

Optimism High in Wrestling Camp

Five Lettermen Back For Nittany Grapplers

It probably wouldn't be too surprising if a wave of optimism were found emulating from wrestling coach Charlie Speidel these days.

Not that Speidel would be thinking in terms of another Eastern championship team or anything like that. But after the disastrous season the matmen had last year, there's a lot of room for optimism.

Penn State finished the 1957-58 campaign with two wins, four losses and two ties—the poorest record in a decade. But the Lions more than made up for that mark when they upset a highly-favored Pitt team, 14-11, in the season's finale.

However, there's an additional reason for optimism this year. Five veterans return from last winter's club, including junior Guy Guiccione and senior George Gray—place-makers in the 1958 EIWA tournament.

Guiccione, who had a 2-4-1 dual meet record, was runner-up at 137 pounds to Lehigh's Joe Gratto—the tourney's most valuable man. Gray, the only senior on this year's team, was third in the 167-pound Eastern bracket.

The other veteran returnees include middleweights Sam Minor (3-4-1) and Dan Johnston (2-2) and lightweight Gordon Danks (1-3).

Hank Barone, a junior who gained a startling 177-pound berth in the late stages of the season, also is back. Barone, a State College resident, had a 0-1-1 record, but he looked impressive in both outings.

However, there also will be some pessimism in the Lion outlook. That's because of the graduation of erstwhile Captain Johnny Johnston, ranked as one of the greatest wrestlers in Penn State history.

Johnston, who is now coaching at Stevens Trade School in Lancaster, was a three-time Eastern champion at 130 pounds and an NCAA champ at the same weight.

He lost only four matches in a three-year Penn State career, including both dual meet and tournament appearances. Johnston won the Fletcher award—given to the wrestler who accumulates the most points in three years of tournament competition—at last year's EIWA circus and was second to Gratto in the Most-Valuable-Player award.

That honor, incidentally, caused a major dispute among the EIWA crowd, the majority of whom felt that Johnston was the true MVP.

Three other regulars from last season also are missing. They include 147-pound Earl Poust, heavyweight Ray Pottios and lightweight Jack Maher.

Avila Traded To Orioles for Heman

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Baltimore Orioles last night acquired infielder Bobby Avila from Cleveland for Russ Heman, righthanded pitcher, and an undisclosed amount of cash.

Avila, 32, played second and third base for the Indians last year, hitting .253 in 113 games.

Heman had a 9-12 record last season with Vancouver of the Pacific Coast League.

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—Collegian photo by John Zerby
WRESTLING COACH Charley Speidel shows Don Wilson (far right) a hold on "guinea pig" Bill Hardham. That's Biel Hicks watching in the background.

Sportseer Blasts Bowl For Choice of Teams

(Continued from page ten)
 we had many staunch supporters. But of course, there are always those who don't follow the same line of thinking.

It's all a matter of opinion. We had thought the Gator Bowl was on the rise after its Pitt-Georgia Tech game two years ago and its Texas A&M-Tennessee scrap last year. But when it matches the third best team in a conference against the eighth place team, how can it be considered a major bowl?

We'll probably have our eyes on the Blue-Grey All-Star game televised the same time as the Gator tilt—and we imagine most of the Eastern, Midwestern and Western TV viewers will do the same.

It's a good thing the Gator Bowl isn't on New Year's Day. Otherwise, the TV audience would be practically nil.

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Intramural Results

All Stars Gain Win In Independent Bowling

The All Stars, the most successful team in intramural bowling this year, added another notch to its record with a 4-0 shutout over the Glenn Road keglers.

Bob Nelson took top laurels for the All Stars with games of 198, 197 and 213, totaling a 608 series. Lou Klukosky and Don Costanzo with 522 and 511 series helped the All Stars achieve its 2557 pin-fall.

The Zeros hung onto second place in the independent league A, with a 4-0 win over the Thompsons. Ralph Kemmerer had a 197 single.

The fifth place Holy Rollers failed to gain ground as they were held to a tie by the Splinters. However, the Holy Rollers gained some satisfaction as Ray Wasilko took high honors for the match with a 189 single and 496 series.

The McKee Aces with the benefit of a 108 handicap turned back the Spares 3-1. Don Rhodes was the big gun for the winners with a 522 series.

The Harts continued on the upswing with a 3-1 win over the Terrors. Ed Wigger gained too accolades for the Harts with a 187 single and a 448 series. Jim Zimmerman kept the Terrors in contention with a 514 series.

Warren Slothomer with a 226 single and 590 series led Hi-Five to a 3-1 onslaught over Nittany 36, in independent League B action. With the win Hi-Five catapulted themselves into first place.

The Hamilton Fours knocked the Hamilton Hornets out of a tie for first place in League B with the result of a 3-1 trouncing. Ray Konesol and Stan Turel led the Hamilton Fours to its upset win, with a 199 single and 516 series.

The Boozers gained a tie for second place on the benefit of a 3-1 defeat handed to Twenty-Three. Bernie Steber rolled a 480 series for the winners.

The 11th place Gutterballers struck back with a 3-1 defeat handed to the Labache Club. Labache Club's Dick Austin rolled a 225 single and 554 series.

In the final League B match, King Pins smashed Peanuts, 3-1, behind John Zisek's 461 series.

Beaver House Victorious In Basketball League A

By eking out a 15-14 victory over Theta Kappa Phi, Beaver House moved into a commanding position in fraternity league A, boasting a 3-0 record to make them the only undefeated team in league A.

Theta Kappa Phi made a valiant attempt to gain the lead after a 7-2 deficit at the end of the half but their last minute try was stymied by the Beaver House defensive play. Ted Lopushinsky took scoring honors for Beaver House by posting ten counters.

Lambda Chi Alpha fought back from a 7-8 deficit at the half to edge Kappa Sigma 20-18. Gene Hilty led the scoring for Lambda Chi Alpha with 7 tallies.

After battling to a 13-13 tie at the half, Chi Phi broke away from Theta Chi to clinch a 38-31 victory. Brad Davis took scoring honors for Chi Phi with 13 points.

Pi Lambda Phi downed Alpha Gamma Rho 12-7, Phi Kappa Psi edged Beta Sigma Rho 34-31.

Chip Off the Old Block

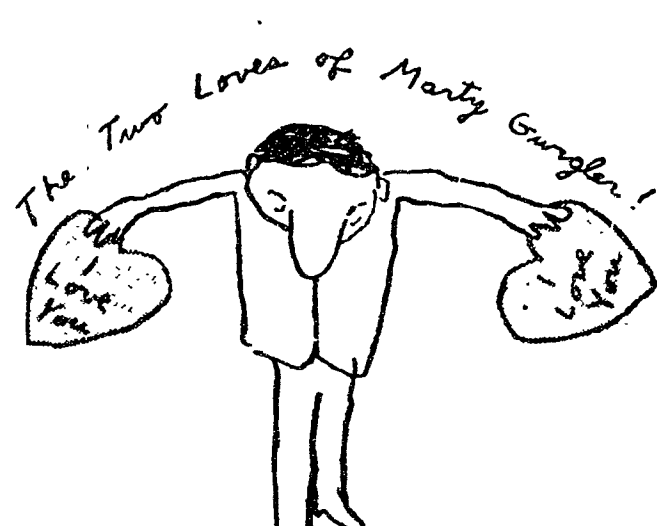
Bill Fiedler Jr., Penn State soccer ace, is a "chip off the old block." His dad, Bill Sr., played on the 1934 Olympic soccer team and on the 1936 World Cup Team in Rome.

MIL BALL

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