

Nodland, Pepe—Out-of-State 'Refugees' at Home With Lions

By LOU PRATO

Importing athletes from other states is not a common occurrence in the Penn State athletic setup, but when one of these "foreigners" happens to come along, he is usually among the "cream of the crop."

In the case of the Penn State wrestling team, this "foreign" occurrence happened twice, in the persons of Sid Nodland and John Pepe—two of Coach Charlie Speidel's



John Pepe



Sid Nodland

Two 'foreigners' who have made the Lion mats their home

top matmen. Nodland—the defending Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association's 123-pound champion—hails from Bay Shore, Long Island, a hotbed for schoolboy wrestling.

Pepe—third in the Nation last year at 137—resides in Plainfield, N.J., home of one of the world's greatest all-round athletes, Milt Campbell.

Between them, Nodland and Pepe have won 52 matches while wrestling for the Blue and White, losing only six and tying three.

Individually, Nodland—who has never lost a dual meet in his college career—has a 27-3-3 career record and Pepe—runner-up in the 1956 EIWA 137-pound tournament—has a 25-4-0 all-time mark.

Both Nodland and Pepe were of championship caliber during their high school wrestling days—Nodland at Mephem High School and Pepe at Plainfield.

Nodland started out as a 103-pounder in his sophomore year, 1951, and won the Long Island championship that year. The following year as a 112-pound entry, Nodland won titles in the all Long Island tournament; South Shore tourney; Junior Metropolitan tournament; Senior Metropolitan tournament; and the National AAU tournament.

He moved up to 123 in his senior year and came through with championships in the Long Island, South Shore, and Senior Metropolitan tournaments. In his whole high school career, Nodland only had one draw in "about" 45 matches. He later avenged that tie in the finals of the 1952 Long Island championships.

Pepe's record was almost as outstanding as Nodland's. He was never pinned in three years of schoolboy competition (he has been pinned only once in his whole wrestling career) and lost only once in 35 outings.

Pepe was State champion in his junior year at 112 pounds, after finishing third at 103 the year before. He lost out in his senior year at the District Elimination Tourney, losing to the eventual 127-pound State titlist.

Pepe entered Prep school in 1952 and after winning 10 straight dual meets, he capped the season with the 1953 137-pound Prep School championship. In addition, the Lion grappler won the New Jersey AAU 128-pound crown in 1952.

Nodland and Pepe enrolled at Penn State in September of 1953 for the same reason—"good wrestling school and good coach." Nodland, however, confesses that he almost went to Syracuse.

The Lion co-captain had "everything set" at the New York school including a room and had given up hope of coming to Mount Nittany. But a visit from Coach Charley Speidel and two of his ace wrestlers—Bob Homan and Dick Lemyre, who had done their high school wrestling at Mephem—brought Nodland to State.

Pepe had better luck than Nodland in their freshman year. Pepe won both of his matches but Nodland lost his only encounter, a 5-0 decision to Pitt's fabulous Ed Peery.

The next year they moved into starting berths for the varsity matmen and have been there ever since, although Pepe was ineli-

gible for part of his sophomore year.

Nodland considers Bill Jemison, last year's Cornell captain, the toughest man he has ever faced. He beat the Big Red grappler—a normal 130-pounder—in the 1956 Eastern tournament.

Nodland also thinks rather highly of Pitt's Bill Hulings and Cornell's Carmen Molino, both of whom he beat this year.

"I guess I would say Hulings is the toughest (for me) to beat," Nodland explains, "but he's not tough in a wrestling sense. I felt most uncomfortable with Molino."

Pepe, on the other hand, thinks that all of his foes were tough. "I couldn't say (which is toughest), they're all hard," Pepe says. "There are no easy ones."

"The best match I've ever wrestled in was at Pitt last week," Pepe said, "It was also the best wrestling meet I've ever seen."

With the Eastern and National tournaments coming up in the next few weeks, both Nodland and Pepe are looking forward to avenge a couple of defeats. Nodland was beaten by Bob Royce of Michigan State in the 1956 Nationals and he is eager to meet the Wyoming grappler again.

Pepe lost to Lehig's Joe Gratto in the finals of last year's Eastern tournament and although he beat the Engineer captain in a return match at the National tourney, he is looking forward to the "rubber match."

When they graduate in the spring, Nodland and Pepe plan to continue in the wrestling field as coaches. Both have a date with the Armed Forces first, but after that its clear sailing ahead.

Citrus Schedule Opens Tomorrow With 8 Tilts; Team Rundown Listed

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Major league baseball's spring exhibition schedule opens tomorrow with all clubs booked for action, four new managers on the sidelines and lots of problems remaining to be solved before the start of the regular season next month.

The opening games' lineup pits Brooklyn against Milwaukee at Miami, at night, the Cincinnati Redlegs against the Chicago White Sox at Tampa, Philadelphia against Pittsburgh at Clearwater, the St. Louis Cards against the New York Yankees at St. Petersburg, Detroit versus Boston at Sarasota and Kansas City against Washington at Orlando.

In two Cactus League (Arizona) games, the Chicago Cubs take on the Baltimore Orioles at Mesa and the New York Giants meet the Cleveland Indians at Tucson. Here is how the top clubs shape up with "play ball" only hours away.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
New York—Third base and left-field only vacancies. Bill Skowron tabbed to replace light-hitting Andy Carey at third with five players battling for unfilled outfield job.

Cleveland—Needs more power which they may get from Roger Maris, highly-touted outfielder. Fine pitching. Has to come up with third baseman to replace Al Rosen and get more solid hitting from Bobby Avila and Chico Carrasquel, the second base duo.

Chicago—Virtually same club as last year. Norm Larker (.309 at St. Paul) has good chance to win first base berth.

Boston—Left side of infield shortstop and third base needs strengthening.

Detroit—Generally believed most improved club in circuit. Ray Boone figured to make switch from third base to first with Jim Finigan, obtained from Kansas City replacing him. Also picked up good bench in Eddie Robinson from the As and Jack Dittmar from Milwaukee.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Brooklyn—Pitcher Johnny Podres is back. Jackie Robinson's gone. Roy Campanella's hands a problem.

Milwaukee—Weak at second base and leftfield. Pitching excellent and may be bolstered even more by Juan Pizarro, a minor league sensation.

Cincinnati—Looks for pitching improvement from Warren Hacker, obtained from Cubs and Russ Meyer, a sore-armed hurler in 1956. Gave up powerful hitter in Ray Jablonski.

St. Louis—Pitching looks improved by addition of Sam Jones, Jim Davis, Hoyt Wilhelm and Lynn Lovenguth (24-game winner at Toronto). Del Ennis should add more power.

Kucks to Open for Yanks; Indian Rookies Slumping

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 7 (AP)—Johnny Kucks will open the exhibition schedule for the New York Yankees. Manager Casey Stengel today named the tall right-hander and rookies Al Cicotte and Jim Coates to pitch against the St. Louis Cardinals here Saturday.

Mickey Mantle will pinch hit but will not play either Saturday or Sunday, when the Cards again provide the opposition, Stengel said.

Fred Hutchinson, Redbirds' skipper, will pitch Herm Wehmeier and a pair of youngsters, Lindy McDaniel and lefty Bob Smith.

Mantle pinch hit and drew a walk in today's six-inning inning intra-squad contest in which Bill Dickey's Hound Dogs beat Frank Crosetti's Crows 4-2.

SARASOTA, Fla., March 7 (AP)—Rookie Haywood Sullivan made an impressive bid for the starting catching assignment for the Boston Red Sox today by gathering a pair of hits, one a line triple off the left-wall, in a 6-inning intra-squad game that ended in a 3-3 tie.

Sullivan, promoted from the San Francisco farm club, was handed a \$50,000 bonus by the Sox while still a student at the U. of Florida.

TUCSON, Ariz., March 7 (AP)—The Cleveland Indians' two top rookies aren't performing up to expectations, but Manager Kerby Farrell says he isn't alarmed.

Outfielder Roger Maris and infielder Larry Raines haven't been hitting in the early train-

ing workouts, and Raines has a sore throwing arm. Both were with Farrell at Indianapolis last year.

ORLANDO, Fla., March 7 (AP)—Shortstop Jose Valdivielso rapped out a triple and two singles today as the Jurges Billies defeated the Lavagetto Cookies 4-3 in the Washington Senators' second intra-squad game.

'Sugar' Hart 4-1 Over Byars

NEW YORK, March 7 (AP)—Garnett (Sugar) Hart, Philadelphia's slick, young welterweight, is a 4-1 choice to stretch his winning streak to 13 tomorrow night when he faces Walt Byars, 25, another eager newcomer from Boston, in a television ten-rounder.

The two unranked but highly regarded 147-pounders will be making their Madison Square Garden debuts. The bout will be broadcast and telecast NBC, 10 p.m., EST coast to coast.

Hart, 21, has a record of 20-1, including 18 kayos.

Vega a Cinch

Penn State's Armando Vega is regarded as a shoo-in for all-round honors in the 1957 renewal of the EIGL championships, at Syracuse Saturday.

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