

# Lions 'Rule' EIWA Tournament

## Johnston, Pepe, Adams Emerge as Champions

By LOU PRATO

Where would the Lion wrestling team have finished Saturday night if it hadn't been for Earl Poust and Les Walters?

This is what the 15,000 fans who witnessed Penn State's thrilling victory at the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association tournament at Recreation Hall over the weekend are asking themselves.

It was only a month and a half ago that the Penn State matmen were on the verge of recording one of their worst seasonal marks in history.

Today they are the kingpins of the East, snapping Pittsburgh's three-year claim to the title by beating the deflated Panthers, 74-61.

It was the first EIWA title for Penn State since 1953 and brought the Lion Eastern crown total to 13, the highest in the league. They first won the honor in 1918.

Pitt's captain Ed Peery, the 123-pound champion, hauled in the highest individual honors of the tourney when he received the Most Valuable Player Award, selected by the coaches, and the John Fletcher Award, given to the man who has accumulated the most points in three years of competition in the tournament.

Peery's total was 35, three better than the Lions' Sid Nodland.

Johnny Johnston, 130, John Pepe, 137, and Dave Adams, 147, claimed three of the individual championships in the tournament but it was the Poust-Walters combination which directly led to Nittany title.

Between them, the "Cinderella" duo chalked up 19 points toward the team championships—Walters recording 11 and Poust eight. Without those unexpected points, the Lions would have lost the crown to the men from Skyscraper U., 61-55.

Of course credit must be given to Johnston, Pepe, Adams, and Sid Nodland—who was runner-up at 128. But the surprise performances of Poust and Walters had a large bearing.

Before the tourney opened, the Lions were given an outside chance of stopping the favored Panthers, but most observers felt that Coach Charley Speidel's 1957 mat version lacked the strength in the upperweights. But that's where Poust and Walters upset the dopsters. Poust finished third in the 157-pound division and Walters was runner-up to Ron Flemming of Franklin & Marshall at 177.

Besides Penn State's three champions and F & M's lone titleholder, three Pitt grapplers and one Lehigh matman grabbed top honors. Pitt had Ed Peery at 123, Dave Johnson at 167, and Ron Schirf at heavyweight while Lehigh's Ed Hamer won the 157-pound crown.

All of the champions with the exception of Hamer was seeded

either one or two in his weight by the seeding committee. Hamer was picked for third.

Poust was the only Lion who had reached the semi-finals that was absent from the Saturday night sessions. He lost a 3-1 overtime decision to Cornell's top-seeded Steve Vincent, in the afternoon matches.

Vincent, who lost 7-0 to Hamer in the finals, had beaten the Lion junior 11-2 in a dual meet, but he didn't find the going easy this time. A reverse and riding time in the two two-minute extra periods provided the final advantage for Vincent after the regulation match had ended in a 6-6 deadlock.

Nodland finally met his match in the 123-pound title bout when Peery dethroned the 1956 champion, 5-2. The Lion captain scored only a second period takedown against the two-time National champ, who picked up his points on two escapes, a takedown, and time advantage.

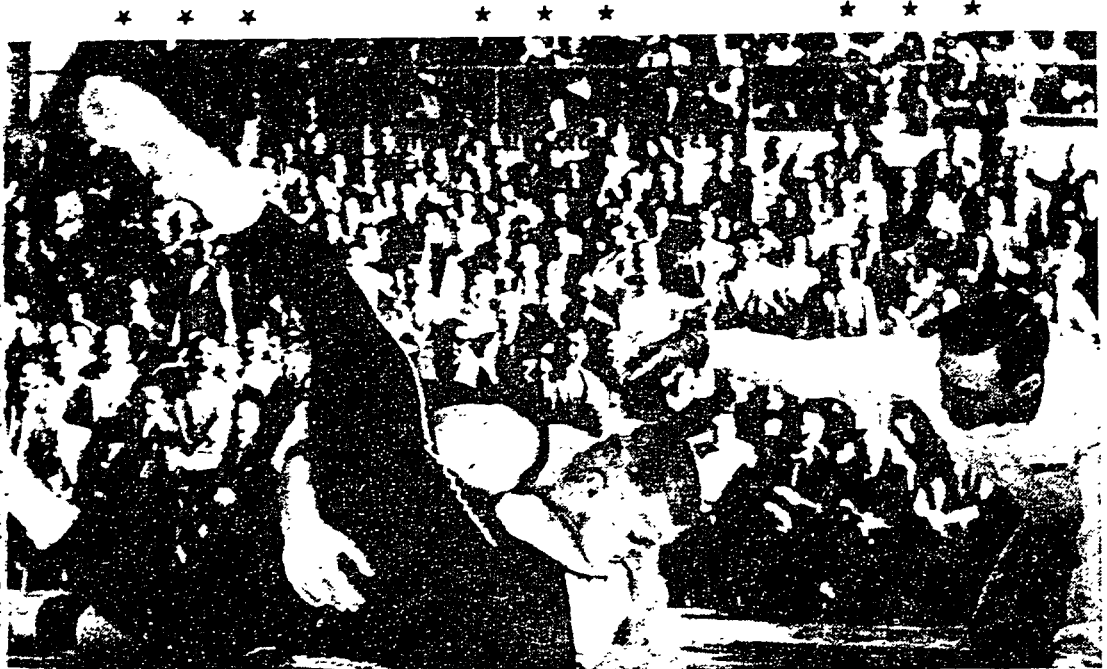
It was a double dose of bad medicine for Nodland to swallow for a victory would have given him the Fletcher award.

Johnston clinched the team championship when he decided Pitt's Vic DeFelice, 6-3. The 1956 champ completely outclassed DeFelice whose points came late in the third period when Johnston was playing it safe.

Pepe avenged a defeat to Joe Gratto in last year's final when he beat the Lehigh 137-pounder, 4-2. Pepe scored all of his points on two takedowns in the second period while the Engineer captain had escapes in both the middle and final stanzas.

Two unbeaten marks were pitted against each other in the 147-pound title scrape when Adams met Dick Santoro of Lehigh. Adams topped the sophomore Santoro, 4-3, on the basis of a three-minute time advantage. It was sweet revenge for Adams, who lost the 1956 title to another Lehigh star, Ed Eichelberger.

Walters almost pulled off a victory over Flemming before losing to the F&M matman, 5-3. The Lion footballer had a takedown and penalty point but the F&M bruiser scored two reversals and



—Daily Collegian Photo by Dave Barar

LION MATMAN Earl Poust applies a half nelson and crotch pinning hold to Cornell's Dick Vincent in the waning moments of their regulation 157-pound semi-final match, but he could not gain the fall. Seconds before, Poust had reversed Vincent to tie the score 6-6 and send the match into overtime. Poust lost in the extra session 3-1 but finished third in the division.

a point for riding time for the win. Pitt's Dave Johnson, last year's 157-pound champion, added the 167-pound crown to his laurels by stopping Steve Friedman of Cornell, 8-1. Johnson, who mowed down all of his opponents with relative ease, made no exception of Friedman, limiting the previously unbeaten Cornell grappler to a third period escape.

Pitt's Ron Schirf copped the heavyweight crown for the first time in his career by topping Navy's Tony Stremic, 4-3. Last year Schirf was second to Penn State's Bill Oberly.

### CONSOLATION ROUND

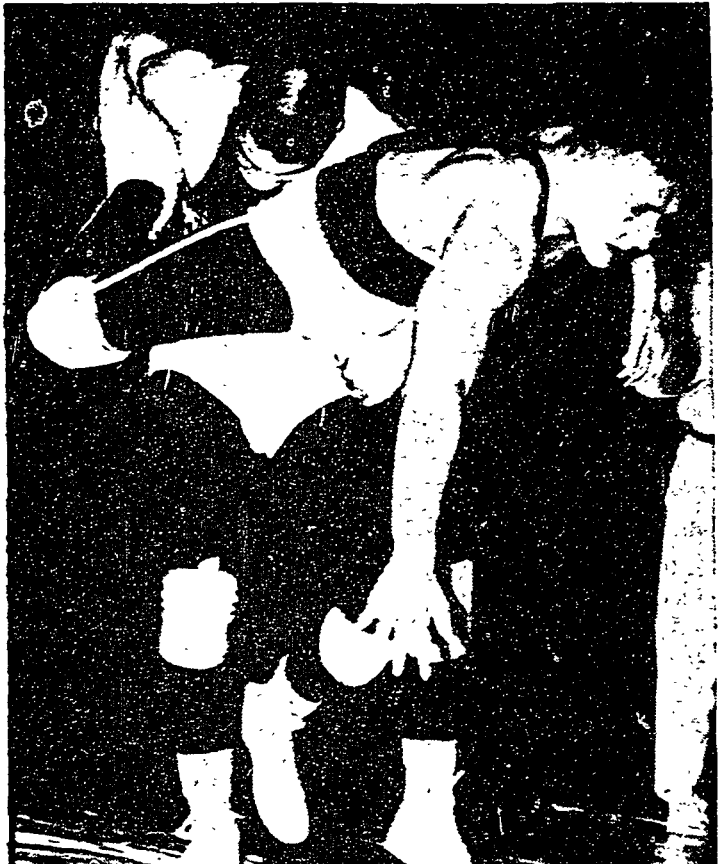
- 123—Creason, Syracuse, decisioned Cummings, Brown, 4-3.
- 130—Harbold, Lehigh, decisioned Weisenfeld, Army, 4-3.
- 137—Bienkowski, Pitt, decisioned Smith, Brown, 6-4.
- 147—Daughenbaugh, Navy, decisioned Yeats, Franklin & Marshall, 6-2.
- 157—Poust, Penn State, won by forfeit over Schult, Colgate.
- 167—White, Syracuse, decisioned Leher, Rutgers, 7-5.
- 177—Volgenau, Navy, won by forfeit over Newell, Colgate.
- Hwt.—Dunlop, Cornell, decisioned Pfommer, Franklin & Marshall, 4-1.

### SEMI-FINALS

- 123—Peery decisioned Cummings, 6-0; Nodland decisioned Creason, 7-6.
- 130—Johnston pinned Harbold, 4:23; DeFelice decisioned Weisenfeld, 8-3.
- 137—Gratto pinned Smith, 2:52; Pepe decisioned Bienkowski, 8-1.
- 147—Santoro decisioned Daughenbaugh, 5-3; Adams decisioned Yeats, 4-1.
- 157—Vincent decisioned Poust, 3-1, overtime; Hamer won by forfeit over Schult.
- 167—Johnson decisioned Leher, 6-1; Friedman decisioned White, 7-6.
- 177—Flemming decisioned Volgenau, 6-3; Walters won by default over Newell, Colgate.
- Hwt.—Schirf decisioned Pfommer, 3-0; Stremic decisioned Dunlop, 3-2.

### TEAM TOTALS

- Penn State 74, Pitt 61, Lehigh 48, Cornell 30, Navy 28, Franklin & Marshall 24, Syracuse 18, Brown 16, Colgate 9, Army 8, Harvard 5, Rutgers 4, Penn 3, Columbia, Princeton, Springfield and Temple, 2 each, Yale 0.



LES WALTERS, Lion's 177-pounder, grabs leg of Ron Flemming, of Franklin & Marshall, in an attempt to take him down during Saturday's final action. Flemming edged out Walters, 5-3, to win the title. Walters was the big surprise for the Lions advancing into the finals when Colgate's Pete Newell separated his shoulder in the semifinals and had to default. Walters was leading at the time of the injury, 2-0.

## A's Dump Bucs in 10th, Yanks Win

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., March 18 (AP)—A tenth inning triple by Mike Baxes scored Johnny Groth and gave the Kansas City Athletics a 4-3 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates in an exhibition baseball game today.

Groth had reached first on a fielder's choice.

The Pirates held a 3-1 advantage going into the bottom half of the eighth, thanks to home runs by Dale Long in the sixth and Bill Virdon in the eighth, both off Eddie Blake.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 18 (AP)—Whitey Ford and Art Ditmar combined to pitch their club's second straight shutout today as the New York Yankees stopped the Philadelphia Phillies, 5-0. They allowed but three hits in extending the staff's run of scoreless innings to 24.

BRADENTON, Fla., March 18 (AP)—Andy Pafko's three-run homer in the eighth broke a 3-3 tie and sent the Milwaukee Braves off to a 7-3 exhibition game triumph over the St. Louis Cardinals today.

Eddie Mathews, making his first start for the Braves in

four games, hit safely twice in three trips, each time dropping his hit into the "opposite" field. His initial hit, in the first inning, went for a ground rule double.

SARASOTA, Fla., March 18 (AP)—Don Hoak, battling for the Redlegs' third base job, singled home

his third run of the game in the tenth inning today as Cincinnati rallied for a 7-6 exhibition baseball victory over the Boston Red Sox.

Pinch hitter Jerry Lynch tripled and Johnny Temple walked in the tenth before Hoak punched his tie-breaking single. An infield out added another score.

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