

Lion Mentor Pessimistic Over Olympic Gym Team

By LARRY ROTH

Penn State's Gene Wettstone, U.S. Olympic gym coach in 1948 and 1956, predicted yesterday that this year's team would not do as well as the 1956 squad which finished sixth at Melbourne.

"I doubt if our standing will improve this year and we may even do worse," said the 45-year old mentor. "There will be some strong entries this year that didn't compete in the last Olympics."

"To mention some, Red China is real strong, and so is Switzerland, which didn't compete because of the Hungarian uprising. Then there are host Italy, Poland and Bulgaria."

Wettstone thinks the foreign gymnasts are better than ours because they have more participants, more discipline, and take the sport more seriously.

"The best gymnasts are the ones that practice the most," he said. "In Europe and Asia they are willing to sacrifice a good part of their lives for gymnastics, but in our country the kids stop participating a few years out of college."

"As for the gymnastics trend in the United States," he continued, "it can only go up."

"Since the Physical Fitness Conference conducted by the President showed that American youth is falling down, new pressure for gymnastics coaches has been exerted."

"Yes, the sport is definitely growing and the most active areas in the country now are Los Angeles, suburban Chicago and Philadelphia."

Wettstone, who won the Big 10 all-around championship in 1935 and 1937 while participating for Iowa, is deeply engrossed in the self-imposed task of making America strong in gymnastics for future Olympics.

"I'm trying to prepare teachers to go into the field so they can coach the right way," he said.

"To get better teams you must have sound basic coaching. You can't expect a beginner to go out and do well immediately. A coach must start by teaching him the

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Wilt(Who Else?) Grapplers Start New Era-- Still Leads In NBA Scoring

NEW YORK (AP) — Philadelphia's Wilt Chamberlain has broken two National Basketball Assn. records, and Gene Shue of Detroit is within striking distance of a scoring record for backcourt men.

With 1,369 points, Shue needs only 133 to break Bob Cousy's mark for guards. Shue has a 22.4 average for 61 games.

Statistics released show Chamberlain way out in front in the scoring race with 2,164 points and a 37.3 average.

He set season records for most points and rebounds last week. Through Sunday's games, Wilt had taken down 1,625 rebounds.

Jack Twyman of Cincinnati is second in scoring with 1,973 points for a 30.8 average, while Bob Pettit of St. Louis, whose scoring record Chamberlain eclipsed, is third with a 26.3 average on 1,552 points.

Double-Dips

Penn State's 1960 baseball team will play doubleheaders with Syracuse, Colgate, Pittsburgh, and Georgetown. The Syracuse and Colgate twin-bills will be played at University Park.

basic fundamentals and work him up."

When asked which American gymnasts have the best chance of winning individual titles, he replied without hesitation, Armando (Vega) definitely does. He's great but it will take an immense amount of training by him or anyone else if they want to beat the Europeans and especially the Russians."

At Penn State right now there are five gymnasts Wettstone thinks "have a very good chance" of making the Olympic team.

Vega and freshman Tommy Seward are two of them. Varsity performers Greg Weiss, Jay Werner and Lee Cunningham are the other three.

Horvath Seeks Scoring Title

MONTREAL (AP) — Bronco Horvath, seeking to become Boston's first National Hockey League scoring champion in 16 years, has taken a six-point lead over Montreal's Jean Beliveau in the 1959-60 race.

Weekly statistics show Horvath with 72 points, on 37 goals—tops in the circuit—and 35 assists. Beliveau, who has been sidelined by a groin injury the last five games, has 66 points on 32 goals and 34 assists.

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(continued from page six) have the winning formula for the Lions' return to national wrestling prominence.

The Lions' national championship squad in 1953 produced several individual titleholders. Hudson Samson won the national 191-pound crown. Richard Lemyre and Gerald Maurey were Eastern champs at 130 and 137, respectively.

This year's team is just the opposite. There is not one defending champ, either national or eastern. And there are no stars which outshine all the others. The key word describing this team is "balance"

Speidel has a top-flight grpppler in every weight class and every one is capable of going far in the post-season tourneys.

Just like Navy coach Ray Schwartz said after his team

lost a 25-8 verdict to the Lions. "They're tough all the way through, there just isn't a weak spot in the club."

Cornell captain Dave Auble was more superlative in his praise of the Lions. "They're definitely the best team in the country," said the NCAA 123-pound champ who has wrestled representatives of quite a few clubs.

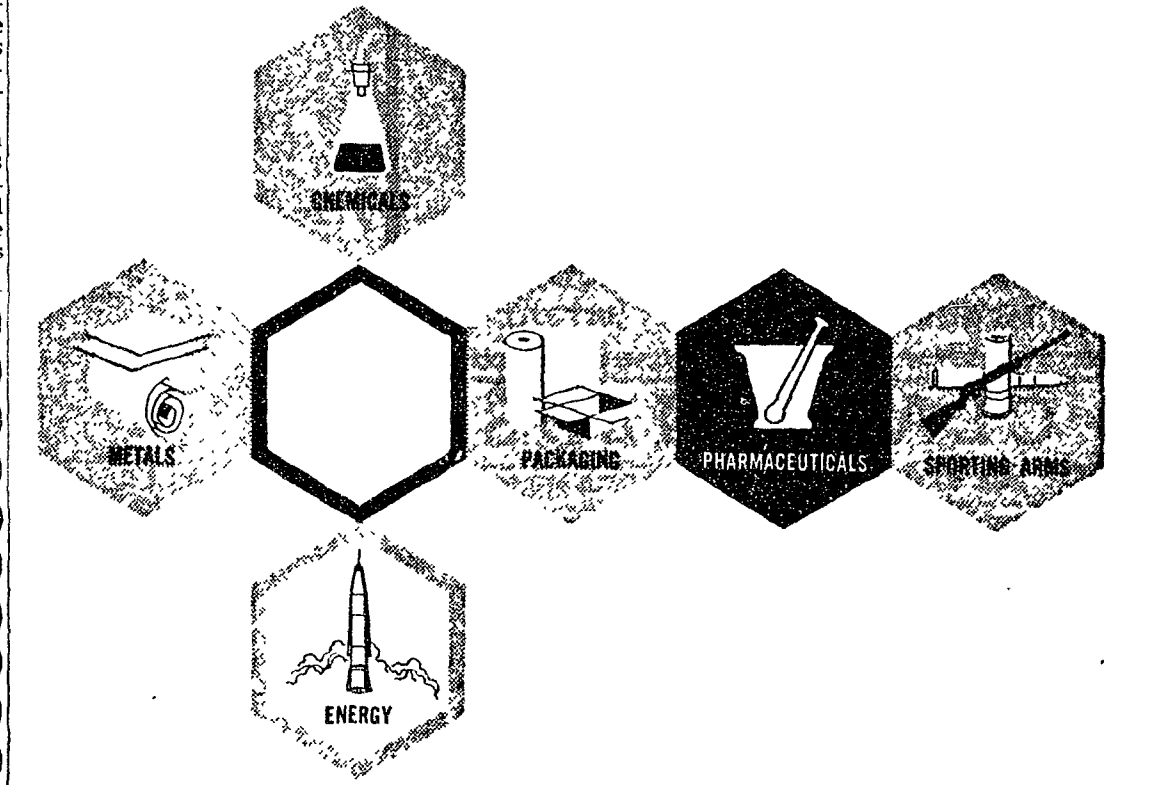
Speaking of tournaments, Cornell coach Jim Miller said, "They have a potential place winner in every class."

The Lion wrestlers are back in a familiar position again—riding the crest of the collegiate wrestling wave. And there are several possibilities at hand—an undefeated season, the start of another extended victory skein, the eastern title and maybe even another national crown.

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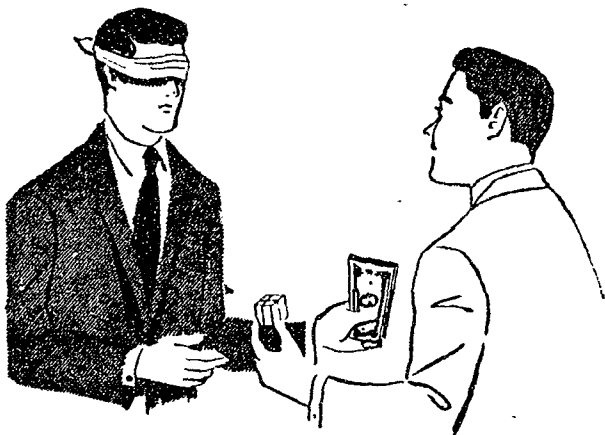
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