

Scanning SPORTS

By FRAN FANUCCI, Sports Editor



Bob Hamel
Three-year veteran



Bob Bullock
Defensive standout

PENN STATE SPORTS IN RETROSPECT:

It is apparently visible, when reviewing the records of the 11 sports at the University, that Penn State has some of the most successful teams in intercollegiate ranks.

Of the 11 sports here only two—cross-country and basketball—had losing seasons in the 1955-56 athletic year. Tennis up to now has a 5-5 record, but is rated a good bet to rack up a winning season. Soccer was the only sport to go undefeated, making it the second consecutive year that Ken Hosterman's boys turned the trick.

Chronologically here's how the teams made out: The three fall sports were a mixture of extremes with soccer unbeaten, football fair, and cross-country winless.

The soccer team boasted a 9-0 season and was declared the U.S. co-champions along with Brockport State Teachers College. It was the second straight year that that honor was bestowed on it. The 1954 club was unique in that it alone was picked the best in the country.

Hosterman's record, since becoming head coach in 1953, is 22-3, which undoubtedly is one of the best in the soccer world.

Football had a fair 5-4 record, keeping intact its remarkable accomplishment of never having had a losing season since 1938. Head Coach Rip Engle hit by graduation losses had trouble finding a capable quarterback until late in the season, when Milt Plum took over the reins. His young ball club was also weak at the end positions where it boasted inexperienced men, who had terrific potential, but needed the game experience to realize their abilities.

Chick Werner's cross-country team, with only three returning lettermen, had an 0-5 record, the first time since 1940 that a Lion cross-country team had gone without a win throughout the season.

The winter sports boasted no undefeated teams but they did have two with only one loss. Wrestling, a perennial powerhouse, had a 7-1 record, its only loss to Pittsburgh in the final meet of the year, 16-12.

Charley Speidel's team, which had only two seniors, came in second to Pitt in the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Championships at Lehigh University.

Sid Nodland, Johnny Johnston, and Bill Oberly each won their individual weight title in the EIWA's, with John Pepe and Dave Adams runners up in their divisions.

At the NCAA wrestling champions at Stillwater, Oklahoma, every Lion entry was eliminated, although Oberly was third in his weight class.

John Egli's basketball team had its first losing season since 1949 when they ended with a 12-14 card.

Laden with sophomores and a lack of height, the cagers lacked the necessary offensive power to bring victory to the team. Bob Hoffman, Earl Fields, and Rudy Marisa each scored over 300 points—the first time in Lion basketball history that this feat has been accomplished—but were handicapped by a shortage of replacements.

Gymnastics, as wrestling, is one of Penn State's top intercollegiate sports. Gene Wettstone, in my estimation one of the best coaches in the nation, formed a strong nucleus around Dion Weissend and West Coast star Armando Vega, which led to five victories and only one loss, that to Army.

Vega, along with former Lion great Karl Schwenzfeier, was picked on the U.S. Olympic gymnastics team, which will travel to Melbourne in November. The sophomore sensation is an all-round performer, his best events being the flying ring and parallel bars.

Vega will not enroll at the University in September because of his Olympic commitment, but will wait until February. He will be eligible to perform in all Lion meets next year. His reasons were clear:

"It's too hard for me to keep up my studies and train at the same time, so I'm going to drop out for a semester," he said.

Switching to the spring sports, which are entering their final week of activity now except for track, Joe Bedenk's baseball team is leading the winning way with an excellent 15-3 record. It winds up the season today at Lehigh.

Boasting a good-hitting team along with air-tight pitching, the Lions have swept by almost all opposition en route to a possible berth in the District Two Playoff next month.

Golf, under the tutelage of Bob Rutherford, continues its winning seasons and still is the second best team in the East. Yale, long a dominant power, beat the Lions in the Eastern Intercollegiate Golf Championships earlier this month. Rutherford's men now have an 8-1 record with two meets remaining.

Lacrosse continues to improve its season with each succeeding year. This year the Lion stickmen have a 7-6 record. Handicapped by the lack of experienced players, Coach Nick Thiel has slowly brought his club up to a respected status. The Stickmen won the Hofstra tournament in April, winning four straight games in the process, and boast the highest scoring player in their history, in Bill Hess. Hess has scored 37 goals, breaking the previous high of 24, set by Al Fulton in 1953.

Two other stickmen—Bob Hamel and Tom Seeman—boast 20 goals each making this year's team one of the highest scoring outfits Thiel has ever had.

Outdoor track is still the top attraction of the spring sports. Werner has record-breaking runners in Art Pollard, Rod Perry, and Bruce Austin, who have led his team to a 2-1 record. Quantico was the only team to defeat it.

Tennis, after a slow start, has won its last four meets, giving it a 5-5 card. Sherman Fogg's charges play Bucknell today, a team they beat earlier in the season, and close the season Saturday against Pittsburgh.

7 Senior Stickmen End Careers Friday

Seven seniors—four of whom are starters—say goodbye to their college lacrosse careers Friday afternoon when Coach Nick Thiel's 1956 lacrosse team concludes a successful 14-game season against Cornell University.

Captain Bob Hamel, Andy Bergeson, Bob Bullock, Willard Snell, Frank Locotos, Steve Friedman, and Jim Griffin are the seven men who will be wearing the Nittany colors for the last time.

One other senior, Dave Frieden-berg, was injured several days ago and will not be able to see action Friday.

Hamel, Bergeson, Bullock, and Snell are regulars. Locotos was a starter in 1954 and 1955 but because of Saturday classes this semester, he has been able to see action in only the four home games.

Hamel Top Star
Hamel will be closing out one of the most illustrious careers in Penn State lacrosse history. The Mineola, N.Y., midfielder earned himself a varsity starting berth in his sophomore year and since then he has been a main cog in the Nittany attack.

Hamel has scored more than 20 goals per season in his three year tenure with the Lion stickmen. In his first year he was runner-up to Al Fulton in season scoring with 21 goals. Last year, with 20 markers, Hamel tied Joe Erwin for team scoring honors.

Started Off Slow
He started off slow this year, devoting most of his time to play-making and leaving the scoring up to teammate Bill Hess. But in the last five games Hamel has tallied 15 goals—six coming in the Syracuse encounter. He established a school record for most goals scored in one game when he tallied eight against Hobart in 1954.

Bullock, a two-year lacrosse veteran, is rated by the Lion coaching staff as one of the best defensive men in Penn State his-

tory. He is one of the principle reasons why the team has had winning campaigns for the past two years.

Bullock fulfilled a desire that every defenseman in lacrosse wishes to accomplish sometime in his career when he scored a goal against the University of Pennsylvania.

Bergeson is another Lion veteran. The Michigan athlete has seen action at both attack and midfield and although his three-year scoring record has not been very outstanding his "clutch play" has turned many near defeats into victories.

Snell, in his first year as a lacrosse regular, has been hailed by Coach Nick Thiel as "the most improved ballplayer on the team." Along with Bullock and sophomore Harry Brown, Snell has given the Lions a formidable defensive alignment to throw up against such powerful opponents as Navy, Syracuse, and Rutgers.

'Indies', Frosh Clash Tonight For Coed Title

Leonides will be out to defend its undefeated record at 6:15 tonight when it battles second-seeded Thompson for the coed intramural softball championship.

Thompson lost its only game at the hands of the independents Monday night.

Rae Waters slammed a home run to give the Thompson nine a 5-4 win over Kappa Kappa Gamma last night, and another chance to battle for the title.

Dorothy Hagan started off the last inning with a single to right. Two more pitches later, Waters connected and the game was over.

Meri Miller starred for KKG scoring two runs on three hits and pitching a better game in defeat.

Leonides dropped Thompson 11-6, Monday, with Louise Needham banging out three hits, driving in two runs, and scoring three times.

Sally Jervis shone for the losers, hitting a triple, scoring twice, and robbing three Leonides batters of extra bases with running catches.

KKG beat DZ, 5-1, Monday, behind the timely hurling of Meri Miller. The losers' lone run came in the last inning.

Booters Enter Semi-Finals

Sigma Alpha Epsilon continued its dominance of intramural soccer play by blanking Kappa Sigma, 3-0, Monday night to enter the semi-finals with Kappa Delta Rho, Alpha Chi Sigma, and Alpha Zeta.

The SAE's feature three freshmen soccer team members—Bruce Walsh, Don Dougald, and Dan Lessig—but left the scoring to Mason Walsh with two tallies and Bob Varshay with one.

KDR defeated Theta Delta Chi on cornerkicks, 4-1, after playing a goalless game. Alpha Chi Sigma beat Sigma Phi Epsilon on John Iddon's goal and Alpha Zeta's five shutout Alpha Epsilon, 3-0.

Norm Schue tallied two of AZ's goals while Don Snyder parted the nets for the other.



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Mac Sez...
THIS IS THE END!

That's right . . . this is the end of the line . . . today's article is the last one—the last time that I'll have the opportunity to talk to you this semester. It's been a pleasure talking to you this semester—lots of fun doing business with you Penn Staters, and I hope we can get together again next term.

Before I say adios though, may I pass on a shopping tip of value? Arrow Bi-way shirts—wear 'em either as a dress shirt (when the collar is closed) or as a sports shirt (when the collar is open) . . . they're cool and comfortable . . . neatly-tailored to give you a comfortable fit—handsomely styled in long or short sleeves in any one of seven colors—casual enough to wear to finals—dressy enough for graduation. Price: \$3.95.

Well, guys and gals—have a real great summer and lots of luck in your finals—and to all you June grads—good luck Bye for now!

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