Pitt Cagers Host Lions Tomorrow

By ALEX WARD
Collegian Sports Editor

With his team sporting a 16-4 record and an invitation to the NIT tournament, you'd think Penn State basketball coach John Egli would be quite pleased with the way things have been going of late. But he isn't.

Egli's Lions played uninspired ball at Bucknell Wednesday night and were fortunate to get out of Lewisburg with a 66-57 win. With his team scheduled to go against an up-and-down Pitt team in Pittsburgh at 2 p.m. tomorrow, Egli's been having some uneasy moments.

"We didn't play smart basketball at all against Bucknell," he said yesterday. "Our boys just wanted to argue and it almost cost them the game." The Lion coach was talking about the three technical fouls which were called on his team. Jim Reed, Gerry Roseboro and Leon Mickens were called for technicals in the first few furious minutes of the second half against the Bisons.

"I'll admit the refereeing wasn't real good," said Egli, giving the officials an undeserved compliment, "but we played right into Bucknell's hands by getting all riled up. Their fans were jumping on us and we just lost our heads. That's not the way to play basketball."

Situation Similar Tomorrow

What worries Egli the most is that the situation tomorrow is likely to be very similar to the one Wednesday night. "Pitt will be up for us," said the Lion coach. "And they'll probably have their fans out in full force. We just can't play like we did the other night and expect to win."

The Panthers record of 5-16 hardly seems to bear out Egli's comments, but the Lion coach knows what he's talking about. Pitt came into Rec Hall a month ago with a 4-8 record and gave State the scare of its life. The Panthers employed a control type of game and hung on until the final minutes before losing, 66-62.

That game was in Rec Hall where the Lions normally make mincemeat of the toughest foes. Tomorrow's game is in the Pitt Field House and you can bet that the Panthers will be just as tough, if not tougher.

"Pitt lost at Westminster by a big score Wednesday," said Egli, "and I'm afraid that will just make them nastier to us."

The Panthers did indeed lose their 16th game to Westminster, a team they'd beaten before, by a horrendous, 102-76 score but coach Bob Timmons' team is capable of playing much better basketball than that. With a hot-shooting forward in 6-5 Bob Lovett and a rugged big man in 6-6 Jim LaValley, Pitt can make trouble for anyone. Lovett, the Panthers' top scorer with a 14 point average, led all scorers with 21 points when his team faced the Lions earlier and LaValley contributed another 15.

Same Strategy Likely

Playing in the confines of his own field house tomorrow, Timmons will probably use the same strategy he did in Rec Hall. Pitt doesn't appear to have the size or speed to run with State and after the first meeting of the two teams the Panther coach said his team played its best and most cohesive game of the season using the cautious style of play. "It was definitely our best game of the year," he said. "We stuck together well as a unit for the entire game. And that's the only time we've done that the whole season." That seems to be the story of this series. Pitt always manages its best effort against the Lions.

It'll probably be the same old story tomorrow.

NITTANY NOTES: The Lions hold a 37-49 advantage in the series between the two teams, which began back in 1906 . . . Jeff Persson, State's sophomore guard who came off the bench to lead the Lions over Bucknell, skipped practice because of illness yesterday but is expected to be ready for tomorrow's game . . . The Lions will try to make it 27 in a row in Rec Hall Monday night when they entertain NCAA-bound Syracuse.

Matmen Face Panthers

By PAT CUNNINGHAM
Collegian Sports Writer

A victory tomorrow night over Pittsburgh is a must for the Nittany Lions' wrestling team. To remain in contention for the Eastern crown the Lions must do two things—they must beat their remaining opponents, Pitt and Rutgers, and they must finish first at the EIWA's March 11-12.

Pitt, on the other hand, has nothing to lose this weekend. The Panther team now has a 2-6 record and another loss will not eliminate them from any championship.

If a won-loss record was all that counted in wrestling, State, with its 5-2 record, should beat the Panthers. Unfortunately this is not the case.

Certainly the word upset is always in the mind of a coach with a winning team. Lion coach Bill Koll, being a winning coach, is not taking any team for granted this year. "Pitt is a real good team, "he said. "The team had a little trouble getting started this year, but they moved all their wrestlers down a weight so now they are tough."

Nearly Beat Lehigh

Koll may not just be talking to build up Pitt's confidence. Lehigh, a team that beat State 21-12, just barely won over the Panthers. An injury to Pitt's best wrestler and a forfeit was all that kept Pitt from winning.

Koll received a scouting report from the Lehigh coach after their narrow victory over Pitt. According to Koll, his advice was not to take Pitt lightly.

State is not taking Pitt lightly. They are practicing like they were meeting the top-ranked team in the U.S. Practice has been especially rough for the Lion wrestlers this week and they should be in top shape for this match.

For the match Koll will make a change at heavyweight. Larry Kuhns will not be starting this week because of a severe muscle bruise received in the Navy match last week. In his place will be Jim Emanuel, a junior who will be wrestling his first varsity match.

The rest of the lineup will remain the same with sophomore Wally Clark (4-2-1) at 123. At 130 sophomore Tom Hostetter will be trying to improve on his (4-2) record.

Completing the sophomore trio, Vince Fitz will get the starting position at 137. In talking of the match against Navy, the Lion coach praised Fitz for his good showing against Wayne Hicks. Hicks placed second in the Easterns and nationals last year.

Another wrestler who worked well against Navy is Joe Eremus. It was Eremus that started the Lions off with a win. The junior wrestler is now (2-1-1) for the season.

Senior Dick DeWalt will be wrestling for the Lions at 152. DeWalt's season record is now 4-1-1. He has been improving with every match and is a possible Eastern champion, according to assistant wrestling coach George Edwards.

Seaman Eastern Champ?

Another wrestler with a good chance of winning an Eastern championship is 160-pound Jerry Seaman. The Lion junior's record is 7-0.

Two more sophomores fill the next two weights. At 167 will be Matt Kline. His season record is now 4-3.

Following Kline will be Rich Lorenzo at 177. Lorenzo was the wrestler that put the Lions ahead in last week's match when he pinned his opponent, Greg Marshall.

Co-captain Ellery Seitz will be starting at 191. Seitz will enter the match with a 3-2-2 record.

Koll contends his wrestlers are ready to redeem themselves for their 20-14 loss to Navy.

"If anything we will be more up for this match than the one last week," Koll said. "Our boys will be trying to prove that last week was just an off-night."

Koll's wrestlers just may need all the extra they can put out. Pitt is not an athletic power in the East this year, so they have nothing to lose except the satisfaction of beating Penn State.

NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS
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Lion Riflemen Host NCAA Champions

By BILL KANENGISER
Collegian Sports Writer

The Penn State rifle team faces its stiffest challenge tomorrow, when the NCAA champion West Virginia Mountaineers visit Rec Hall. Due to a schedule change the match will be a triangular meet, with the third team being Loyola of Baltimore.

The Nittany shooters came into the match with a 2-3 mark and will close out the campaign next Saturday when they host the Wildcats of Villanova.

West Virginia comprises one-third of the "big three" of the rifle circuit in the East (the other two squads being Army and Navy) and has not been beaten this year. The Mountaineers own victories over both the service academies, while Penn State lost a squeaker to Army and was thrashed by the Middies.

Lions Not Improving

Lion captain Gary Dunning, summing up what may be a long afternoon for the State marksmen, said, "West Virginia hasn't gotten any worse and we haven't gotten any better."

If State can't trip up the champs tomorrow, they can at least come away with a split if they beat the Loyola squad.

Penn State coach John Smith described Loyola as "being about even with us." If the Nittanies top Loyola, it will be the marksmen's first home victory.

But if Penn State's chances against Loyola look good, its chances against the Mountaineers are dismal. WVU coach Francis Orchard brings an experienced team into Rec Hall that includes two first team All-Americans, captain Jack Writer and Dean Bahrman.

All-American Bahrman

Dunning, who has shot against Bahrman in the NCAA title matches, calls him "a real good man."

He will get you a 290 (300 tops) on the conventional targets anytime," Dunning added.

Last year's Mountaineer team rewrote the West Virginia rifle record book. The NCAA champs also sport young ladies on their roster, junior Donna Leggett and sophomore Trish Kinsella.

Penn State has never beaten West Virginia, with the Morgantown squad enjoying a fat 10-0 advantage in a series that began in 1952-1953.

Last year the Lions made a good showing down in Morgantown before bowing to the Mountaineers, 1442-1418. Tomorrow's match will be the last regular season contest for the Mountaineers before they start tournament play.

Lost to Army, Navy

Penn State comes into the meeting with triumphs over Cornell and Lehigh and losses to Carnegie Tech, the Middies and the Cadets. A split, coupled with a victory over Villanova the next weekend would give Smith's sharpshooters a respectable 4-4 record for the season, not bad considering that State has shot against some of the stronger teams around.

For tomorrow, the Lions had better believe the words of WVU coach Orchard.

"Look out! West Virginia is loaded."

JERRY LUH ANDY HOLOUBEK
DEAN BAHRMAN JACK WRITER

. . . Mountaineer All-American marksmen

Soccer Meeting

There will be a meeting for all soccer candidates in Room 268, Recreation Building, Tuesday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m.

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Klima Alters Lineup For Weekend Twin Bill

The Penn State fencing team (1-2) will leave this morning for Baltimore where it will take on Johns Hopkins at 8 p.m. today. After engaging Johns Hopkins, the Lions will travel down to Annapolis to meet Navy at 2 p.m. tomorrow.

Lion coach Dick Klima has changed his lineup slightly for these matches. Sophomore Jim Gould will replace Ron Rennert as third man on the foil team, which suffered through a 9-0 disaster last week in an 18-9 loss to City College of New York.

The meet with Johns Hopkins tonight could be very close, according to Klima, but the meet with Navy might end in a runaway.

Coach Klima claims that, "though the meet with Hopkins should be close, we'll probably win."

Navy is another story, however. The coach maintains that "Navy is the toughest team on our schedule. They're rated among the top three in the nation every year. This year they're extremely strong."

The lineup State will send out on their two-day road swing will consist of Guy Robert, Jeff Young and Bill Reed on the sabre team, captain Bo Franko, Rich Noth and Gould on the foil, and Joel Goza, Lance Burkholder and Jim Jensen on the epee.

Coeds Record 2nd Victory, Sink Susquehanna, 55-24

The women's extramural basketball team won its second straight game of the season Tuesday night by easily defeating Susquehanna University, 55-24.

Double figure scorers for Penn State were Helen McMillen with 13 points and Barb DeWitt with 10. Joyce Esterline scored eight, Sally Smith had six, Marlys Palmer and Mary Ann Charlensen had five each, and Marion Homer and Jean McCullough had two each.

High in rebounding were Cathie Strine and Mary Ann Charlensen, bringing down six rebounds apiece.

The coeds, now 2-1, will play two more games. The next one will be at Lock Haven. Last game will be on March 8 in White Hall against Gettysburg.

3 University Students In Ping Pong Tourney

Three members of the Penn State Table Tennis Club, Mark McCain, Robert Gellner and Paul Zumoff, will represent the University tomorrow at the Eastern Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Table Tennis Championships.

The tournament will begin at noon in the gym of East Stroudsburg State College.

Golf Team Meeting

Penn State golf coach Joe Boyle has announced that there will be a meeting for all varsity golf team candidates (no freshman candidates at this time) in the University golf shop at 5 p.m. Monday.

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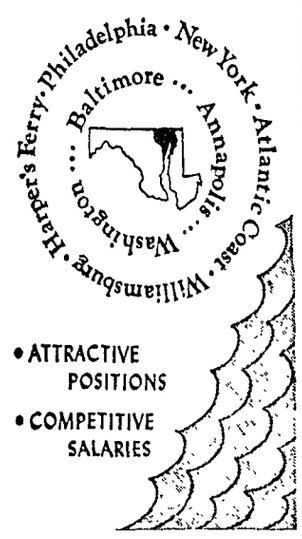

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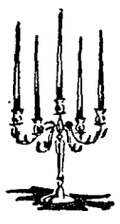

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