

Gymnasts Win NCAA Crown

Lions Take Six Events In Tourney

(Continued from page one)
long horse, still rings, free exercise, parallel bars, horizontal bar, and side horse—is the goal of every gymnast. In addition it is a stepping stone toward gaining a berth on the Olympic gym team. Cronstedt clinched the title Friday night with a grand total of 1557 points, far above the winning 1275 points he recorded last year. On the horizontal bar his 284 out of a possible 300 points tied the side horse performance of teammate Lawrence for the tourney's individual point-scoring honor.

The nationally-heralded gymnast took his parallel bar and free exercise first places with 280 and 282 points.

As a team, the Lions turned in its greatest performances in two events—the parallels and the flying rings.

Surging through a field of 38 entries on the twin bars, Co-captain Al Wick and the 'mighty might' of Wettstone's nationally-famed aggregation, Karl Schwenzfeier, battled their way on even terms to wind up right behind their cohort in victory, Cronstedt, to capture a tie for second honors with 269 points. Dick Spiess bolstered the Lions' team total with an eighth place.

On the flying rings, Procopio out-performed what Wettstone tabbed as a spectacular field of entries to register 277 points in his winning effort. Once again it was Schwenzfeier in second place, trailing Procopio by only seven counters.

However, probably the most astonishing fact connected with the ring event was the way the Nittany 'surprise package' of the tourney, John Baffa, came out of nowhere to place third.

Co-captain Frank Wick, who was the second half of the Nittanians' one-two punch on the side horse over the past season, took third honors on the horse behind Michigan State's Carl Rintz.

UCLA's Don Perry continued to astonish the gymnastic world with his rope-climbing antics. He gained wide-spread fame in last year's tourney when he established the world's record by scaling the 20-foot rope in 2.9 seconds.

But the world's fastest verticle climber, unsatisfied with his previous mark, posted an amazing 2.8 in the finals to walk away with top honors.

State's Skeets Haag gained a tie for fourth place with Temple's Gene Scholl. The duo did it in 3.7, which was Haag's top performance all year. Baffa gained a tie for the number seven spot with a 4.1.

Schwenzfeier gained a fifth in free exercise and Procopio picked up ninth place on the H-bar to round out the Nittany places in the gym marathon.

The Lions did not place in the remaining two events, tumbling and trampoline. Bill Paxton, Nittany entry on the mats, fell by the wayside in Friday's qualifying round. Wettstone did not enter anyone on the tramp.

The Nittany Vale stalwarts competed against a field of 23 teams, comprising over 250 individual entries.

For Penn State, the undisputed victory it picked up in the Illini's Huff gymnasium was a great finish for a great season. The Nittanians won all six of their regularly-scheduled intercollegiate meets this season to extend their overall winning skein to 15.

In addition they won the Eastern crown for the second straight year, and completely dominated the Eastern meet consisting entirely of individual competition, held at Temple University March 12-13.

The Wicks, Procopio, Lawrence, Baffa, and Spiess performed as Lion gymnasts for the last time.



—Photo by Hoopes
FIVE MEMBERS OF Penn State's National Collegiate champion gymnastics team pose inside Beta Theta P. fraternity shortly after arriving from the University of Illinois at 2 a.m. yesterday. Co-captain Al Wick is in the center, with his twin and Co-captain, Frank, Karl Schwenzfeier, Skeets Haag, and Jan Cronstedt surrounding him from left to right. The sixth member, Skip Heim, is a member of the team but did not make the trip.

NCAA Sidelights

When questioned as to how he felt after his team had made their fabulous sweep of the 12th annual NCAA tournament, Lion coach Gene Wettstone commented, "It was the greatest thing that ever happened to me. The boys didn't have a single break in two days."

Jan Cronstedt's four places in one tournament was a new record for the classic. The fabulous Finn now has six individual titles to his career. This was his third year in the tourney. As a freshman he took third place on the parallel bars, and last year won the all-around and parallel bars titles.

Probably the biggest surprise to Wettstone was the placing of three of his stalwarts on the flying rings. Tony Procopio took top honors, followed by Karl Schwenzfeier, and John Baffa with a fourth. He commented, following the meet, that it was amazing how all three of his ring entries hit at once, doing routines they never accomplished in Rec Hall practice sessions.

After UCLA's Don Perry erased his old rope climb record of 2.9 by posting a spectacular 2.8, the judges measured the 20-foot hemp to make sure of its length. In last year's national tourney at Syracuse he did a 3.0 in the preliminaries and made his 2.9 the following day in the finals. His latest win was his 94th straight for the verticle climb.

The 137 team points earned by the Lions is a new record for the 12 year old tourney. The Nittanians broke the record they had set last year with 91½ points. The previous high was posted by Florida State with 89½.

Penn State is now second behind Illinois in the total number

of team championships. The Illini have five to their credit, while the Nittanians have copped three. The Lions won last year and in 1948. Next in line is Florida State with two, and Chicago and Temple with one each.

The Lions set a new team record with their six individual championships. Previous high was held by Illinois, who captured four in 1940 and '41. Penn State had three in 1948.

Wettstone has now coached three Penn State national championship teams. The only gym mentor ahead of him is Hartley Price who guided Illinois and Florida State to four.

Concerning the remarkable performance of Lawrence, who won on the side horse, Wettstone said that the childhood polio victim's years and years of practice finally paid off, and the win was sure to come.

The Fighting Illini are ahead of the Lions in another department. They sport 22 individual event winners. The Nittanians are second with 12.

Temple and Syracuse, the two hottest teams behind the Staters in the Eastern League the past season, tied for eighth place in the tourney with 18½ points each.

WRA Results

Badminton
Woman's Bldg. over Mac Hall
Little Lions over Thompson 3&1
Pi Beta Phi over Phi Mu
Sigma Sigma Sigma over Alpha Kappa Alpha
Alpha Gamma Delta over Chi O.
Delta Gamma over Beta Sigma O.

Bowling
Leonides over Theta Phi Alpha
Phi Sigma Sigma over Atherton
Kappa Delta over Delta Zeta

8 Lion Boxers Enter NAAs

By ROY WILLIAMS

Eight of ten Pennsylvanians scheduled to be among 60 entries in the 17th National Collegiate Athletic Association tourney this weekend at Recreation Hall will represent Penn State. As host school, Penn State was permitted to enter eight men out of a possible nine-man card.

Coach Eddie Sulkowski has picked the following men to represent the Lions in the NCAA tournament: Harry Papa-charalambous, 125, White Mills; Bob McMath, 132, Vandergrift; Larry Fornicola, 139, Bellefonte; Jack Stokes, 147, Philadelphia; Joe Humphreys, 156, State College; Frank Breidor, 165, Philadelphia; Adam Kois, 178, Uniontown; and Joe Goleman, heavyweight, Philadelphia.

Penn State will not make an entry in the 119-pound class.

Two Others Enter

Two other Pennsylvanians entered to swap punches, along with the Nittany Lions, against the Nation's outstanding collegiate boxers are Bob Reid, of Middletown, and Leo Coyne, McKees Rocks.

Reid is unbeaten in five bouts this year and owns a career record of 7 and 1. The 156-pounder will represent North Carolina A & T College of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Reid is

Two last minute withdrawals today left the national collegiate boxing championship tournament with only one defending champion.

Ray Zale, 178-pounder of Wisconsin, will be the lone title defender when the tourney gets under way.

Victor Kobe, 119-pound Idaho State finalist last year, was forced to withdraw because of sickness. Tom Hickey, Michigan State, will be unable to defend his 165-pound class crown because he was ruled scholastically ineligible by his own school.

one of four CIAA champs entered from Greensboro, N.C., college. Three other CIAA champions have been entered by Hampton Institute.

Maryland Enters Heavy

From Maryland's Eastern championship team is Leo Coyne. The Terrapin heavyweight has a 7-2 record, and a defeat over Penn State's Goleman.

Stylish Stokes, 147-pound sophomore, and Captain Kois will carry the main weight of Penn State's hopes of breaking into the title circle.

Kois, a rugged boxer who has dropped only four decisions in three years of dual meet and tournament competition, last year went to the finals losing to Wisconsin's Ray Zale. Because Idaho State's Vic Kobe and Michigan State's Tom Hickey submitted last-minute withdrawals, the defending champions have been reduced to one—Zale.

Maurey Wins Fifth Place In NAAs

Jerry Maurey, Coach Charlie Speidel's outstanding 137-pound EIWA champ who competed in the NAAU three-day tournament held at San Diego, Calif., last weekend took fifth place. Maurey was sponsored by New York A.C. Maurey was eliminated in his sixth match of the tourney. He opened against Ted Gill of San Diego Navy and won by forfeit.

Waldo Sharp, also of San Diego Navy, was pinned by the Lion co-captain in 2:37. Maurey's first loss came against a Japanese grappler, Kono Sasahara, but it took Sasahara 11:32 before he had Maurey turned over on his back.

Jim Espinge of San Diego Navy was a fall victim when he was pinned by Maurey in 1:57. Maurey then followed with another pin; this one over Norman Gill of Michigan State (unattached). Time was 3:34.

Maurey was then eliminated by Alan Rice of New York A.C. The Lion 137-pounder was pinned from a takedown in 3:35. Rice, formerly of Minnesota, was a two-time Big Ten champ and two-time Big Ten runnerup.

Maurey, however, defeated him three times previously. In 1951 and twice in 1952 at the Olympic and NAAU tryouts.

In NAAU competition Olympic rules are employed. Five black marks eliminates a wrestler from further competition. Three black marks are awarded for a defeat and one black mark for a win by decision.

Frank Bettucci of Cornell, last year's outstanding wrestler in EIWA and NCAA tournament competition, took third place in the 147-pound class. Ed Peery, Pitt freshman, captured fourth place in the 125-pound class.

Barbados in the British West Indies was the only foreign land ever visited by George Washington.

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