

Lions Defend Title Today at Pittsburgh

By LOU PRATO

PITTSBURGH, March 14—Penn State's oft-beaten wrestling team will be at full strength for the first time in a month when it opens defense of its 1957 Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association crown at the Pitt Field House this afternoon.

And as was the situation last year at the start of the carnival, the Lions are given only an outside chance of winning the 1958 title. Unbeaten Lehigh and powerful Ivy League champion Cornell rule the favorites' roost, according to the EIWA coaches and writers, with Syracuse and Pitt battling it out for third place.

Two first line grapplers, both of whom had been sidelined with injuries, will be among Coach Charlie Speidel's starters this afternoon. Veteran Earl Poust, who surprised many fans in last year's tourney with his third place finish at 157, will go at 147 and sophomore Hank Barone will get the nod at 177.

Neither man has wrestled since the Syracuse meet in the middle of February. Poust injured his shoulder in a losing cause to Syracuse's Gordon Carberry and Barone twisted his ankle in practice a few days later.

Despite his recovery, Poust was almost left home when the Lions departed from University Park yesterday. To gain the Lions' 147-pound berth, the senior veteran was forced into an elimination match with Dan Johnston, the surprising sophomore. However, he proved his worth with a 9-4 decision over Johnston.

Earlier, Johnston had run the gauntlet in a bid for the 137-pound tourney spot with another sophomore, Guy Guccione. The two men battled through three elimination bouts before Guccione emerged the victor. All three matches ended in draws but Guccione managed to win the overtime session of the third match, and with that went the Lions' 137-pound entry.

Poust and Guccione are highly-regarded in their respective weight divisions and both may earn seeded positions. However, the top seeded men in both weights will undoubtedly be from Lehigh—defending 137-pound NCAA champ Joe Gratto at 137 and unbeaten Dick Santoro at 147.

Penn State's only top-seeded entry will be Captain Johnny Johnston, the defending 130-pound national titlist. Johnston, who owns an illustrious all-time record of 35-3, will be seeking his third straight EIWA crown. The diminutive Clearfield senior will also be trying to win the coveted John T. Fletcher Memorial Award, given each year to the man who scores the most points for his school in three years of tourney competition. Gratto and Pitt's Dave Johnson, a two-time EIWA winner, are also in contention for that honor.

The rest of the Nittanians' starting array will find Gordon Danks at 123, Sam Minor at 157, George Gray at 167 and Ray Pottios at heavyweight. Minor could emerge as the biggest dark horse of the tournament despite his mediocre 3-4-1 record. He's been quite impressive this season, especially in his match with 157-pound EIWA favorite Dick Vincent of Cornell. He battled the unbeaten Cornell veteran down to the wire before losing a close 3-2 decision.

Last year, the Lions carried off three individual crowns and three



Earl Poust

other place awards on the way to their 13th EIWA championship. Besides Johnston, the Penn State winners included co-captain Dave Adams at 147 and strongman John Pepe at 137. Co-captain Sid Nodland and Les Walters were beaten in the finals and Poust was edged in the semis.

It was the surprise performances of Walters and Poust which indirectly led to the Penn State victory last year. But with a weaker team this season, it will take more than two surprises for Penn State to win the crown. In fact, if the experts are correct, the Lions will make their worst tournament showing since 1949.

Speidel's forces have finished no lower than third since 1950. They recorded championships in 1951, 1952, 1953 and 1957 and finished second from 1954 to 1956 when Rex Peery's Panthers won the title.

The Lions will have to do better than they did in the dual campaign if they expect to retain their EIWA crown. The Nittanians recorded a poor 2-4-1 record, one of the worst marks in Penn State history, but one of those wins came against a heavily-favored Pitt crew, 14-11, in the final match of the season. That victory could be an indication of the Lions' chances this weekend.

However, Speidel's men were beaten by both tourney favorites in the regular season. Lehigh, who wound up with its first unbeaten season in 15 years, rapped the Nittanians, 23-7, and Cornell blasted them, 17-9.

Five EIWA coaches picked the Engineers to win the 1958 title and four gave their vote to Cornell. Lehigh hasn't won a championship since 1948 and Cornell hasn't been a winner since 1930.



Guy Guccione ... in first EIWA

BASEBALL SUMMARIES

Cincinnati	100	300	630	7	11	2		
Pittsburgh	016	100	001	2	5	2		
HRs—Cincinnati:	Pinson, McMillan, Palya, Pittsburgh:	Freese, Stuart,						
Chicago	000	200	000	00	2	9	0	
St. Louis	100	000	010	000	00	3	11	0
W-W. Smith, L—Latman,								
Washington	080	000	001	9	14	1		
Philadelphia	100	000	00	1	5	0		
HRs—Washington,	Chrisley,							
Kansas City	002	000	000	4	7	0		
Detroit	106	010	000	3	9	0		
HRs—Kansas City:	Lopez, Held; De-							
troit:	Bolling, Z, Kalline, Z, Skizas, Hogan,							
Los Angeles	000	001	001	2	5	0		
Milwaukee	240	000	020	2	10	1		
HR—Los Angeles:	Montemeyer,							

TKE H-Ball Entries Win

The fraternity handball singles tourney saw the first double shut-out of the year turned in Wednesday night by Bob Campbell, Tau Kappa Epsilon.

Campbell slammed his way to the honor with a 21-0, 21-0 victory over Charlie Heistand, Kappa Delta Rho.

Bob Pulver, Delta Tau Delta, took second place scoring honors for the night by downing Paul Bauer, Alpha Sigma Phi, 21-2, 21-0.

Charlie Bibleheimer scored Teke's second victory of the evening by recording a 21-5, 21-7,

win over Carroll Crombie, Acacia. In the remaining matches on the fraternity card, Dick Spitko, Phi Kappa Sigma, edged Jim Robson, Sigma Nu, 20-21, 21-20, 21-17; Bill Nichols, Phi Kappa Tau, beat Chester Buckemaier, Phi Kappa Sigma, 21-14, 21-5; Frank Magalski, Phi Mu Delta, eliminated Reid Roberts, Pi Kappa Phi, 21-6, 21-10; and Ed Zimmerman, Theta Xi, won a forfeit victory over Al Lipner, Phi Epsilon Pi.

Winners in independent competition were Marsh Werner, Walt Ferrier and Em Gardosh.

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23	24	25	26	27	28	---	29	30	31	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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