-all, it was a great year, so hats off to many jobs well done.

IM Card One of Nation's Best

By JOE CHEDDAR

It's a known fact that the Penn State varsity intercollegiate athletic program is one of the most complete and well-rounded in the nation, but it's doubtful that many realize how favorable the University's Intramural program compares with those of other large colleges and university's throughout the nation.

An example of this is that the intramural boxing program at Michigan State University drew only 48 applicants, while the University's boxing tournament attracted 185 entries.

The program as it now stands consists of 17 sports, with at least one, softball, to be added in the near future. Sports offered are wrestling, swimming, touch football, boxing, handball singles, handball doubles, basketball soccer badminton, both medal and match play golf, bowling, volleyball, horseshoes, tennis singles, and tennis doubles.

The most popular, among these using the number of entries as a criterion, are basketball, with 134 team entries, and wrestling which attracted 310 entries. Touch football was second in popularity among the team sports, drawing 100 entries for this fall's program.

A further indication of the popularity of these team sports is

the fact that 1800 players participated in at least one game during last year's basketball tourney, and that 1470 men were similarly active in touch football.

Bowling, the newest IM sport, attracted 65 teams in this, its first year of existence.

The most popular sports, from a spectator's standpoint, are wrestling and boxing. The finals of the recently-completed boxing tournament drew approximately 1800 fans—considerably more than many schools attract for varsity sports. This large turnout was not only for the finals; throughout the entire tournament the battlers drew approximately 800 every day.

IM directors E. C. "Gene" Bischoff and "Dutch" Sykes mastermind the huge organization. They estimate that for the coming wrestling finals the entire top

stands of Rec Hall will be filled—almost 3,000 fans.

Although the IM program is intended primarily for the "rank and file athletes" of the University, each year it attracts a large number of varsity athletes who utilize the program as a means of staying in condition during their off seasons. For example, the finals of the recently-completed boxing tournament contained six persons who are active in varsity sports. These were two-time champion "Cookie" Tirabassi, Lion shortstop during the baseball season, Sam Valentine, next year's grid captain; John Pepe and Tony De Julius, a pair of Charley Speidel's best matmen; Steve Flamporis, captain of the Lion soccer team next season; and Jim Lockerman, a grid fullback and outfield candidate for this spring's baseball squad.

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