

# Pifer Loses; Finishes 2nd In NCAA Mat Tourney

# Hard Work Ahead For Lion Gridders

By JIM KARL

For a wrestler who was nearly out of a job two months ago, Iowa State's Larry Hayes did all right in the finals of the NCAA tournament at Corvallis, Ore., Saturday night.

Hayes, who was suspended by Cyclone Coach Harold Nichols in January for an indifferent attitude, won his third national championship by whipping Penn State's Ron Pifer.

The Iowa State grappler used a takedown, reversal and riding time to win the national title at 147.

Hayes, who sat out a 3-week suspension, won at the same weight last year and copped the 137-pound crown two years ago.

For Pifer, the shutout marked the end of a dazzling late-season comeback.

Lehigh's Kirk Pendleton, Michigan's Don Corriere and Pitt's John Zolikoff beat Pifer in dual meets but the Lion grappler clawed his way to the top of the East by copping the 147-pound EIWA crown at Bethlehem, Pa., March 11.

Then he battled past four grapplers in the national tourney before losing to the three-time champ from Iowa State.

Pifer scored a first period pin over Oregon's Lynne Mathews and rolled over Bowling Green's Jim Hoppel (9-1) and Dominic Fatta of Purdue (7-1) before edging Michigan's Jim Blaker, 5-4, in the semifinals.

Pifer was leading 3-2 in the last period over the Big 10 champ when Blaker scored a takedown to lead 4-3. But Pifer scored a reversal as time ran out to earn the right to meet Hayes in the finals.

"Hayes is as smart as whip wrestling wise," Lion Coach Charlie Speidel said yesterday. "But he's a clock watcher. You have



RON PIFER

to get a lead to make him work. Ron did all the work Saturday and Hayes got all the points."

Johnston Oberly, Penn State's entrant at heavyweig' t, finished fourth, one notch lower than his third place showing last year.

Oberly lost 2-1 to Northwestern's Rory Weber in Saturday afternoon's consolation finals after being knocked out of the running for the title by Oklahoma State's Ted Ellis.

Ellis, the heavyweight champ in 1959, broke up a 1-1 tie by pinning "The Big O" at 7:47 Friday night.

"Oberly was doing a great job on Ellis until the pin," Speidel said. "He threw him off the mat — had him on his back.

"But when Ellis got on top of Oberly, he couldn't even stay on his knees," he said. Ellis, who weighs 275 pounds, lost to Oklahoma's defending champ

Dale Lewis in the finals.

Dan Johnston, Penn State's other entry, was knocked out of the title competition by Oregon's Ron Finley Friday night after winning two matches.

He beat Ohio State's Paul Sen-go, 4-0, in a consolation match before losing 4-2 to Oklahoma's Bill Carter in the consolation semifinals.

Penn State finished seventh in team competition with 20 points. Oklahoma State won its 22nd team championship in the tourney's 31 year history by racking up 82 points. The Cowboys were followed by Oklahoma (63), Iowa State (29), Oregon State (28), Pitt and Lehigh (24), and Penn State.

- FINALS**  
 115—Simons, Lock Haven State, dec. Wilson, Toledo, 6-3.  
 123—Miller, Oklahoma, dec. Hatta, Oklahoma State, 6-5.  
 130—Lauchle, Pitt, dec. Jensen, Iowa Teachers, 7-0.  
 137—Young, Michigan State, dec. Finley, Oregon State, 4-2.  
 147—Hayes, Iowa State, dec. Pifer, Penn State, 5-0.  
 157—Kinyon, Oklahoma State, dec. Pendleton, Lehigh, 3-0.  
 167—Conway, Oregon State, dec. Campbell, Oklahoma State 7-4.  
 177—Johnson, Oklahoma State, dec. Baughman, Oklahoma, 9-5.  
 191—Lordino, Colorado State College, dec. Kohls, Colorado State University, 4-0.  
 Hwt.—Lewis, Oklahoma, dec. Ellis, Oklahoma State, 3-1.

## Panthers Open Drills

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The University of Pittsburgh football team opened spring practice yesterday, and Coach John Michelosen put the squad through a rough workout.

Within 30 minutes after the approximately 70 players had trotted onto the field, Michelosen had them hitting and blocking dummies and sleds. Linemen made some contact while running through blocking assignments.

"We're only allowed 20 days of spring practice," Michelosen said, "and we have to find out a lot of things in that time. We just can't waste any time because there is little enough of it when it isn't wasted."

Penn State will play night games against Miami (Florida) and Boston University next football season. Both will be away from home.

By SANDY PADWE

Spring brings hope to most people—Rip Engle excluded. About this time every year, the Ripper takes inventory and his figures indicate that graduation is ruining his business.

"We've got plenty of work to do," Engle said yesterday as he discussed spring football practice which opens April 5.

"There will be plenty of holes to fill. Look at how many boys we lose. Our three top ground gainers won't be back. We lose Stew Barber, Bill Popp and Wayne Berfield up front and we lose four ends."

Not even the return of Roger Kochman can make Engle happy. "I hope his knee holds up. You can never tell about those things," Engle said.

For a refresher, Kochman was a sophomore sensation two years back.

He carried the ball 15 times for 167 yards, ran a kickoff back 100 yards against Syracuse, and scored the touchdown that beat Alabama, 7-0, in the first Liberty Bowl game.

A knee injury sidelined him last year and now everyone is predicting great things from the Lions if Kochman can return to form.

If Kochman's knee is sound, the Lions should have quite a half-back corps with Don Jonas, Al



Pete Liske

Gursky, Bob Kline and Tony Wayne still around.

Varsity holdovers Junior Powell, Steve Popp and Chris Weber, a trio of speedsters, will get a long look and every opportunity to crash the first two units.

Frank Hershey and Ed Stuckrath, two highly-rated freshmen, also are in the running.

Sam Sobczak will graduate leaving veterans Dave Hayes, Buddy Torris, and freshman Tom Urbanik to battle for the fullback post.

If press clippings mean anything, the Lions should be well stocked at quarterback even though Dick Liske graduates.

In addition to Galen Hall, the number one signal caller last year, Engle has holdovers Pete Liske and Frank Sincek.

Then there's Don Caum, the high school All-American from Central Dauphin near Harrisburg; Gary Wydman, an all-stater from Corning, N.Y.; and Frank Potter, a standout for Ridley Township two years ago. All three played freshman ball last fall.

When it comes to freshman line prospects, yearling coach Earl Bruce would rather adopt "a wait and see attitude."

"Ralph Baker and Lou Shimoski appear to be good guard candidates with Don Jonas, Al

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## Nittany Netmen Bolstered By 5 Returning Lettermen

Penn State's tennis team, loaded with five lettermen, opens its season against Penn in Philadelphia April 5.

Experience has taught Coach Sherm Fogg to reserve all opinions on his charges until after the opener.

A year ago Fogg was singing the praises of his netmen but when June rolled around State had a disappointing 3-8 record.

This year Captain John Blanck and flashy junior Jim Baker head an impressive group of returning veteran netters.

Baker, who is slated for the number one position, started slowly as a sophomore last year but matured into a steady player later in the season.

Blanck, who compiled a 6-4 singles record last year, will follow Baker in the number two

spot in the Lion lineup.

Lettermen Garry Moore, Don McCartney, and Vance Rea also are back for another campaign.

The lone question mark in the lineup is the number five singles spot where McCartney and Bruce Derman are battling to gain the starting berth. Don Benner and Whit Grey, a promising sophomore, are also in contention for a starting spot.

After the Penn match, the Nittanies will have a 10-day break to prepare for their first home test against highly-regarded Georgetown University at the Jordan Courts April 15.

The remainder of the schedule finds Penn State at home against Pittsburgh, April 22; Navy, May 6; Colgate, May 10; Syracuse, May 13; and Cornell, May 23.

Penn State plays away at Maryland, April 19; Lehigh, April 29; Bucknell, May 5; West Virginia, May 16; and Army, May 20.

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