

Cagers Test Wolfpack Tonight

Lions Enter Contest 10-Point Underdogs; Team in Good Shape

By VINCE CAROCCI
Sports Editor

Penn State's untested basketball team opens its 1957-58 season against North Carolina State tonight at Raleigh, N.C. with the dismal knowledge that it is down 10 points before the opening whistle sounds.

The oddsmakers rate the Wolfpack of Coach Everett Case a 10-point favorite—chiefly because of their reputation as a cage power over the years and their advantage of playing at home. NC State is always noted for its potency at home.

Coach John Egli, who, despite the odds, feels that his Lions will make a ballgame of it, will probably go with his expected starting five of Ted Kubista (6-4) and Tom Hancock (6-4) at forward; Bob Edwards (6-5) at center; and co-captains Ron Rainey (6-0) and Steve Baidy (6-0) at guard. This has been Egli's first unit since the team began practice work close to a month ago.

There is a possibility, however, that Egli may start his top reserve, sophomore Wally Colender (6-2), at guard and switch Rainey to one of the forward spots. Colender has been Egli's best at the key center forward slot in his sliding zone defense.

Should Egli stay with his first club, Colender will be his number one replacement and Edwards will handle the center forward slot on defense.

The rest of Egli's traveling squad is composed of junior Dick Schwendeman (5-9), junior Cal Emery (6-2), and sophomore Paul Sweetland (6-5) and Larry Freedman (6-1). Emery, although a junior academically, is only a sophomore as far as cage experience goes—he did not go out for basketball last year.

Case is expected to go with this lineup: Bob MacGillivray (6-4) and George Stepanovich (6-4) at forward; John Richter (6-8) at center; and captain Whitey Bell (6-0) and Lou Pucillo (5-9) at guard. All five are returning lettermen.

Of this year's club, Egli said: "I think we're a little stronger offensively this year than we were last year but not as strong defensively as yet."

"We're pretty fair rebounding and we're shooting pretty decently, too. Our ball handling is not as good yet as I'd like to have it (making special reference to the Lions' last break) and our defense should improve as we go along."

Egli said that he did not mind meeting the Wolfpack on their home court but said he wished it came a bit later in the season because "our kids get better as the year goes on."

Physically, the Lions are in good shape. Both Edwards and Hancock have completely recovered from their ankle injuries, although Edwards is still handicapped with a sore thumb.

Egli said that the team is looking forward to the game and added: "I'd like to win this ballgame—just once." In his three years as Lion head coach, NC State has always come out the victor. In fact, the Lions have never beaten a North Carolina State basketball team.



THE STARTING FIVE . . . Lion starters for the North Carolina State game tonight are from left to right: Bob Edwards, co-captains Ron Rainey and Steve Baidy, Tom Hancock and Ted Kubista. This is the Lions' first game of the year.

SAE Sets Scoring Mark In IM Basketball Action

High scoring was the trend in Thursday night's intramural basketball action at Recreation Hall. Sigma Alpha Epsilon walloped Kappa Sigma, 56-23, to establish the team high scoring record for the year in fraternity play.

At the same time, Phi Gamma Delta missed tying this mark by two points as they scored a 54-18 victory over Alpha Gamma Rho. The previous high before Thursday night was 46 points. This was achieved by Kappa Delta Rho and Delta Upsilon.

In other Greek action, Phi Delta Theta won over Phi Kappa, 18-12; Phi Sigma Kappa edged Pi Lambda Phi, 21-19; and Alpha

Chi Sigma defeated Kappa Delta Rho, 24-22.

The Indie circuit also produced some potent attacks. The Studniks defeated the Wolves, 36-12; Pollock 12 beat Penn Haven, 34-24; the Ogontz Vets won over the Spaniels, 26-15 and the Red Raiders walloped the K-Boys, 36-11.

Individual scoring was led by Jerry Bruce of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. He scored 18 points on 8 field goals and two-for-two on the foul lane. There was a three-way tie for second place in scoring honors. Jim Rhoat, Studniks; Pete Haddock, Penn Haven, and Joe Wausaman, Kappa Sigma, each pushed 14 points through the hoops.

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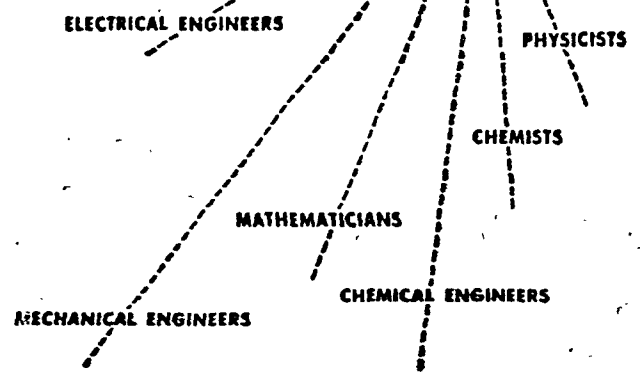
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