

Sports Shorts...

Halfback Dave Kasperian was Penn State's high scorer during the 1957 football season with 7 touchdowns or 42 points.

Quarterback Al Jacks completed 17 passes against Army to match an all-time Penn State record set in 1952 by Tony Rados.

Penn State's first full-fledged baseball team in 1889 won its nine starts to own the only perfect season until the current year.

Penn State traditionally fields outstanding teams in baseball, soccer, wrestling, gymnastics and golf.

Lenny Moore, Rookie of the Year in the National Professional Football League in 1956, is a Penn State product.



A Glance at... SPORTS

By VINCE CAROCCI Sports Editor

IT'S GOING TO BE A TOUGH GYM MEET

Coach Gene Wettstone has another blue-chip match on tap for his Penn State gymnasts. For the fourth consecutive year, the winner of the Army-Penn State meet will be proclaimed the Eastern Intercollegiate Gymnastic Champion. The proclamation date is Saturday—the place, West Point.

With the exception of 1956, Penn State has won the victory each time—and the title, of course. Last year, Wettstone's Nittanics recaptured the honor with a thrilling 49½-46½ victory before a capacity crowd at Recreation Hall. But, that was last year. We want to know about our chances this year.

With this in mind, we asked Wettstone what he thought was in store for Saturday. Wettstone, who is as cooperative a coach as they come, is also a straight-forward chap.

Without a pause, he told us quite frankly that the goings will be tough for his team—that Army must be rated the favorite because of its past record this season. However, he was far from having a defeatist attitude.

He quickly added that his boys could do the trick if—and it's a big if—some of his thus-far disappointments hit their stride against the Cadets.

The biggest of these disappointments has to be Wettstone's potentially great sophomore, Jay Werner. Werner looks to be another in the line of Penn State all-round greats such as Karl Schwenzler and Armando Vega. As yet, he has not reached that height in competition.

By no means are we trying to belittle or call down Werner—it's not our policy. Gymnastics is a sport where the slightest break in a routine can mean the difference between a first place and a third place—or even a fifth place. We can think of no other sport where one mistake can be so costly to an individual.

The point we are trying to make is: It looks as though Werner is the big "if" in the meet outcome. If he hits—and his potential shows he can—the Lions can win the meet. If he doesn't... well, the outlook doesn't look too bright.

The pressure is on this sophomore. Wettstone definitely thinks he has the ability to meet it—and to beat it. We'll be among the many rooters who will be pulling for him to do so—not because it will probably add another title to Penn State's list, but because he is too good to be hampered by breaks.

A Werner performing at his peak potential will be a tremendous scoring boost for Penn State. But, he's not the only one under pressure. In the final tabulation, it's the team score that determines the outcome. In other words, no Lion can afford to slip tomorrow.

The gymnasts, even with Werner at his best, have tough sledding. The pressure is great—but so is this team's potential. Soon we'll know which was greater.

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