

Football Great 'Chokes'

Plum, Reis, Rubino Starred In Penn State IM Program

By STEVE FRANKLIN

(This is the second in a series of three articles on the Penn State intramural program.)

An intramural volleyball match can be the most grueling experience of mental anguish possible. Bob Hicks, co-captain of the 1947 Cotton Bowl team found that out when he actually had to leave a volleyball match because the pressure was too great for him.

At State this 'fever in the blood' is highly contagious and is witnessed by the whopping jump in IM participation. In football, the biggest of all sports, nearly 3,000 males take part.

EVEN IM DIRECTOR Dutch Sykes, who plans the schedules and tends a watchful eye upon all IM activity, is a Penn State graduate. Since 1960, when he took over for E. C. Bischoff, Dutch, along with a staff of three men, has annually scheduled an average of 500 basketball games, 150 paddleball matches, 50 swimming

contests, and the timetables for 14 other sports.

In the meantime Sykes' assistants Donny Watkins, Ben Amato and Bill Swan are always on hand to help see that the scheduled events go off without any flaws.

About 80 referees are hired yearly and their backgrounds have ranged from speech professors to physical education majors.

Unlike Income Tax everyone wants to get into the IM act. Even Milt Plum, a former Lion football great and star of the Detroit Lions of the NFL received a great thrill out of seeing his name in the IM basketball results.

LIKewise, JACK Reis, who was captain of the 1954 wrestling team missed most of his senior year of competition because of a broken wrist suffered in IM boxing. Reis was quite stubborn concerning IM boxing because he was one of few three-time champs.

There are many State All-American gridders who still have their IM horseshoe and handball trophies.

The theory that IMs are just fun is completely wrong. To many students, the IMs meant a way of making the varsity.

Chuck Rubino won an IM wrestling title in 1949 and the next year starred for the varsity. In fact he reached the finals in the Eastern, before losing.

THE TERM SYSTEM struck a mortal blow at IM boxing. Usually boxing would be held from the first of January until late February. However, the month-long vacation made training impossible.

An ardent follower of Intramural basketball will usually say that the teams that are tops are Phi Delta Theta, Delta Upsilon, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Phi Gamma Delta and Theta Chi. The real buff will tell you about such independent teams as the Chinese Bandits, Gailynns and the Owls. Even the casual observer has his favorites.

The best point about the IM program is that if you think you're good in a sport, there will always be a challenger and a game to prove it. Nothing better proves this than the fact that of all games scheduled for last term, 91.1 per cent were held.

Cincinnati Tops Cage Poll

The Cincinnati Bearcats continued to be a unanimous choice for first place in The Associated Press college basketball poll yesterday while Duke, West Virginia and Mississippi State moved up in the latest ratings.

THE BEARCATS pushed their record to 14-0 by defeating the Bradley Braves for their 32nd consecutive victory over two seasons. The triumph prompted the AP's 45-man panel of sports writers and sportscasters to put the Bearcats on top for the eighth straight week. Cincinnati has been a unanimous first place selection the past four weeks.

Meanwhile, Duke, idle last week climbed one notch to fourth. West Virginia advanced three places to sixth and Mississippi State, an

also-ran last week, grabbed the No. 9 spot.

WEST VIRGINIA downed Penn State and Virginia Tech and ran its record to 12-3.

The top ten, based on total points allotting 10 for a first place team, 9 for second, 8 for third and down to 1 for 10th place, with first place votes in parentheses and won-lost records through games of Saturday:

1. Cincinnati (45)	14 0 450
2. Chicago Loyola	16 0 379
3. Illinois	12 1 358
4. Duke	12 2 282
5. Arizona State	15 2 155
6. WEST VIRGINIA	12 3 120
7. Georgia Tech	12 1 115
8. Wichita	12 4 107
9. Mississippi State	12 3 95
10. Stanford	12 3 87

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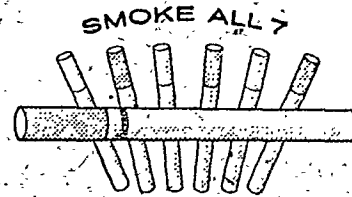
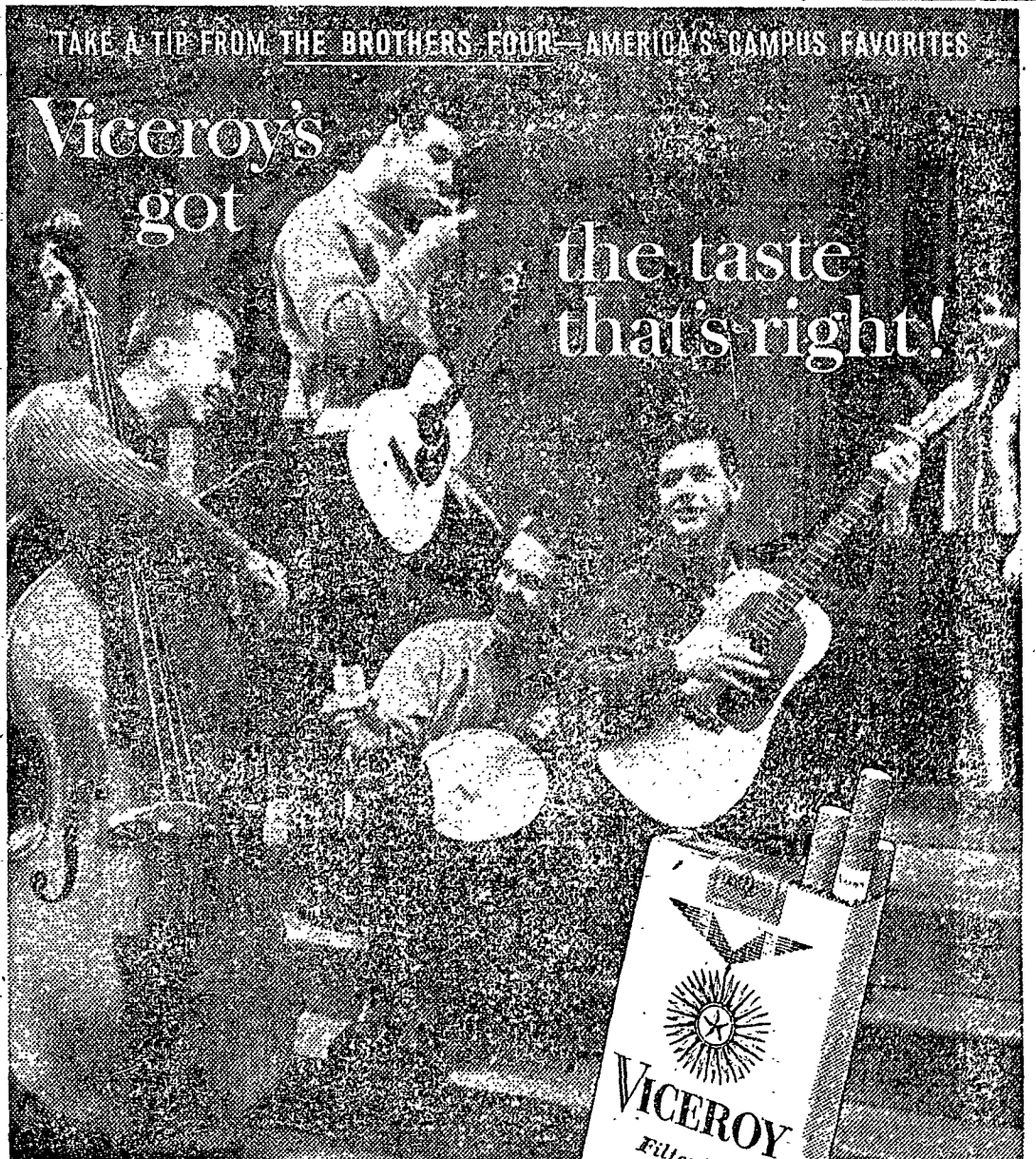
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