

Between The Lions

With PAT NAGELBERG

Farewell To Pico

To Roman Pico, who would win any poll for the most courageous athlete at Penn State, this department extends the heartiest congratulations on achieving a life-time ambition.

The great little gymnast is leaving this campus in June after winning a host of friends and admirers with his conduct on and off the gym floor for two years, and in the future will try to impart his knowledge at the University of Maryland where he will serve as head coach of the varsity gym team.

And so ends another chapter in the history of a real champion, but the book is by no means completed because its hero is still on his way up. The story of Roman Pico is known to most of State sport fans, but it can always bear repetition.

It's the tale of a young boy, his legs withered by infantile paralysis, who fought a victorious battle against nature and developed the rest of his body to such an extent that he won the national rope climbing championship when a sophomore in Bristol High School.

After spending two years at Lock Haven and East Stroudsburg Teachers Colleges, "Flit" came to Penn State. His bicycle replaced the crutches and the stocky Italian became a familiar figure as he rode to classes, always greeting everyone with a hearty hello.

He couldn't compete on the Lion varsity in his first year here because of the transfer rule but he helped Gene Wettstone out in innumerable instances and took time out to win his third national title.

This year "Flit" was handicapped by a sprained wrist but ran away with the high scoring honors in the Eastern Intercollegiate League and climaxed the season by winning his fourth national A. A. U. rope climbing crown two weeks ago.

He has always hoped to coach his own championship team and we, for one, predict success for the young mentor. Penn State's loss is Maryland's gain. Good luck, "Flit," your unflinching courage will prove an inspiration for others in years to come.

Batchelor Faces Gerecter For IM Badminton Title

Badminton

John Gerecter, Beta Sigma Rho, fraternity champion of intramural badminton, will meet Bob Batchelor, independent champion, for the All-College Badminton Championship Thursday, according to manager Bob Batchelor. Summaries:

Quarter-finals: Al Roque, Alpha Zeta, defeated Jack Qualey, Phi Delt, 15-7, 15-3; Chuck Baldi, DU, defeated Art Thorman, Delta Chi, 12-15, 15-8, 15-7; Bill Foucart, DU, defeated Sandy Carlton, SRE, forfeit; and Gerecter defeated Dick Allen, Phi Delt, 15-12, 15-7.

Semi-finals: Roque defeated Baldi, 15-8, 15-5; Gerecter defeated Foucart, 15-8, 15-6.

Finals: Gerecter defeated Roque, 15-8, 15-4.

Independent

Quarter-finals: Morry Stern forfeited to Izz Krause; Batchelor defeated Tom Reissman, 15-4, 15-2; Ken Weimer defeated Jack Rischeberger, forfeit; Harold Faylor defeated Niles Keesler, 15-11, 1-15, 15-11.

Semi-finals: Batchelor defeated Krause, 15-0, 15-2; Weimer defeated Faylor, 15-14, 14-15, 15-11.

Finals: Batchelor defeated Weimer, 15-4, 15-2.

Soccer

Intramural soccer finals in both fraternity and independent leagues will be run off tomorrow afternoon, according to manager Bob Beardsley, with Alpha Chi Sigma meeting Alpha Zeta and Forestry Society meeting Mares. Summaries:

Fraternity semi-finals: Alpha Chi Sigma defeated Delta Upsilon, 3-2, yesterday.

Track

Final stands and points of fraternity teams in Saturday's intramural track meet, according to manager Frank Wallace, are: DU—36, Phi Delt—22½, Phi Kappa Sigma—18, Sigma Nu—18, Delta Sigma Phi—16, Sigma Chi—14, AGR—13, Alpha Chi Sig—12, DTD—11, Kappa Sig—8, Delta Chi—5½, KDR—5½, Phi Gam Delta—4, Alpha Zeta—3, SAE—2½, and PiKA—2.

In 1937, the Penn State 3200 meter relay team justified Coach Werner's predictions by winning the Indoor I.C.A.A.A. event.



HEAD COACH of the varsity gym team at the University of Maryland will be the position held next year by Roman Pico, above. The plucky gymnast who has won four national rope climbing championships will leave the campus in June.

Freshman Nine Faces Mont Alto

With three victories to their credit already this season, Coach Leo Houck's frosh diamondmen go out after a fourth against the boys from Mont Alto on Beaver Field at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Last year the campus freshman nine found their first year forestry brothers a hard aggregation to down and it took a ninth inning rally to win the game for the Houckmen. Today's game should be closely contested as the Mont Alto tossers annually turn out with a fairly good team.

Along with triumphs over Kiski Prep, Cornell, and the Bucknell frosh, Penn State's yearling nine has been stopped by Mercersburg Academy and the little Red Raiders from Syracuse for a record of three wins, two losses.

Houck has picked righthander Ted Cauffman to start on the mound, with twirler Bob Vail on deck for relief duty if the frosh foresters get out of hand.

All other Nittany starters will be the same as the team that faced Bucknell last Saturday. During the game Max Green, John Shaffer, and Fred Krug will probably get into action in the outfield.

The starting line-up:
Lucas, 2b.
Sebastianelli, ss.
Burford, cf.
Sidler, 3b.
McFarland, 1b.
Potskian, lf.
Piontek, rf.
Martella, c.
Cauffman, p.

Lion Netmen Shut Out Susquehanna Squad, 9-0

Drop Only 17 Games In Season's Fifth Win

Penn State's courtmen gave up only 17 games in sweeping Susquehanna's racquet wielders from the varsity courts yesterday afternoon, 9-0, for their most decisive and fifth win of the season.

By trouncing the Diplomats in straight sets, the Lions evened their record at five wins and five defeats. Bucknell's Bisons face State's netmen on the varsity clay tomorrow at 4 p. m. and a highly touted Muhlenburg squad visits Penn State Saturday for the Lions' finale.

Captain Mac Weinstein dropped only a dozen or so points in breezing to victory over Susquehanna's first man, Ted McCord, 6-0, 6-0. At No. 2 for the Lions, Don Parker had little more difficulty in stopping Jim Bently, 6-1, 6-1.

Following Weinstein's example, senior Del Hughes shut out Dick Keim without relinquishing a game, 6-0, 6-0. State's No. 4 man, Chuck Bowman, stopped Diplomat Phil Jones in similar fashion, 6-1, 6-0.

Johnny Knode and Bill Lundelius continued the Lions' scoring spree by defeating Bob Mitman and Si Courtz in the 5 and 6 spots. Coach Ted Roethke did not use his first and second teams in the doubles matches.

Charlie Hough and Len Beirman saw their first action of the season in the doubles play. The closest set in the match came in the first when Jones and McCord of Susquehanna pushed Hughes and Knode to 8-6 in the first set.

The summaries:
Weinstein (S) defeated McCord, 6-0, 6-0.
Parker (S) defeated Bently,

6-1, 6-1.
Hughes (S) defeated Keim, 6-0, 6-0.
Bowman (S) defeated Jones, 6-1, 6-0.
Knode (S) defeated Mitman, 6-2, 6-0.
Lundelius (S) defeated Courtz, 6-2, 6-1.
Doubles:
Hughes and Knode (S) defeated Jones and McCord, 8-6, 6-1.
Davis and Hough (S) defeated Bently and Mitman, 6-2, 6-0.
Feldman and Beirman (S) defeated Grass and Moglia, 6-0, 6-0.

Club Plans To Sponsor Weight Lifting Team

Plans for sponsoring intercollegiate weight lifting meets with southern colleges next semester were discussed by the Penn State Strength and Health Club in their final meeting of the semester last week.

The club, organized for students interested in weight lifting and bar-bells, holds practice session every afternoon at Rec Hall. Officers are Milton J. Griffith '42, president; Harry L. Bland '44, treasurer; and Carl A. Morris '44, secretary.

Plans were also laid to enter the club as an I.M.A. unit and to participate in the College's intramural sports program next semester.

Wally Leech, 128-pound freshman member, will enter the Senior National Weight Lifting Championships at Philadelphia next Saturday. By virtue of placing fifth in the recent Junior Nationals, Leech qualified for the Seniors. His picture will appear in the June issue of "Strength and Health" magazine.

Golfer's Nerves Count Most, Says Rutherford, But Breaks Do Too

What is golf's greatest intangible, the breaks of the game or the player's nerves?

"Well," says Coach Bob Rutherford, who's been mentoring Lion links teams for some 20 odd years, "it's like this." "Some people can call it the breaks—and they count a lot in any sport—but I think that the making or breaking of a good golf player is his nerves.

"You see, golf is different. The golfer doesn't take the same kind of physical punishment handed out to a boxer or a football player, but his nervous system takes a devil of a beating every time he goes into competition.

"An 18-hole collegiate match takes at least three and a half hours. Every shot a boy plays

is a drain and a strain on concentration, and this cuts straight to the nerves and the brain, where he takes the real beating.

"But, don't get me wrong now, breaks mean something too. Take the time we lost to Princeton two weeks ago. We had just as good a chance of taking that match as Princeton did. But when Bob Boynton sank that 20-foot putt on the 18th hole, I knew right then and there that the breaks were against us.

"You know why Bobby Jones quit golf? Well, I remember the time he told Tommy Armour that he didn't think it was worth while to take the mental and nerve beating he had taken from 1914 to 1930—a matter of 16 years.

High School PIAA Track Finals To Be Held Here

Beside meeting Michigan State's strong track squad in their final dual meet Saturday, the Lion's will also play host to the annual, PIAA high school track finals which will attract from 400 to 600 high school stars.

The high school finals are considered some of the best in the country and all participants must have been first or second place winners in their district meets.

Michigan has met the Lion track squad twice and each team has been victor once, making Saturday's play off all the more interesting. The Spartans recently won the Michigan State Intercollegiate championship.

The high school athletes will get under way on New Beaver Field at 10 a. m. and both the high school and college squads will compete Saturday afternoon.

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