



Scanning SPORTS

By FRAN FANUCCI, Sports Editor

DEAR SANTA:

The University had one of its best years, thanks to you, in 1956, sports-wise and record-wise, but as you know all good things have to come to an end. So if you can possibly answer most of the requests I have listed below maybe next year will be just as successful.

If you can, please bring a winner for John Egli, whose basketball team was the only sport to have a losing year. Maybe a bushel of points and a win over West Virginia would be sufficient.

Your old pal Charley Speidel said to ask you if you can bring a few replacements for his wrestling team. He needs a heavy-weight and a 177-pounder and then maybe a few sedatives so he won't be so nervous watching his boys perform.

You sure made Gym Coach Gene Wettstone a happy man by making him Olympic Coach, but you can probably do better by giving him a national championship. He said to say "thanks" for giving his boy, Armando Vega, an Eastern title at the tournament in West Point last March.

And to Chick Werner a few of those phantom sprinters he's been after would make a nice present. By the way, Chick was overjoyed with the record, 4-1, his cross-country team had last season and he's hoping that you could do as well for his outdoor track team.

Getting back to wrestling for a while, how about an individual championship for Dave Adams? And as long as we're on the subject of titles Golf Coach Bob Rutherford would sure like to win an Eastern championship this year, so please do what you can for him.

Rip Engle was overwhelmed by your gifts last season and if he wasn't on the West Coast this week he said he would write you personally. He said to tell you to forget that record "California, Here I Come," and if you would bring another one of the "Pennsylvania Polka?"

Our old friend Joe Bedenk was well satisfied with his baseball team and he was sort of lenient in his requests, but he did say to ask for some more pitchers like Ed Drapcho and maybe a few more boxes of gum for him personally. Last year he chewed over a pack an inning and the supply you sent him ran out early in the season.

Chuck Medlar, Joe's assistant and the team trainer, is back on the smoking trail, so please send him a few more cartons of those king-sized brands. He was grateful for the low percentage of injuries his teams had in '56, so maybe some more good luck with the teams will be sufficient for him.

Doctor Griess never stops talking of the beautiful new office you gave him this year, so he had no requests for Christmas, but for me, Santa, please send him fewer patients next year.

Sherman Fogg, our tennis coach, really needs some good boys and his request is just plain and simple: "Bring me some more dependable players."

For Dean McCoy a few "presents" from the board of trustees and maybe a few thousand dollars for his athletic teams would be enough. Another thing he would like is for his son to play as well in football next year as he did this year with Michigan, so do what you can.

Ed "Cotton Bowl" Czekaj, ticket manager and our steady companion, said that if he could kill a deer once in awhile he would be satisfied, but maybe if some of our Collegian reporters stop pestering him for information and tickets his job would be much simpler.

"Ike" Gilbert is plenty happy over beating Ohio State, because he had scheduled it as a "sleeper" and you made him look good. So next year all he wants is a home attendance of 120,000, if that's not asking too much.

We almost forgot Ken Hosterman, who is wishing that the National title, that evaded him last year, will be returned to Rec Hall next year. Ken lost only two games this year, so he's not too disappointed, but how about another undefeated season for him in '57?

Ernie Baer, the new lacrosse coach, just wants one thing: a successful market for the new lacrosse stick he has invented. That's not too much to ask for one of the youngsters on the coaching staff at Rec Hall.

His predecessor, Nick Thiel, sends his thanks for one of the most successful coaching eras in the history of Penn State.

The IM department of Gene Bischoff and Dutch Sykes continue to boom with one of the best programs in the country, so just keep the injuries at a minimum for them and they'll be satisfied.

The remainder of the requests are the wishes of Rec Hall personnel, who never enter the news much.

Old Faithful Oscar Buchenhorst, the equipment manager, would like to have some of those new type hip pads salesmen are trying to sell him, so send him some from your North Pole office as soon as possible.

The boys at the Public Information Office—Lou Bell, Jim Coogan, and Bill Ackerman—all send their greetings. Maybe if you can send them a few more assistants it would save them those long hours of work they put in.

And one last thing, Santa. Please send messages to all the Penn State students, who boo our athletes for not winning and tell them if they back their team, win, lose or draw, it would make for better publicity to the outside world. They seem to feel that boos don't bother the athletes, but you know as well as I that they're wrong, so do what you can.

Sincerely,
Fran Fanucci

P.S. A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the entire sports staff of The Daily Collegian.

Egli Searching for 5th Nittany Trophy in NCAA Tournaments

By MATT PODBESEK

There is only one man in Penn State basketball annals who was either a player, assistant coach, or head coach on all four Lion teams that played in the annual NCAA tournament. That man is the present 35-year-old mentor, John Egli.

Egli played on the 1942 Nittany basketball team, the first to ever go to the invitational tournament. The captain of that five was Elmer Gross, who invited Egli to join his staff when he took over as head coach in 1949.

As assistant coach, Egli went with the second NCAA squad to the 1952 tourney. On that team were freshmen Ron Weidenhammer and Jesse Arnelle, 1954-55 co-captains.

Egli worked with the third NCAA contingent in 1954 when head coach Gross became ill. The team finished third in the tourney behind LaSalle and Bradley, beating Southern Cal in the consolation game. After the '54 season Gross retired and Egli became head coach.

With seniors Arnelle and Weidenhammer composing the nucleus of his first Lion team, Egli entered his fourth post-season grind, winning over Memphis State and losing to Iowa and Kentucky.

Egli, therefore, has all four of the tourney trophies awarded to the Lions for competing in the tournaments.

Egli claims that his greatest experience as a coach came at the '54 NCAA playoffs at Raleigh, N.C., in the "Deep South," when the crowd gave Jesse Arnelle a standing ovation after he fouled out of the game.

At the end of his own collegiate career, he entered the Army and after recovering from a German "Christmas present" received in the Battle of the Bulge, the ever-active Egli was thrilled to play on a GI team in France that competed against a Russian squad.

After the war he coached at Derry Township High and DuBois Center before becoming Gross' "lieutenant."

The massive 6'3", 220-pound coach formulated his ideal offense and defense while in his playing year. The ideas started coming to him when Penn State and Temple locked defenses in the lowest scoring game ever played at Philadelphia's Convention Hall.

In the other contest, St. Joseph's of Philadelphia and Rhode Island State ran up the highest



John Egli
Lion cage coach

point total amassed in the Arena at the time.

After the games, Egli hoped that someday he could have a fast, long-passing, run-and-shoot offense like the Rhode Island five and a rock-ribbed defense similar to that which the Lions displayed that night.

Egli claims that he came close to that "Fabulous Five" with Jesse Arnelle and Co. "During Arnelle's senior year, we shot through the 100-point barrier five times. But the defense was lacking and that's what I would have liked to improved on," the mentor said.

"It's all in the personnel," Egli said. "Personnel determines the coaching methods. Like this year, people thought we were going to be fast, but we're not. Ramsay, Baidey, and even Rainey aren't that fast."

"With Arnelle I used a four-man weave with Jesse as the post man in the slot," the

coach continued. "Now I use the 3-2 and 2-1-2 a lot."

Egli explained that he usually starts out with the standard 2-1-2 pivot play to feel out the opponent's defense. In this, Ramsay plays a set pivot and feeds the backcourt men on the break with the forwards dropping back to the guard posts. After the shot is taken, the cagers set a 3-1-1 positioning with the deep man acting as a safety on a fast break by the opposition.

Against West Virginia and Colgate, Egli let Ramsay move slightly from side-to-side and gained better results as the defense had to double and triple team the 6'8" center, leaving the forwards free.

After the opposition jams the middle, the team will open the "key" with a 3-2. This resembles an umbrella defense in its initial stage. All five players start outside and eventually screen and counter-screen after an unsuccessful fast break, setting-up clear shots for the following break.

Egli claims that basketball plays, defense and offense, are based on one theory: "Two defensemen can't stop two offensive men. Theoretically, they can only bother them. Therefore we have offensive screening and defensive switching."

The Lions' defense is the sliding zone. Egli uses the 3-2 and always keeps a man in the slot to block against lay-ups.

"I'm thinking about that fifth NC-double-A trophy," Egli said, "and it may come in the not-to-distant future. It may definitely come with the acquisition of a really good, big man. I mean somebody at least 6-8 or 6-9."

"But first, I think that Penn State basketball needs something to build the tremendous interest that is evident in the Ivy League, the Big Ten and other associations. I would love to be in a league and bring more interest in basketball to Rec Hall," the coach said hopefully.

Delta Chi Wins, Retains Bowling Leads

League leading Delta Chi defeated Delta Theta Sigma, 4-0, and Sigma Chi edged into second place when it scored a 4-0 shutout over third place Theta Chi, in Wednesday nights "B" fraternity bowling league.

Two team points separate the top three squads in the league, with Delta Chi scoring 32 points, Sigma Chi 31 points and Theta Chi 30 points. Rounding out the top five teams are Alpha Sigma Phi with 28 markers and Alpha Chi Sigma with 26 points.

The remaining fraternities in the league and their points are sixth Delta Theta Sigma, 18; Phi Epsilon Pi and Kappa Sigma are

tied with 17 markers; Phi Kappa 16; Triangle, 11; Phi Mu Delta, 9; and Alpha Epsilon Pi with 6 points.

Dave Bucke led Delta Chi to victory with a fine 199-563 series, in posting its 4-0 victory over Delta Theta Sigma. Don Alcorn was the high man for the losers, bowling a 169-445 series.

Second place Sigma Chi was led by Dick Thomas, who bowled a fine single game score, 212, and tallied 537 pins for a three game total. Don Cadzow paced Theta's attack with a 157-431 series.

Phi Kappa scored the only 3-1

win of the night when it downed Kappa Sigma. Kappa Sigma's Sam Githens was high single game kiegler with 181 pins and Dennis Uhrin captured three game honors with 475 for Phi Kappa.

Alpha Chi Sigma gained ground on Alpha Sigma Phi, scoring a 3-0 triumph. Alpha Sig's Ray Euler rolled the highest single game score of the evening, 214 points, and ended up with a total score of 527 points. Ken Christiansen was the most consistent bowler for the winners, when he posted a 203-517 series.

Tanglewood Acres

(Shangri-La of Centre County)

4 1/2 Miles from Bellefonte on Rd. to Jacksonville

Dinners Served Nightly

STEAKS SPAGHETTI LOBSTER SHRIMP

Also

PIZZA SANDWICHES SALADS

private parties may be arranged by reservations
Call Bellefonte 5-9924

Dancing Permitted

No Minors Allowed

Selected Beverages

WE'LL TAKE this opportunity to wish all of you 'Happy Holidays.' It's been pretty nice serving every student that has walked into the store. And we'll be more than glad to help you in any clothing selection throughout the year. We depend a lot on the college trade and our satisfaction comes from serving you every time any anytime that you visit the store. You'll receive courteous and expert attention when you buy any article—large or small. Have a very Merry Christmas and the best of luck in the New Year

Hur's Men's Shop