

Between The Lions



By Tom Morgan
SPORTS EDITOR

High Jumper Fritts

The life story of Vic Fritts, Nittany Lion high jumper, is an almost incredible one of arduous toll toward athletic proficiency, a goal blocked for him by a seemingly insurmountable obstacle—a mal-formed foot. When Vic was born, doctors were amazed to discover that his right foot was turned completely backwards.

To correct this, Vic underwent a series of nine operations covering a period of 13 years. Throughout those 13 years, he was in and out of hospitals; when in, he was flat in bed; when out, he walked in either a plaster cast or brace.

When doctors finally saw fit to release him at the age of 13, he still had to rely on crutches for a year. Then, after his right ankle became stronger, Vic tried out for freshman basketball at Hatboro high school in suburban Philadelphia. He made a success of it; in his sophomore year he was varsity material as a gangling center.

Despite his weaker right foot and ankle (which are even today not the equal of his left in size and strength), Vic decided to try out for track too. His mother was unaware that he was high jumping for Hatboro until a week before Vic reached the State finals.

He won the State title (1947) by jumping 5 feet 10 1/2 inches, later captured the State Teachers College championship as a freshman at Lock Haven with a jump of 6 feet. As a Penn State sophomore this year, he did 6 feet 2 3/4 inches in the IC4-A, has done 6 feet 3 this season in practice trials.

Returning to basketball, Vic's second love, he crowned his high school career by captaining, as a senior, Hatboro's best team in 21 years. All this from a guy who was born with feet turned in opposite directions.

He turned down a chance to go to Temple on a basketball scholarship, instead came to Penn State for track (without the scholarship, since State doesn't give them.)

Vic now says about his right foot, "It's getting stronger all the time. You might even say it's nearly normal."

It can be called normal if one discounts the inconvenience of wearing a different size of shoe on each foot for life. That Vic's right foot is smaller necessitates buying two pairs of shoes at a time. At present it's sizes 9 and 11. Vic has at home an assortment of about 36 odd shoes—everything from sneakers and dress shoes to loafers and saddle shoes. These are the unworn leftovers—down through the years—from Vic's double shoe-buying.

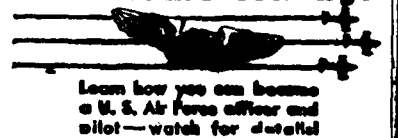
IM Softball Teams Start Play Today

The thud of bat against softball will ring out across four intramural diamonds today when the vanguard of the 1949 IM softball season steps into action at 6:30 p. m.

Pi Kappa Alpha tangles with Tau Phi Delta on diamond one; Section 10 meets the American Society of Civil Engineers on two; Sigma Phi Alpha bats against Sigma Nu on three; (the three diamonds in the New Beaver area), and Sigma Chi matches pitches with Phi Sigma Kappa on the golf course diamond.

A total of 46 fraternity and 13 independent teams are raring for action in the tournament which this season is hampered by lack of diamonds. However, if the weather is favorable, the IM office expects to complete the schedule in good order. All games will be played at 6:30 p. m.

The team's coming!



Learn how you can become a U. S. Air Force officer and pilot—watch for details!

Nittanies Drop First, 6-2; Face Lafayette Today

Special to The Daily Collegian

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., April 26—Penn State's baseballers fell victim to Rutgers' eleven-hit attack, and suffered their first diamond defeat today. The score of the tussle was 6-2.

Cy Miller was the chief target of the Scarlet batsmen, and was charged with the loss. The Queensmen clocked nine hits off the slender Lion righthander in 5 2/3 innings. He was relieved by Bill Benyish and Jimmy Masticola.

Southpaw Dick Weber went the distance for the winners, who captured their ninth win in eleven starts. Weber was in hot water three different times, but tightened in the pinches against the Nittanies.

THREATEN

In the second inning, the Blue and White loaded the bases, but Stan Laganosky fled out to end the threat. Again in the fourth frame, Weber was confronted with the sacks full of Lions. However, first sacker Bob Suba made a leaping catch of Joe Tocci's foul pop, and Jack Kurty was picked off third. Captain Hal Hackman fanned to end the inning.

Kurty made up for the pickoff by singling across the Bedenkmen's two markers in the fifth stanza. Dick Wertz and Bill Ondick had singled, and third sacker Bill Tegtmeyer was hit by a pitched ball. After Kurty's smack, Miller clubbed a liner to center, but it was hauled down and Tegtmeyer was doubled at the plate.

SCORE IN BURSTS

Rutgers scored in bursts of two in the second, sixth and seventh innings.

Masticola did a remarkable job of silencing the noisy Rutgers

bats in his relief stint of one and two-third innings, allowing only one safety.

Today, Al Tkac will attempt to put the Lions back on the winning trail against powerful Lafayette in a clash at Easton. Clarence "Buzz" Buss will do the catching. Lafayette copped the District 2 NCAA honors in 1948.



AI TKAC

Blue and White Tennis Team Battles Bucknell in Opener

Sherm Fogg's Penn State tennis squad leaves at 12:30 today for Lewisburg and the opening of its 1949 campaign with Bucknell. The traveling roster includes Captain Herb Beckhard, Lonny Landon, Jim Howells, Bill Aiken, Bob Ogden, Frank Pessolano, George Lawther, Jerry Gearhart, Bill Gray and Head Manager Bill Brickford.

Little is known about the Bisons except that they are expected to provide stiff competition for the Foggmen, who will stage their home inaugural Saturday against a potentially-powerful Colgate squad.

A spirited battle was still in progress last night for two unfilled singles spots. Fogg said that he would choose among Pessolano, Ogden, Lawther and Gray for the vacant positions.

The other four singles spots have already been filled by Beckhard, Howells, Aiken and Landon. In the doubles, Beckhard and Landon shape up as the number one pair with Howells and Aiken ready as the second duo. Either Lawther or Gearhart will team up Gray for the third pair.

Besides the Red Raiders from Colgate, the schedule lists Duquesne, Bucknell, Washington & Jefferson, Pittsburgh and Syracuse as teams to meet the Lions on the home courts.

Away contests are slated with Bucknell, Navy, Lehigh, Colgate and Syracuse with the last three teams being met May 11-14 on the State eastern tour.

Sigma Nu Cops V-Ball Crown

Sigma Nu-A annexed the IM volleyball fraternity championship last night by defeating Phi Delta Theta-A, 15-9 and 15-12, at Rec Hall.

Sparked by John Kulp and George Ralston, the Sigs were in no trouble to speak of and won going away. Kulp was especially outstanding in his spiking, and, with Ralston, scored the majority of their team's points.

Kenny Weiss, John Smidansky, John Steimer and the other Sigs contributed a big share to the victory with their excellent set-ups. For Phi Delta Theta, John Daugherty, John Hagerman and Joe Porter stood out in defeat with their spiking efforts. They were ably helped by Jack Sheehey, Bill Aiken and Vince O'Bara, who set up the plays and were outstanding in defense.

Aiken Outhits Lieb In IM Badminton

Bill Aiken, Phi Delta Theta, slammed into the tournament semi-finals in intramural badminton at Rec Hall Monday night.

Pounding the bird for 15-8, 15-11 victories over Ted Lieb, Phi Kappa Sigma, Aiken chalked up his sixth win without a loss. He will meet the winner of the Joe Tocci-Jim Worley duel for the fraternity championship. Tocci and Worley will meet tomorrow night at Rec Hall.



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Golfers Clash With Bisons On Home Links

Back in home territory after last week's matches with Georgetown University, Penn State's varsity golfers meet Bucknell University's squad on the College course at 1:30 p. m., today.

After tasting defeat for the first time since 1947 in Friday's match at Washington, D. C., the Nittany golfers started on what they hope will be a new string of victories by rebounding to top Georgetown in the final contest on Saturday.

The Bucknell match, Nittany home opener, is another non-league warm-up for the Eastern Intercollegiate matches next Friday and Saturday on the varsity's home links. The Rutherford-coached Lions have one more match this week and one next week with Colgate and Gettysburg to prepare for league play then.

In their weekend games, the varsity showed a team which, although green, has possibilities of achieving a good record. With only two holdovers from last year in Joe Boyle, Lion captain and Tom Smith, a junior, the squad will meet the Bisons from Bucknell with five new faces.

Besides the two veterans there are four sophomores, Ray Artz, Bob Kunkle, Jim Yerkes, and George Mazanowski; and a junior, Marvin Goldenberg, on the Lion team.

With work progressing on the new fifth and sixth holes the teams will be forced to play the first and ninth holes twice on each round in the match today.

8 IM Soccer Teams Slated for Action

Another eight soccer teams break into intramural play on the golf course field today.

Theta Kappa Phi meets Alpha Tau Omega and Alpha Chi Sigma kicks against Sigma Pi at 4:30 p.m. Alpha Phi Delta and Theta Chi will play at 5 p.m., the same time scheduled for the Beta Theta Pi-Chi Phi battle.

Article Published

"New King of the Hurdles?" an article written by George Vadasz, promotion co-manager-elect and soccer and boxing writer of the Daily Collegian, appears in the current issue of Huddle, Western Pennsylvania sports magazine. Subject of the article is Jim Gehrdes, topnotch Lion track hurdler.

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Major League Results

AMERICAN LEAGUE							
Yesterday's Results							
New York	5	Philadelphia	4				
Cleveland	1	St. Louis	0				
Detroit	6	Chicago	2, 1st				
Detroit	7	Chicago	5, 2nd (10)				
Washington	at Boston	rain					
Standings							
W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.		
New York	7	1	.875	Chicago	5	4	.559
Detroit	5	2	.714	Boston	3	4	.429
Cleveland	4	2	.667	St. Louis	1	7	.125
Phila.	5	4	.556	Wash'ton	1	7	.125
Today's Games							
Philadelphia	at Boston						
Chicago	at Cleveland						
St. Louis	at Detroit						
New York	at Washington (10)						

NATIONAL LEAGUE							
Monday Night's Results							
Pittsburgh	8	Chicago	2				
St. Louis	9	Cincinnati	3				
Yesterday's Results							
Brooklyn	5	Boston	2				
Philadelphia	12	New York	11 (11)				
Cincinnati	at St. Louis	rain					
Standings							
W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.		
Brooklyn	5	3	.625	St. Louis	3	3	.500
New York	4	3	.571	Cincinnati	2	3	.500
Pittsburgh	4	3	.571	Chicago	3	4	.429
Boston	4	4	.500	Phila.	3	6	.333
Today's Games							
Brooklyn	at New York						
Cincinnati	at Chicago						
Boston	at Philadelphia (N)						
Pittsburgh	at St. Louis (N)						

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Major Home Meets

Michigan State and Notre Dame both are carded for track meets at Penn State in May.

Treble Singers Concert

Friday, April 29
8:00 P. M.

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