

The Scorebook

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LOVE THAT MAN, BUT . . .

They like each other so much there is nothing they would rather do than beat each other.

This is the odd, somewhat amusing, and certainly "profitable" situation that has turned into one of the greatest boons in the history of Penn State track and field. Charlie Blockson and Rosey Grier are the two athletes in question and their friendly rivalry has resulted in a revision of the Nittany record books. They both play football in the fall, compete in field events in the spring, and, because they are great friends, room together the year round. The hitch is this: they are the two top weight men on Chick Werner's fine track and field team and they are out to break each other's records.

Blockson and Grier are two of the biggest reasons why this year's team finished with an unbeaten record in dual meets. "Blockbuster" Blockson, who does not compete in the javelin event, captured two firsts and two seconds in the discus and four seconds in the shot put in the Lions' four meets. Grier picked up four firsts each in the shot and javelin and two firsts and two seconds in the discus in pacing the Lions to a 4-0 log. This magnificent duo averaged 21 team points a meet this season.

Last year at this time Werner and his assistant, Norm Gordon, were pointing to the 1954 campaign and to Blockson and Grier in particular. Blockson jumped into the spotlight last year, when he broke the 16-year-old Penn State freshman record in the discus by heaving the platter 138' 2". This toss eclipsed Nick Vukmanic's mark by more than four feet. Blockson was ineligible for competition last year due to the National Collegiate Athletic Association's ruling prohibiting freshmen from taking part in varsity sports. However, Grier knew that before another season was out the powerful 220-pound 6' 3" star would be trying to oust him from his position as No. 1 weight man for the Blue and White. That's exactly what Werner was looking for.

"One day last spring," Werner said with a smile that betrayed his inward delight, "Charlie hit over 150 feet with the discus, and when Rosey heard about this he stayed out for a few extra hours trying to better it. Their rivalry is wonderful because in each meet they will not only be out to beat the opponents, but also each other and each other's records. It's an ideal situation."

Blockson broke Grier's shot put standard of 51' 1 1/2" by more than two inches with a heave that got him a surprising third in the indoor championships sponsored by the Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletics of America. Grier was fourth with a 50' 10 3/4" throw. They had to wait until good weather—a hard thing to find in State College, especially in Dec., Jan., and Feb.—presented itself before they could go outdoors to practice. Unfortunately, Penn State athletes are not blessed with a field house where they can work out.

After the IC4A title scramble the duo had off until April 17 when Grier recaptured the Penn State shot put record with a heave of 52' 9 1/2". Grier hit over 52' the following week in the Penn Relays and then the "Dynamite Duo" exploded, shattering Penn State and dual meet marks with lightning rapidity.

In the first dual meet of the campaign Grier made shambles of the record book by tossing the 16-pound shot 55' 8 1/4". Although he bettered the Lion discus mark, so did Blockson. "Blockbuster" came out on top with a flip of 157' 10". The ink was hardly dry on the record book before Blockson uncorked an even better toss the next week against Pitt, letting the dish fly for 157' 10 1/4".

With the IC4A outdoor championships coming up Saturday these two giants will be counted on to play a big roll in what Werner hopes will be a title-winning season.

SHADES OF DAMON AND PYTHIAS

Werner's two proteges may be out to beat each other in sports, but they are the best of friends and keep needling each other about their performances. "You'd think they'd be satisfied with being roommates at school," Werner said shaking his head, "but when we go on the road for a meet they always want to room together."

Major League Baseball

CHICAGO, May 21 (AP)—Milwaukee outthomered Chicago, three to two, including Henry Aaron's decisive two-run swat in the eighth, as the Braves won their first 1954 Wrigley Field appearance 6-4 today.

Johnny Logan also smashed a two-run homer and Del Crandall hit one with none on for Milwaukee, while Chicago's two homers, both coming with the bases empty in the fourth, were by Dee Fondy and Ralph Kiner, his sixth of the season, but his first at Wrigley Field.

The Cubs were missing slugging Hank Sauer, summoned to the West Coast by the death of his mother.

NEW YORK, May 21 (AP)—Casey Stengel, manager of the New York Yankees, accused "certain" officials of the Chicago White Sox of talking too much today but he called the White Sox the best team in the American League outside the Yankees.

"They've got a good ball club," he added, "but, of course, you've still got to beat Cleveland." He termed Cleveland the "best hitting" team in the league and the Detroit Tigers the "biggest surprise."

Stengel and representatives of the Brooklyn Dodgers spoke at a

baseball writer's luncheon launching plans for the mayor's sandlot baseball trophy game between the Yankees and Dodgers June 14 at Yankee Stadium.

In an obvious reference to Frank Lane, general manager of the White Sox with whom he's been feuding, Stengel declared:

"Certain officials of the White Sox have been doing a lot of talking and maybe they're working up to be president of the league or commissioner. If they keep talking, they'll make it, too."

Speaking of the Boston Red Sox, the Yankee manager said he had heard that Ted Williams may have the steel pin removed from his fractured collarbone. "I hope they give it to me," he added, "so I can put it into three of my men."

Walter O'Malley, president of the Dodgers, and Manager Walt Alston both promised Brooklyn would soon snap out of its present slump.

Wettstone, Cronstedt to Enter International Gymnastics in July

Gymnastics Coach Gene Wettstone and his captain-elect, Jan Cronstedt, have added a new laurel to an already rich Penn State record.

Wettstone, who guided Penn State to its second straight national championship last season, has accepted an invitation to go to Malmahed, Sweden, in July where he will report to the Scandinavians the progress of gymnastics in the United States.

Cronstedt, the Lions' 1954-55 captain, was asked to return to his native Finland for tryouts on the Finish entry in the World's Gymnastics Championships at Rome, July 28 to July 1. Cronstedt, who captured four individual titles in the National Collegiate championships this year, left by plane immediately for his homeland. He was granted permission by University officials because of his extremely high grades in his tough pre-medical course.

Top College Gymnast
Cronstedt competed in Sweden and Finland while on vacation last summer. This year he was easily the greatest gymnast in collegiate circles when he dominated both the Eastern and national championships. He recently added to more individual titles in the National Amateur Athletic Union championships in San Francisco.

European travel will be nothing new to Wettstone. The Lion coach, recognized as one of the finest in the world, served as a coach on the United States Olympic team in the 1948 games at London and as a judge in the 1952 games in Helsinki.

Wettstone to Lecture
Wettstone's invitation came from the executive committee of the Swedish Gymnastics Federation and instructed him to lecture on collegiate gymnastics in the United States. Emphasis will be placed on modern trends, technical progress, and development of the competitive spirit.

Wettstone plans to leave by plane early in July. He will be one of a dozen experts who will teach for one week at a gymnastics camp in Malmahed. The Penn State coach plans to remain in Europe for six weeks and take advanced courses in gymnastics in Lillsved, and later to tour various gymnastics centers in Switzerland enroute to the Swiss outdoor championships in Zurich.

For Wettstone, the Swedish invitation is another in a long list of honors which have come to the Penn State coach since he propelled the Nittany Lions into national prominence by winning 16 meets in a row and sweeping Eastern and national team honors for two consecutive years. In fifteen years his teams have won 48 dual meets while losing 21 and tying one. His individual champions, eastern and national, number 43. Cronstedt holds 14 of these titles.



GENE WETTSTONE, Penn State gymnastics coach, takes a close look at Jan Cronstedt's parallel-bar routine. The pair will participate in international gymnastics this summer. Wettstone will teach in Sweden and Cronstedt will participate in the World championships in Rome.

Nationally Famous

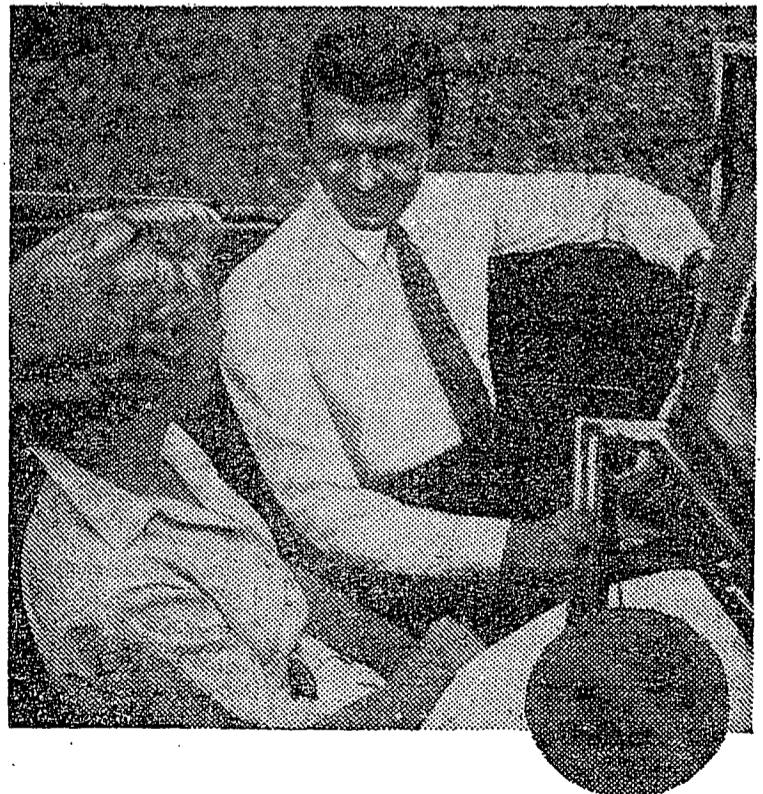
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'S' Club to Hold Initiations Sunday

The "S" Club, varsity lettermen group, will hold initiations at 7 p.m. Sunday in Old Main lounge. Players and managers with one letter in varsity sports are eligible for membership.

About 100 undergraduate and graduate students meet these requirements, Donald Balthaser, president, said Thursday. There is a separate lettermen club for University alumni.

Plans for the "S" Club were begun in January with many ideas coming from organizations in other schools. The Senate committee on student affairs recently approved the club's constitution.

The club will meet once a month, Balthaser said. Members will receive label pins and membership cards.

Preakness Run Today

BALTIMORE, May 22 (AP)—The 78th Preakness Stakes rolls around again today with Correlation favored to become the third California bred colt to win the famous Pjmlco classic.

Eleven classy 3-year-olds are ready for the \$100,000-added mile and three-sixteenths test, first won by Survivor in 1873.

Correlation, the beaten Kentucky Derby favorite owned by Robert S. Lytle of Los Angeles, showed he'll be a tough customer when he outfought Hasty Road in the Preakness Prep Monday.