

Gehrdes Dethrones Dillard in Hurdle Test

Altoona Ace Covers Distance In Record-Equaling :07.2 Time

It took time, training and an entire indoor season but today Jim Gehrdes can look forward to a hurdle race with the knowledge that no one is invincible.

The Penn State hurdle star turned the trick Saturday night when he finally outraced Harrison Dillard who, up until the New York Knights of Columbus race, was sporting a three-year undefeated indoor string.

A tremendous ovation greeted Gehrdes when the Madison Square Garden audience realized that the Penn State hurdler had beaten the former Baldwin-Wallace sprinter in the 60-yard high hurdle race. Gehrdes zipped down the Garden boards in :07.2 seconds to tie the meet record.

DUGGER

The Altoona star jogged through his trial in :07.4 seconds and then, with Ed Dugger right on his heels, turned in a :07.2 timing for the semi-final heat to tie the meet record.

"I got off to a good start," said the Nittany hurdler, "and kept right on pressing down to the finish line. After the race Dillard said that he thought he was 'on,' so I guess I just outran him."

"This was the first race I ever ran that I couldn't describe," commented Gehrdes. "I was entirely unconscious of everything around me except the track, the hurdles and the finish line."

Finishing second just behind Gehrdes was Dugger, with Dillard third. Bill Mitchell, of Georgetown, tripped over a hurdle but recovered in time to finish fourth.

RELAY

A second win turned in by the Lion track squad was the mile relay's victory in its heat. The Penn State foursome whirled around the boards in 3:23.8 to outdistance Holy Cross, Colgate, Villanova and Fordham.

Wilbert Lancaster took the first leg of the medal-winning team's event and passed the baton to Paul Koch turned in a :51.5 quarter-mile but a poor baton exchange dropped the Lions back to third place when Bill Lockhart started on the three-quarter mile leg.

Sophomore John McCall, running the anchor leg, outdistanced the Colgate anchor man and breasted the tape to give the Blue and White a heat victory. N.Y.U. turned in the fastest mile relay time of the evening with a scorching 3:19.

Alumnus Curtis Stone took the two-mile race as his undergraduate running mate, Horace Ashenfelter, placed fourth.



JIM GEHRDES

Cornell Fencers Defeat Lions

Penn State's fencers extended a favored Cornell squad right down to the last match Saturday before losing, 14-13, in Rec Hall.

After Cornell had won the foil by a 5-4 margin, State countered to score a resounding 7-2 triumph in the sabre and take a 11-7 lead going into the final event of the afternoon.

Cornell bounced back to take six out of the first eight matches in the epee and bring about a 13-13 deadlock. With all the chips riding on the final match, Cornell's Dick Grimaldi, who had previously defeated Bill Fairchok and Rolf Wald, edged Art Ward, 3-1, to give his team its one-point victory.

Grimaldi and Jim Jackson both won all three of their epee matches with their teammate, Stu Paltrow, taking three decisions in the foil. Rex Dyer and Paul Younkin were outstanding for the Lions in the sabre event, both copping three straight tilts. In his last match, Younkin spotted Cornell's Pete Malnati a 4-0 lead before surging back to cop five straight points and the decision.

An electric dueling sword match.

Continued on page five

Lawther's '42 Team Gained Tournery Bid in 'Golden Year'

By ELLIOT KRANE

It took Coach John Lawther six years to do it, but in the winter of 1942 he proved to Penn State and to the doubting basketball world that you can win with the sliding zone.

The "Golden Year" in Nittany Lion basketball started off in an ordinary manner as the team won three games and lost the fourth, but 15 games later Lawther and his team were on their way to the National Collegiate tournament in New Orleans.

This team chalked up the longest consecutive win streak in the history of Nittany basketball as it took 12 straight to shatter the old mark of 10 set in 1925.

That same year, the red-hot Lions received a "feeler" from the National Intercollegiate Invitation Basketball Tournament at Madison Square Garden, but decided to take the more definite bid.

An outstanding squad composed of Elmer Gross and John Egli at forwards, Herk Baltimore at center and Dave Hornstein and Dick Grimes at the guards carried the Nittany colors to the New Orleans affair.

Sporting a 17-won, 2-lost record, the Lawther-coached squad was aiming for its 13th straight win against Dartmouth in the opening round of the contest. But the Big Green pulled out to an early championship by trouncing Kentucky, 48-28.

Continued on page five

Gross Succeeds Lawther As Top Floor Coach

Continued from page one

tion teaching methods, of which he is co-author of the text now in its second revised printing.

EXPERT

Rated one of basketball's foremost expert teachers of the sliding zone defense, Lawther is yearly in demand at clinics of the sport. At Penn State he has become famous for molding competent teams out of raw six footers without prior playing experience.

His successor was considered one of his most apt pupils, both as player and coach, and is expected to retain much of the Lawther system.

As a senior in 41-42, Gross captained the Lawther team that traveled to the National Collegiate Athletic Association tourney in New Orleans. That team, Lawther's greatest at Penn State, topped the celebrated Whiz Kids of Illinois University in the NCAA. As Gross described it:

"We lost to Dartmouth by five points in the first round, and they went on to win the tournament. We took our revenge out on Illinois' Whiz Kids by trouncing them by about 10 points in the consolation round."

MIDGETS

In that tourney, Gross and Larry Ghent, Lion forwards, were referred to as "Penn State's midgets" since their 5-foot-10 stature was small beside that of other teams' giants.

Lawther describes Gross as "a great ball-handler and competitor, 55 explaining:

"He could fake you right out of your shoes. The best one in this respect that I've had since Gross is Joe Tocci of the present basketball squad."

In their final game under Coach Lawther's tutelage Saturday night, members of the Nittany Lion team were unaware of his resignation. Milt Simon, squad captain, said:

"Neither I nor any of the other boys knew the Coach was giving up his position."

GARDEN

One of the first coaches to employ the sliding zone type of defense, Lawther opened the first Madison Square Garden double-header when his Westminster team traveled to New York to defeat St. John's of Brooklyn.

Lawther received his master of arts degree in educational psychology at Columbia in 1934, and has completed work toward his doctorate at NYU, Pitt and Chicago.

As an undergraduate at Westminster, he was a member of four varsity teams—basketball, football, track and baseball.

After graduation he taught science at Hubbard (Ohio) high school, and then taught and coached at New Wilmington (Pa.) high school. In 1926 he became assistant professor of education and head basketball coach at Westminster, remaining at the school for 10 years and serving also as football coach from 1931 through 1933.

He became head of the department of education and psychology at Westminster in 1934 and, Continued on page six

Virginia Sluggers Limit Lions to 4-4 Deadlock

By GEORGE VADASZ

A decision which raised many an editorial eyebrow even in the partisan Virginia papers cost the Lions their third victory of the season as Virginia held the Nittanymen to a 4-4 draw at Charlottesville Saturday night.

A clearcut dual-meet win was denied the Houckmen when an unpopular decision was handed down in the 130-pound scrap.

It was a battle of two former EIBA champs, Lion Captain John Benglian and Virginia's Al Hollingsworth. After John chased his opponent for two minutes of the first, second and third rounds, the referee's nod went to the Cavalier boxer.

FLOORS HOLLINGSWORTH

In the second and third round, Hollingsworth hit the canvas, yet Benglian did not receive credit for the knockdowns as the referee went on to score the bout 30-27.

A reporter covering the fights for the Richmond Times-Dispatch described the Benglian-Hollingsworth contest thusly. "The crowd was somewhat amazed when Hollingsworth was awarded the decision."

It was a repeat performance in the 145-pound go. Another unpopular decision held Lion Jack Sheehee to a draw, although the veteran righthander bombarded his green opponent often and accurately.

Again it was the Lions' victory duo of Smith and Bolger that turned the tide of a meet that practically seemed destined to be awarded to the Virginians. Behind, 4-1, when he stepped into the ring, Paul Smith displayed his unorthodox ring style to the greatest advantage to win his fourth contest in five outings.

Light-heavy Jack Bolger also annexed his fourth win by slugging out a decisive triumph in the 175-pound class. EIBA heavyweight titleholder Chuck Drazenovich followed suit by turning in

a winning hand in the unlimited bout.

After a three week absence from the ringwars, Nittany 125-pounder Freddie Smith earned half a point by holding his oppon-



F. SMITH

BOLGER

ent, Len Coiner, to a draw in the evening's opening bout.

Lou Guthrie, Lion 135-pounder, suffered his second setback of the season when he dropped a decision to Virginia's "boxingest boxer", Grover Masterson. Fighting at 155 pounds, Pat Heims suffered his first loss at the gloves of last season's 155-pound EIBA champ, Joe Miragliotta.

The summaries:
 summary:
 125 pounds—F. Smith, Penn State, Coiner, Virginia, draw.
 130 pounds—Hollingsworth, Virginia, Benglian.
 135 pounds—Masterson, Virginia, Heims.
 145 pounds—Sheehee, Penn State, Eidelman, Virginia, draw.
 155 pounds—Miragliotta, Virginia, Heims.
 165 pounds—P. Smith, Penn State, Masterson.
 175 pounds—Bolger, Penn State, Drazenovich.
 Heavyweight—Drazenovich, Penn State, Masterson, A. Smith.

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