

Penn State Tests W.Va.

Lions Eye Upset Victory For National Recognition

By DEAN BILLYCK
Sports Editor

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., Jan. 15 — The Penn State basketball team arrived here late tonight, hungry for national recognition and gunning for a big upset over ninth-ranked West Virginia.

The upstart Lions will be after their tenth win in 12 starts when they battle George King's Mountaineers tomorrow evening and will also be seeking their fifth consecutive victory, a feat the Nittanies haven't accomplished since 1955. And not since 1955 has a Lion team beaten West Virginia at Morgantown.

That year, the Nittanies, led by All-American Jesse Arnette, tripped the Mountaineers, 77-68, in overtime at Morgantown and then ripped them 84-58 in Rec Hall.

THE LAST STATE win over West Virginia was in 1957 in Rec Hall when the Lions over-powered a "poorer than average" Mountaineer team, 80-65.

Although West Virginia has beaten the Lions 10 straight times to take a 33-28 advantage in the series, many of the victories didn't come easy. In the 1960-61 season, the Mountaineers squeaked through, 80-78, and 71-68. In 1960 they romped to a 104-74 win at home but had to settle for a 75-73 decision in Rec Hall. In 1959 they won an 89-81 overtime battle and in 1958 won by 74-71.

While the Lions have rolled to a 9-2 chart, they have yet to play anyone of the caliber of West Virginia. The Mountaineers are 10-3 and have impressed enough people to crack the top 10 ratings.

Mountie wins have come over Citadel, 86-61; VMI, 100-74; Richmond, 78-59; Oregon State, 70-65; Boston College, 65-64 in overtime; St. Bonaventure, 94-82; VMI 86-74; Furman, 104-71; Davidson, 89-73, and George Washington, 100-97. Losses have been to Ohio State, 76-69; Kentucky, 79-75, and Illinois, 92-74.

LIKE STATE. West Virginia has won four straight, its last loss coming in the finals of the ECAC Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden against Illinois.

With All-America candidate Rod Thorn directing the Mountie attack, West Virginia has moved in its traditional talented fashion. The much publicized and highly pampered Thorn has ripped the nets for 283 points this season.

West Virginia coach King will also start Jim McCormick, Mike Wolfe, Gale Catlett and Tom Lowry.

Lion coach John Egli, who admits to being surprised at the showing of his club so far this year, will stick with the same

lineup that brought home two victories over the weeknd.

"I don't believe in making a change in the lineup when you're winning," Egli said before the Lions boarded the bus for the trip. "Why change a winning combination?"

THAT WINNING FIVE has been co-captain Earl Hoffman and sophomore Ron Avillion at forward, junior Bobby Donato and sophomore Bob Weiss at guard and junior Tom Malinchak at center.

Hoffman is the closest thing State has to matching the Mountaineers' Thorn. The 6-5 senior has tallied 218 points for a 19.8 average per game and has shot 48 per cent from the field.

Weiss is the Lions' second leading scorer, with 150 points, followed by Donato with 131 and Avillion with 88.

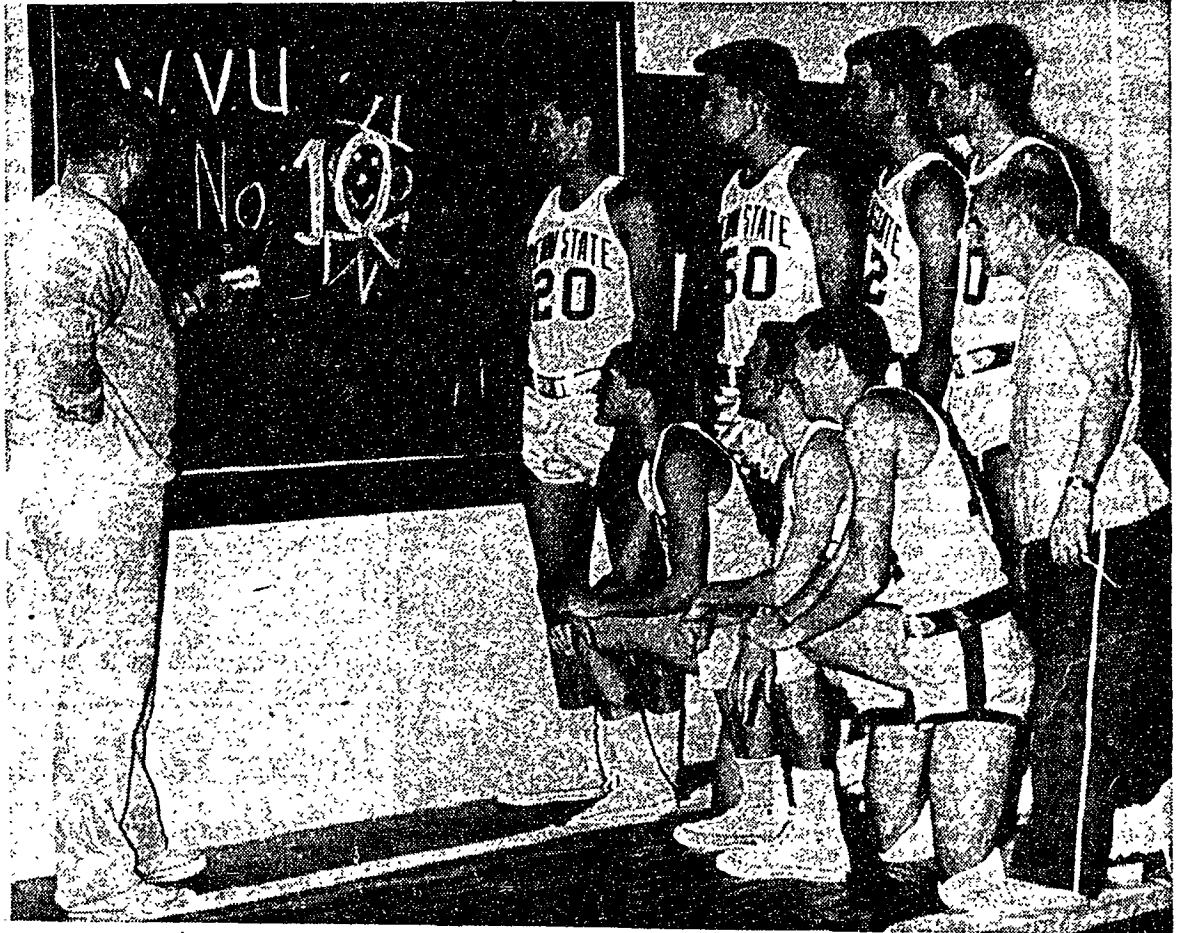
Although the Lion mentor wouldn't commit himself, he left the impression he felt State could pull an upset if everything was right.

"We'll have to play like we did against Temple, and really scramble for the ball," Egli said. State beat the Owls, 78-51, in its best performance to date.

"THE TEAM that controls the boards will probably win," Egli added. "That has been our big problem. Bucknell out-rebounded us and so did Colgate and Syracuse. But our shooting has been exceptional so far and that's what is keeping us in the games. Why, who would have thought we would have been 9-2 at this time? I sure didn't."

"West Virginia will be a lot taller than we will and their bench is very strong too," Egli added as a final word of warning.

Co-captain John Mitchell, who has missed most of the season due to a bad leg, will suit up for the game and is ready if Egli needs him. Also Terry Hoover, who has played the past five games with a broken finger, had the splint removed and is set to spell Malinchak at the center post.



HAPPY DAYS are here again for Penn State basketball teams. The Lions are off to their best start since 1954 with a 9-2 record and would like to get number 10 tonight against West Virginia at Morgantown. Head coach John Egli points to

a cartoon of the Mountaineers as his team looks on. From left to right, kneeling: Bob Donato, John Ludwig and Bob Weiss. Standing, co-captain Earl Hoffman, Tom Malinchak, Terry Hoover, Ron Avillion and coach Snowy Simpson.

Intramural News and Scores

The second annual handball and paddleball singles tournament will get underway Friday evening with eight matches, involving sixteen fraternities, scheduled in each of the first night's single-elimination tournament. The independent tournament is slated to start this Monday.

Following handball and paddleball will be swimming. The entries for this tournament are due by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. The competition is expected to begin the week of Jan. 28.

Handball doubles will round out the term for intramural sports. The play is set to start around Feb. 18.

Collier Sought by Browns
CLEVELAND (AP)—The Cleveland Browns are expected to name the second football coach in their history today and all signs point to Blanton Collier getting the job.

Basketball		
Lehigh	26 Franklin	19
Columbia	18 Elk	16
Centre	40 Blair	23
Bucks	32 Erie	22
Schuylkill	53 Montgomery	9
Lackawanna	34 Cambria	26
Nittany 33-34	28 Nittany 21-22	20
Nittany 35	38 Nittany 31-32	18
Nittany 36-37	21 Nittany 29-30	14

Bowling		
Independent League A		
Indiana	8 Luzerne	0
Erie	6 Tornadoes	2
Viceroys	4 Allegheny	4
Nittany 36-37	8 Coalcrackers	0
Cumberland	6 Head Pins	2
High Single Game—BILL REILLY, Coalcrackers, 256		
High Series—REILLY, 568		

Independent League B		
York	6 Chestnut	2
Lovers	6 Butternut	0
Poodles	3 Lebanon	0
Hi-Lo's	6 Owls	2
Balsam	6 Lawrence	2
High Single Game—JOHN FRIDA, Butternut, 224		
High Series—FRIDA, 566		

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