

The Sportseer



Nittany Sports Rank Near Top

By Lou Prato
Sports Editor

In keeping in step with the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Penn State student body, we thought it would be interesting to review some of the highlights in Nittany sports history.

Penn State's debut in the athletic wars, we're sorry to say, was a losing one. That was in 1875 when a baseball "team properly equipped and uniformed" was beaten by a local sandlot team from nearby Milesburg. The score—28 20.

But since that humble beginning, Penn State's athletic reputation has grown until today the Lions rank among the best in the nation.

Proof of this latter statement can be found in the National Collegiate Athletic Association's record books. According to NCAA statistics, Penn State is ninth in all-time NCAA championships, winning 10 national titles outright and tying for two more. Southern California is the all-time NCAA champion with 28 crowns claimed in the NCAA's 76-year history.

Coach Gene Wettstone's gymnastic teams have won four of those Lions national championships—1948, 1953, 1954 and 1957—and Coach Chick Werner's cross-country teams have won two (1947 and 1950) and tied for one (1942). The Lion soccermen, under the tutelage of Ken Hosterman, were national champs in 1955 and co-champions in 1956. Other titles went to now-defunct boxing (1932) and wrestling (1953).

Four Penn State teams—two from football and two from soccer—have gone to post-season bowl games. The 1923 football team was beaten by USC in the Rose Bowl, 14-13, and the 1947 grid eleven tied SMU in the Cotton Bowl, 13-13. The other two bowl entries were in the Soccer Bowl—a 2-2 tie with San Francisco in 1949 and a 3-1 loss to Purdue Soccer Club in 1950.

In addition to the team crowns, 40 Penn State's have won individual titles, including some of the Blue and White's all-time greats: John Romig (1921) two-mile run; Schuyler Enck (1923) mile run; Nick Vukmanic (1938) hammer throw; Barney Ewell (1940-41) 100, 220; Horace Ashenfelter (1949) two-mile run; Hal Zimmerman (1942) parallel bars; Chuck Drazenovich (1950) heavyweight boxing; Howard Johnston (1936) 165-pound wrestling; Karl Schwenzfier (1955) all-around gymnastics; Armando Vega (1957) all-around gymnastics; and John Johnston (1957) 130-pound wrestling.

Penn State has also had 19 men wearing the Blue and White colors in the Olympic Games, including four who captured gold medals. Probably the most outstanding of these was Horace Ashenfelter who set a world's record in winning the 3000-mile steeplechase in 1952. Two coaches have also tutored American Olympic entries—Wettstone in gymnastics (1948, 1956) and Werner in track (1952).

The Lions have also had its share of bonafide All-Americans too—nine in football, some 30 plus in soccer and one each in lacrosse and baseball. The gridiron All-Americans included "Mother" Dunn (1906—center), Bob Higgins (1919—end), Charles "Gang" Way (1920—halfback), Glenn Killinger (1921—halfback), Joe Bedenk (1923—guard), Leon Gajewski (1940—center), Steve Suhey (1947—guard), Sam Tamburo (1948—end) and Sam Valentine (1956—guard).

Dunn, incidentally, was also an Olympic entry in 1908. And Bedenk, as you may well know, is still connected with Penn State as head baseball coach.

In addition, Higgins is one of four Penn State men in the football (Continued on page eight)

Marauders, Hamilton Bees, Wildmen Win In IM Cage

With Bart Klien leading the way on a 17 counter effort, the Wildmen swept to its sixth straight victory in League "C" of the independent basketball loop by downing the Skeller Rats, 35-26.

On a terrific team effort, the Hamilton Bees romped to its sixth straight victory in League "D" by overwhelming Hamilton Six, 33-9.

The Marauders moved to a first place tie with the Wild Men in League "C" by chalking up a 36-20 victory over the Wesley Five, thus giving them a 6-0 record. Stan Wynosky took high scoring

honors for the Marauders by pouring in 17 tallies.

In other games, the Slipsticks edged the Giant Killers, 28-24; the Distelfinks whipped the Hamilton A's, 33-18; and the Favorites topped the Red Raiders, 27-25.

Fraternity action showed Delta Tau Delta downing Alpha Zeta, 43-27; and Sigma Nu stopping Triangle, 16-11.

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Can 24-Second Rule, 3rd Ref Help Collegiate Cage Game?

By SANDY PADWE

A few years ago professional basketball appeared doomed. Too many fouls and game-ending freezes made the game boring to watch and as a result not many fans turned out.

But then came some new innovations—the 24-second rule and penalty foul shots—and pro basketball had a new lease on life.

Today, it is the opinion of many fans and coaches around the nation that the collegiate game could stand some changes similar to those made by the pros.

Among the foremost of these proposals are a 24- or 30-second time limit for shots, a third referee, outlawing of zone defenses and different positions on the foul lanes for the team shooting the ball.

Recently this reporter had the opportunity to talk to George King, assistant coach at West Virginia and a former NBA star, and Penn State coach John Egli.

The two presented different arguments for most of the new proposals. King seemed in favor of most of the changes while Egli favored a status-quo.

The biggest divergence of views came on the 24-second rule proposal. King was highly in favor of it while Egli was against it.

"College ballplayers get rid of

the ball within the 24-second time limit almost all the time," said Egli. "The only time it would be useful is at the end of the game when a team is freezing the ball and you're trying to get it."

King, on the other hand, thought that the 24-second rule would give the game a lot of added excitement. "People don't go out to watch two defensive teams play anymore," he commented. "They want to see shooting and scoring. The 24-second rule gave the people in NBA cities what they wanted and look at the results."

King also is one of the coaches who thinks that a third referee would make the game much better. "We used a third ref in a trial game when I was coaching at Morris-Harvey College and it worked fine. The players didn't try to get away with so much and the result was a cleaner and faster game."

are enough for any game," Egli said. "The games are clean enough and go pretty quickly right now with two refs. I can't really see how another referee would help."

While King was saying that the 24-second rule would help to make the college game more like the pro game Egli was convinced that the pro game was stale and the reason for this was no variation in defenses.

"The zone defenses, used a lot in college, makes the game more of a challenge to both coaches and players," commented Egli. "It takes a lot to break a strong zone."

One of the last proposals discussed was the one which would permit players on the offensive team to take both positions under the boards while their teammate was shooting a foul.

Both Egli and King agreed this would help cut down fouls:



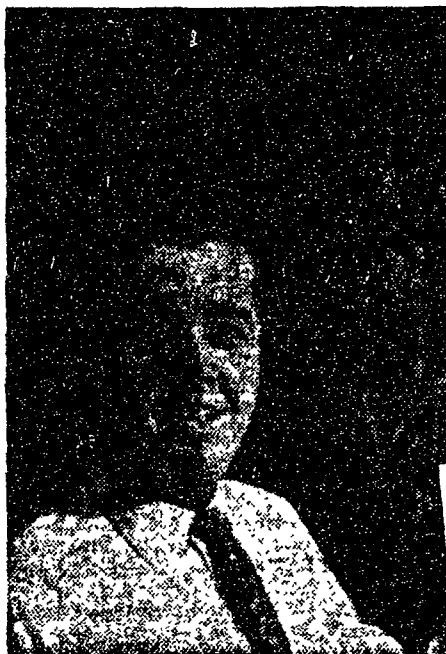
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