

State Rates EIWA Darkhorse

Nittany Valley Prepares For Arrival of Mat Fans

By DEAN BILLYCK

Wrestling fans are among the most avid of sports enthusiasts and beginning tomorrow afternoon Penn State will be the center of attraction for hundreds upon hundreds of these "grappling bugs." And the heavy blanket of snow that has covered the State College area won't stop them either.

Whether they come from New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maryland or Pennsylvania, the purpose will be the same. They will come to witness the 58th Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Tournament held Friday and Saturday in Rec Hall.

Capacity crowds of better than 6,000 are expected to sit-in on the four sessions of the tournament which will climax this year's competition in the EIWA, the nation's oldest collegiate wrestling league.

The wrestlers themselves will begin arriving tomorrow and their followers should hit town by evening.

LEHIGH, THE NATION'S number two team, and once-beaten Pitt will head the field of 16 schools that will compete for the title.

Lehigh won last year's tourney held at Bethlehem, Pa., while Pitt

Tickets for all four sessions of the EIWA tournament may be purchased at the Rec Hall ticket office, according to Steve Garban, assistant business manager of athletics.

All reserved seats for the finals are sold, but nearly 1,600 general admission tickets are available at \$2. Reserved and general admission tickets remain for the semifinals, quarterfinals and preliminaries. Reserved tickets for the semifinals Saturday afternoon are \$2, while the general admission tickets are \$1.50.

Reserved seats for the quarterfinals are \$1.50 and general admission tickets are \$1.25. The preliminary tickets are \$1.25 for reserved seats and \$1 for general admission.

finished second and Penn State third.

This year's show should be one of the strongest ever held. Two-thirds of last year's finalists are back, headed by four of the 1961 champions—Dick Martin of Pitt, State's Ron Pifer, and Kirk Pendleton and Jim Detrixhe of Lehigh.

THE PRELIMINARIES will start at 1 p.m. Friday and the quarterfinals will be held that night. Saturday noon the semifinals will start and Saturday evening beginning at 7:30 the championships will be decided.

Although Charlie Speidel-coached teams have a habit of producing top efforts in tournament competition, it'll take some doing for the Lions to win this time. State has had a so-so season, 6-3-1, losing close decisions to rugged Lehigh and Pitt, but beating teams like Navy, Rutgers, Maryland and Cornell.

THE LIONS HAVE been tabbed as the "darkhorse" in this year's tourney behind the Engineers and Panthers. State's chances of walking off with the team title depend on how well a trio of untested sophomores perform.

Leading the Lion assault will be 1961 Eastern champion and national runner-up at 147, Ron Pifer. State co-captain Phil Myer is being counted on heavily at 191, but Speidel's real chances for the upset win lie with Bob Haney at 130, George Edwards at 137 and Ed Pohland at heavy-weight. All are sophomores.

"I hate to say who is going to win because anything could happen, but I'd say we have a good chance," Speidel said in his office yesterday. "However, I'd have



TITLE HOPEFULS: Ron Pifer (L) and Phil Myer, State's wrestling co-captains, will carry a big part of the Lions' hopes into the EIWA tournament at Rec Hall this weekend. Pifer, last year's 147-pound champion, will be back to defend his crown and Myer will try for his first title at 191.

to consider Lehigh the team to beat followed by Pitt." Speidel is juggling his lineup in order to get higher placings at certain weight classes.

The lower two weights will remain the same, but from 130 things will be pretty much different. At 123 Denny Slattery will get a chance to prove his season's showing was just a bad dream.

Slattery was out the early part of the campaign with injured ribs

and only last week against Rutgers did the Lion junior pick up his first win.

LAST YEAR'S SLATTERY fought to a 6-4 record and got into the quarterfinals where he lost to Lehigh's Bill Merriam, 13-5.

Haney should be seeded first or second in the tournament and a good showing by this Lion speedster is a must for a State victory. Haney is 9-1, his loss

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IC4A Meet Expected To Produce Records

By DENNIS KNECHT

Penn State's thinclads will face some of the nation's best trackmen in the IC4A track and field meet at New York City's Madison Square Garden Saturday.

Frank Budd, Gary Gubner, John Thomas and Rolando Cruz are only a few of the stars who will be on hand.

In last year's meet, coach Chick Werner's Lions finished fourth with 18 points behind Yale with 30, Villanova with 29, and Manhattan with 20, but this season's team lacks a point-winner in the dash without sprinter Bob Brown, and is not likely to finish that high.

VILLANOVA IS RATED as the top contender for the 1962 crown. The Wildcats won the title three consecutive years — 1958-60 and lost by one point to Yale last year on a relay disqualification.

Villanova coach Jim Elliot predicted his team might accumulate 20 to 27 points, but predictions by other coaches give the Main Line powerhouse as much as 40 points.

Villanova rests its hopes on Frank Budd and Paul Drayton in the dashes, Leon Pras in the hurdles, Billy Joe in the shotput, Rolando Cruz in the pole vault, and strong entries in the mile and two-mile.

RECORDS ARE expected to fall right and left with a field of 51 colleges participating in the meet. The 60-yard dash, 60-yard high hurdles, mile and two-mile are some of the events that are expected to produce record times.

In the field events, shotputter Gary Gubner of New York University, holder of the world indoor record of 64'11 3/4", is almost certain to shatter the IC4A distance of 57 feet.

In the pole vault, Villanova's Rolando Cruz has cleared 15'4" for times this season and should shatter the old record of 15'2".

John Thomas of Boston University, who slowed down after his great season two years ago, has been steadily improving this year and may be able to break his own IC4A high jump record of 7' 1/2" that he set in 1960.

Aquanauts Win Third Straight

By ED CARPENTER

Freshman Tom Parsons led his undefeated Aquanaut teammates to a 37-3 trouncing of Berks in intramural swimming action last night at Glennland Pool.

This marks the third straight victory for the Aquanauts, making them one of the favorites to win the independent tournament.

Parsons took first places in the backstroke (38.2 seconds) and the breaststroke (38.0).

Coming in second in these two events were Aquanauts Gene Schofield in the backstroke and Jim Jenks in the breaststroke. In addition, the victors swept the first two places in the free style and diving and won the relay with a time of 1:07.3. Jenks won the free style while Ralph Ganetti took the diving honors.

IN OTHER MEETS, Montgomery defeated Nittany 43-44, 31-2, on a partial forfeit. Nittany 43-44 entered one swimmer in the free style and backstroke, and both took third in their events.

In fraternity competition Sigma Pi beat Phi Mu Delta, 30-10. First places by the victors were copped by Dieter Heinze, in the free style, Douglas Williams in the breaststroke, and Ben Buchanan in diving.

Sigma Pi's relay team, consisting of Heintze, Williams, Richard Splenda and Roy Rasmussen, also copped a first place with a time of 59.9.

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