

DICK SWETMAN . . . Sophomore Gymnast

Pennsylvania Will Recognize Title Tilt

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - The Pennsylvania state athletic commission yesterday reaffirmed its support of the World Boxing Association's heavyweight championship

The three-man commission met to decided whether to break away from the WBA tournament and recognize the winner of the scheduled March fight in Madison Square Garden between Joe Frazier of Philadelphia and Buster Mathis of New York as heavyweight champion.

Already Recognized

The New York and Massachusetts state boxing commissions have recognized the winner of the Frazier-Mathis 15-rounder the first week in March as the successor to Cassius Clay as heavyweight champion.

The Pennsylvania commission said in a statement that it is "... a member of the WBA and joined it in good faith. We are dedicated to the principle for the good of boxing that there must be some orderly worldwide program for the ranking of boxers and for the conduct of gram for the ranking of boxers and for the conduct of tournaments to fill vacancies. With this overriding principle in mind, we must adhere to our obligations to sup-

port the WBA sanctioned tournament."

Frank Wildman, commission chairman, added, however, that it was the private opinion of the Pennsylvania commission that Frazier was the outstanding boxer in the heavyweight division and no heavyweight crown should rest on any head without Frazier having been afforded a

chance to prove his claim to the title.

The commission said it would not recognize the winner of the Frazier-Mathis fight as champion. The 23-year-old Frazier, unbeaten in 19 pro fights, refused an invitation to the WBA tournament, choosing to campaign in-

Mathis, undefeated in 23 professional fights, wasn't invited.

Frazier Dropped

Because of Frazier's refusal to participate in the tournament, the WBA dropped Frazier from a No. 2 ranking to No. 9 in their heavyweight rankings. Frazier, however, has been boosted to No. 7 in the latest WBA rankings. The Philadelphian is ranked No. 1 challenger by Ring

Clay was stripped of his title by both the WBA and New York Commission when he refused military service.

The WBA tournament is in its final stages with Jimmy

Ellis already a finalist, waiting to meet the winner of the Feb. 3 semifinal in Oakland, Calif., between Thad Spencer of San Francisco and Jerry Quarry of Bellflower,

"The New York boxing doubleheader also features middleweight champion Emile Griffith defending his title against Italy's Nino Benvenuti.

Mantle Hopes For At Least 3 M

NEW YORK (AP) - Love that first base, says Mickey Mantle who believes he can go another three or four years at \$100,000 per as a player.
"I like playing first," the 36-year-old Mantle said

Tuesday.

"It's a lot easier than playing center field and a lot easier on my legs. I doubt if I could have continued in the outfield. It was just too hard on my legs."

The veteran Yankee, who made the big switch from center field to first base last season, looked several years younger than his age and seemed to be in tip-top shape

Feels OK "I only weigh about 195 pounds-about five over my playing weight right now—and I feel real good. Nothing bothers me at the moment and I'm actually looking for-

ward to next season," said Mantle.

He was in town with Willie Mays, Bob Feller and Jackie Robinson for a press luncheon for athletes participating in the \$30,000 American Airlines Astro-jet Golf Classic Feb. 16-18 at LaCosta Country Club near San Diego. The field for the 54-hole tournament will include many

of the leading pro football and baseball players.

Mantle played in 131 games at first last year and appeared in 144 games in all, more for him than any other season since 1961.

He hit only .245 but belted 22 homers and had 55 in the latter in

Lions Face Springfield

Gym Opener Saturday

By DAVID NEVINS Collegian Sports Writer

Probably the greatest task Penn State gymnastics coach Gene Wett-State gymnastics coach Gene Wett-stone faces this season is convincing Lion fans that the loss of Steve Cohen will not result in a catastrophy. On the contrary, even without the two-time all-around NCAA champion, the 1968 Lions could possibly be one of the strongest teams in Penn State history.

Depth is the word heard most often in discussing the prospects of this coming season. Although Cohen was surely one of the greatest Penn State gymnasts of all time, there remains a host of talented sophomores and juniors who will more than take up the

"We definitely have one of the strongest teams Penn State has had in a long time because the great number of capable men available in every event," said Wettstone. "The only event that is at all questionable is the trampoline, a traditional weak point for us."

Sophomore Swetman

The most outstanding of the sophore gymnasts is all-around peronione gymnasts is an-around performer Dick Swetman. Swetman should exhibit a style that Nittany Lion fans are not quite used to. While many American gymnasts attack their routines and rely on strength moves considerably, Swetman is a smooth and thuthmic performer more in the rhythmic performer, more in the European tradition.

"If Swetman gains a little more

strength to combine with his gracefulness, he will become a truly great gymrast" said Wettstone.

A WINNER of 27 various Finnish Championships, Olli

Laiho is one of the seven Scandinavian gymnasts who

compete against Penn State's squad in Rec Hall Friday night. Laiho, a University of Helsinki student was a mem-

Swetman receives his biggest accolades on the parallel bars. In this event he has developed a completely original routine which exhibits a high degree of risk.

gree of risk.

Fighting it out with Swetman for State's all-around honors will be juniors Bob Emery and Joe Litow. Emery proved himself to be an outstanding performer in his first season last year, finishing second in the Eastern all-around championship behind national

champ Cohen.
Emery injured a knee last summer in the Pan-American games, and it is still not known if he has recovered fully. Only after a couple of meets will the Lions know if Emery will be handicapped due to the injury.

The third possible all-around performer, Joe Litow, is far and away the most improved athlete on the squad, according to Wettstone.

"I told people last season that Joe would reach his peak as a senior," said the Lion coach. "Based on his improvement this past year, this might very well be the case."

Every Event Strong

Every Event Strong

The Lions are so strong in every event that it is difficult to single out a particular strong point. In the free exercise, for example, there are no less than seven men who are competing for a berth in the Springfield meet. Less familar names among State fans such as Ed Bayuk, Tom Clark, and Jim Corrigan all could be excellent free exercise men. exercise men,

Junior Jack Loughran has improved tremendously in this event and being counted on to lead the Lion free exercise men.

One man who will certainly the heard from is ring specialist Paul Vexler. A junior from Freehold, New Jersey, Vexler seems ticketed for national recognition. Vexler is expected to thrill Lion fans with his dynamic and seem-ingly mechanical routine which looks deceptively easy. Larry Warner also returns to bolster the ring squad. State's captain, senior Don Spiker,

who will compete in the long horse and

who will compete in the long horse and parallel bars, cites individuality as the Lions greatest asset.

"While some teams might have every man doing the same mount or dismount from the parallel bars, for example, each man on our team will try to have a mount that is uniquely his own," Spiker said.

Originality Tops

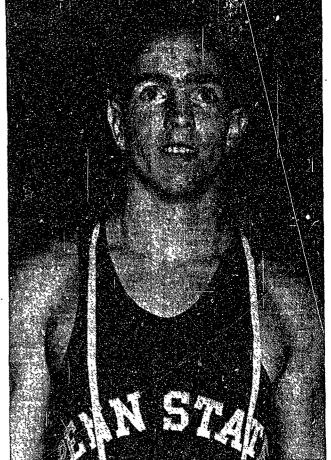
Wettstone collaborates with the sentiment of Spiker. The veteran Lion mentor places great emphasis upon the fact that his gymnasts will not be per-

fact that his gymnasts will not be per-forming standard rehashed routines that have little imagination, risk, or attempt to adapt his own physical attributes and peculiarities into a routine that will be strictly his own.

Junior John Kindon affords an ex-cellent example of Wettstone's philoso-phy. Kindon, almost six feet tall, would be foolish to try to perform the same routine as a smaller man. Rather, Kindon, is continuously trying to develop routines that will be better suited

for a taller man.

Penn State's strongest competition
this season probably will not be the perennial Eastern powerhouse Spring-field. The Maroons, who invade Rec Hall Saturday for an 8 p.m. meet, have lost to Temple earlier this season.



DON SPIKER . . . Lion gymnastics captain

Biggest Sports Weekend For Nittany Lion Teams

Three Penn State varsity teams—including one which hasn't competed for 17 years—will open their seasons Saturday to highlight the biggest sports weekend on the winter schedule.

The Nittany Lion gymnastics, swimming and fencing squads will open on Saturday In addition countries.

ing squads will open on Saturday. In addition, coach Bill Koll's wrestlers will return to action for the first time since their opening-night loss to Oklahoma Dec. 16.

The swimming team, which resumes competition for the first time since the sport was discontinued in 1951, will officially initiate Penn State's new "Nata-

torium" aquatic building at 2 p.m. Saturday against Temple. It'll be the first of a nine-meet schedule for Coach Lou MacNeill's squad.

Gene Wettstone will begin his 30th season as gym nastics coach when his squad takes on Springfield at 2 p.m. Saturday, the same time as coach Dick Klima's

fencers open their campaign against Temple.

The big weekend will get under way Friday night when Rec Hall will be the scene of another of Wettstone's international gymnastics extravaganzas—an intercollegiate meet between Penn State and a squad Scandinavian all-stars.

The Nittany Lion basketball team, after a Wednesday night home engagement against Gettysburg, will play at Pitt Saturday afternoon.

Gym Meet Tickets Available

About 500 tickets remain for Friday night's international gymnastics meet in Rec Hall. Ticket sales resume this morning in 236 Rec Hall with all seats priced at \$2.25. The meet, which pits a Scan-dinavian all-star team against a squad of past and present Penn State gymnasts gets underway Friday at 7:30 p.m. Both teams will be feted at

a special sports luncheon to-morrow at 11:50 a.m. at the Nittany Lion Inn. The luncheon kicks off the gala week-end of gymnastics competition which also finds the Lion varsity squad opening its season Saturday night in Rec

Members of both the Scan-dinavian and Penn State teams as well as their coaches will be guests at the luncheon. A special guest will be Frank Barc, director of the United States Gymnastics Federation. The luncheon is open to the public and the price is \$1.50. For reservations, call 865-6588 before

IM Basketball

Men's Intramural Basketball team captains are to check their basketball schedules, so that they are aware when their games are scheduled this term.

DAILY COLLEGIAN CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE 10:30 A.M. Day Before Publication

Lombardi Praises the Raiders

today in 236 Rec Hall.

ber of the 1962 and 1966 World Games teams and a member

of Finland's Olympic team in 1964. About 1,000 seats remain

for the international match as ticket sales resume at 8 a.m.

ger

Packers Play It Cool

ers is not to come up with any at Los Angeles, some Kansas intemperate statements that City Chiefs made bold, even dis-

might rile the other guys in the Super Bowl football game. Coach Vince Lombardi of the Packers, National Football League champs, praised the Raiders Tuesday as a team "excellent speed, linebackers, small but very quick linemen and very fast

defensive backs.' Coach Johnny Rauch of the Raiders, American Football

In the first Super Bowl game paraging remarks about the Packers and are still eating the

the Chiefs 35-10. Rauch had nothing but praise for the Packers.

"They don't have a weak pot," he said. "There's no doubt there's a certain mystique about them—the result of their winning record, their

their winning record, their

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"The Creditors"

Feb. 10th — George Bernard Shaw's

Feb. 17th—August Strindberg's

Feb. 24th — Moliere's farce,

Mar. 2nd. — Harold Pinter's

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — The strategy of both the Green Bay Packers and the Oakland Raid- In the first Super Bowl game bother us." Lombardi said the Raiders could match the Packers in defensive speed.

"If there is one difference between the defensive teams said, "it's that the Green Bay line backers are a little big-

WRA Activities To Begin

Orchesis, the Women's Recreation Association dance club, will hold tryouts at 7:30 tonight in the White Hall dance studio. All graduate and undergraduate men and women are invited to attend.

will sponsor a volleyball officiating clinic for men and women interested in working with the coeducational volleyball tournament this term. The clinic will be at 7 p.m. in the White Hall gym.

The WRA Officials Club will hold its first meeting of the term at 6 tonight in the White Hall gym. All women the term will be with the term of the term will be with the term will be leyball or basketball are encouraged to attend.

Next Wednesday

volleyball tournament may sign up with their floor or sorority representatives.

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