

The Scorebook

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MAN — A DOG'S BEST FRIEND

Man's superiority over the rest of the animals of the world is based mainly on his higher intelligence. However, a glimpse at this season's indoor track season might indicate that man has little more brain power than the dog.

Mechanical rabbits are used in dog races. The mechanically run rabbit is used as an incentive to get the greyhounds to race at top speed before the eyes of the homo sapiens. Dogs supposedly are unable to run toward a goal unless they have some tangible object before them as a reward.

Here is where man displays his greater intelligence. He has been conditioned to be satisfied with merely winning the race. If he happens to be fed hassenpfeffer after winning, it is merely incidental.

But "mechanical rabbits" have been introduced into the races between man and man, too. In this case the "rabbits" are other humans who are entered in the race NOT to win. Their job is to pace the other runners so that they will run as fast as possible.

Dick Ollen, Northeastern University harrier, has been acting as the "rabbit" in the three latest mile races between Denmark's Gunnar Nielsen and Freddie Dwyer and Wes Santee of the United States. The first time Ollen paced these three crack milers he was praised for his fine work in leading Santee to a new world indoor mile record of 4:03.8. Ollen drew further favorable comments when he set the stage for Nielsen's monumental 4:03.8 record run the following week.

Last week, however, Ollen did not help the other thinclads rack up another new standard. Santee tried to set the pace by himself and passed Ollen early in the race. Nielsen, who relies on his spurt in the final stages of the race, did not want to get too far behind Santee. Santee led at the quarter-mile with a 56 sec. clocking—a pace that was sheer folly, especially for so great a runner. Nielsen was not far behind the "Kansas Cowboy." Ollen was not allowed to set the pace. Then the killing effects of the sizzling pace told on both Santee and Nielsen and Dwyer took the lead, winning by some 100 yards. Dwyer did not set a world record.

Track coaches are now crying out against the use of such "rabbits." Now, and only now, are the words printed that runners should be allowed to run their own race. True, these feelings may have been uttered before, but now they



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Gymnasts Face 2nd EIGA Hurdle

Back in a familiar position—first place—Gene Wettstone's Nittany Lion gymnasts play host to the West Point Cadets Saturday at Recreation Hall.

It will be the Lions second EIGA outing of the season.

The only mar on the Nittanians' present record (2-1) came at the hands of Illinois by a four-point margin. Since the Illini are not an EIGA member, the loss doesn't effect the Lions' league standing.

But, until Saturday anyway, the Nittanians have to share the top rung with the Soldiers who also hold an unblemished EIGA record.

Tom Maloney, in his 26th year of coaching at the Point, appears to have one of the best teams in recent years. The West Pointers are strong in two events—side horse and horizontal bar—and powerful in two others—rope climb and flying rings.

Army took second place in the Eastern championships last year and has all but two of its 1954 gymnasts returning.

Maloney will be banking heavily on four men when his charges meet the Lions Saturday: Captain Bob Carpenter, Don Jellison, John Funkhouser, and Dick Adams.

In dual competition Carpenter holds an unmarred record on the rings. Adams is a good man on the side horse. Jellison holds a good horizontal bar routine, and Funkhouser is the Cadet's top rope climber.

"On paper it looks like a tie, but a few breaks for either team could send the figures haywire," was Lion memento Gene Wettstone's comment on the meet.

"I thought we didn't have a chance at Navy, and the boys came through there. Now if we can get past this one Saturday, I think we'll have cleared our two biggest hurdles."

Following Saturday's meet, the

Lions go against Pitt, Temple, and Syracuse before entering the Eastern Intercollegiate.

Wins over Temple, who the Lions meet at Rec Hall, and Syracuse, along with a Saturday night Rec Hall victory, would clinch the EIGA title for the Lions for the third straight year.

Last year's Penn State-Army clash was nip-and-tuck until the parallel bar routines. The Lions swept that event in one-two-three fashion and took first and second on the rings to give them the 21-point victory.

But the Lions have suffered considerably more than Army with graduation and the loss of Jean Cronstedt, so the number of Lion veterans won't compare with the Cadet holdovers.

However, five Nittanians, Captain Karl Schwenzfeier, Skeets Haag, Skip Heim, Bill Paxton, and Tony Cline, have been top performers for the Lions in their three previous meets.

2 First-Place Changes Made in IM Basketball

Two independent teams captured first place in their respective leagues as a result of intramural basketball action Tuesday night.

Both the Watts Wonders and the Iron Men broke ties for first place in League F and League E by winning their games. The Wonders met one of their toughest League E opponents, the Renegades, who sported a 3-2 record, and won 15-14. The winners led 6-5 at the half and the Renegades could never overcome the one-point deficit.

The winless Koons almost upset the unbeaten Watts Wonders, but the Wonders held on to a 9-8 halftime margin and won 22-18.

In the lone fraternity game of the night, Sigma Nu made it seven in a row by pasting Phi Kappa Psi, 38-23. Ed Ritter netted 12 for Sigma Nu.

Independent League D leaders, the Chug-A-Lugs, came close to suffering their first setback at the hands of a spirited Trompers team. The Trompers trailed 21-10 at the half but fought back valiantly in the late stages, outscoring their first place foes, 15-7. The Chug-A-Lugs, however, led by John Farls' 10 counters, outlasted the Trompers, 28-25.

Bill Wehmer's 11 points paced the Lions to a 27-19 win over the

Gnats. It was the Lions' fourth win in six contests.

Williamsport A.C. had to come from behind to beat the Giraffes, 26-23. The Giraffes' 11-8 halftime

State Ski Championships

LIGONIER, Pa., Feb. 16 (AP)—Skiers from parts of the eastern United States will gather at the Laurel Mountain ski slopes this weekend for the Pennsylvania Ski Championships.

The meet is sponsored by the Laurel Mountain Ski Club of Ligonier.

lead was overcome mainly because of Mark Roller's accurate eye. Roller accounted for 11 A.C. points.

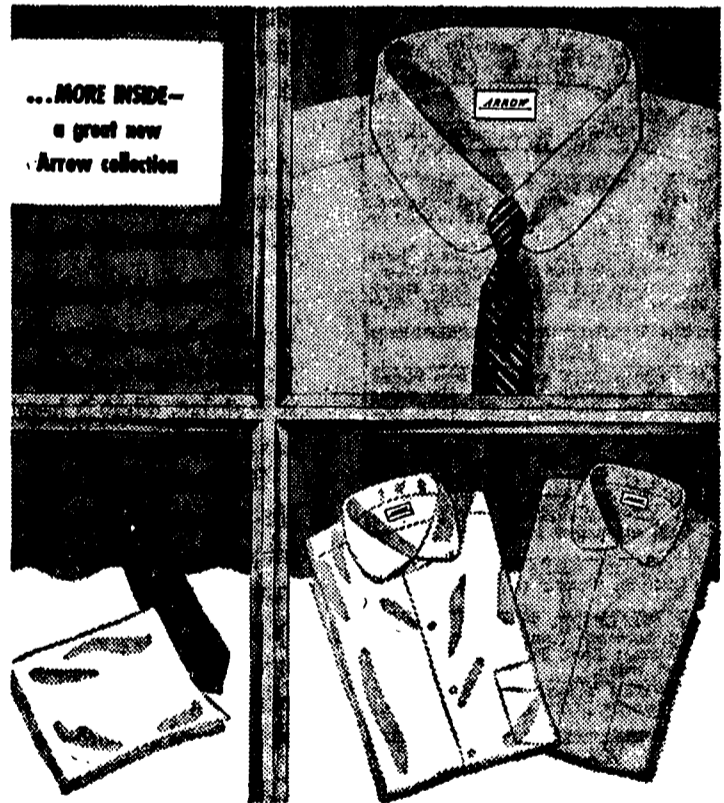
The Birds also had to splurge in the second half to waylay Physchem, 29-26.

In other games, the Watts Warriors defeated the Irvin Aces, 17-13, and the Irvin Buffaloes lambasted the Cavemen, 32-4.

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