

Lion Gymnast Smashes Record

Scores 1601 Total Points

By MATT PODBESEK

Armando Vega swept first place in the National Collegiate all-around title in yesterday's competition at Navy with a record-smashing total of 1601 points in the six events, breaking the old record of 1559 set by former Penn Stater Jean Cronstedt.

After last night's all-around events, the Lions lead in the team scoring with 14 points on the basis of Vega's first, Captain Dion Weissend's ninth and Gil Leu's tenth place finishes.

Florida State is second with 12 and, like the Lions, lead the field by qualifying in 13 positions for today's six final events. Defending team champion Illinois is third with nine points, qualifying in only nine positions.

Vega's phenomenal performance in the all-around events was even more successful from the team standpoint. Of the 13 positions which the Lions have qualified for in the finals, Vega has qualified for six of them.

The Olympian failed to qualify in only two of today's events—the trampoline and the rope climb. He was scratched from the rope climb by Coach Gene Wettstone. But according to side horse performer Jack Biesterfeldt, "He could have qualified there, too."

In the preliminary scoring which simply qualifies an athlete for the ten positions in the finals and does not count toward the final outcome, Vega finished first in one event—the parallel bars—and second in three other events—calisthenics, horizontal bar and flying rings.

But the preliminaries give a good indication of the final outcome since few performers vary widely from their first day positions.

In the other two events in which he qualified, Vega finished fifth on the side horse with a 246 score and ninth in tumbling, an event in which he does not even compete in regular competition.

"Oh, what a day he had," Coach Wettstone elated last night. "He



Jack Biesterfeldt

"He could have qualified there"

looked very good in everything." When asked of his opinion of the day's happenings, Wettstone contentedly replied, "I am very pleased with the team score. It's not like last year. Tonight I can go to bed with that nice feeling that we are not out of it."

"I was very satisfied, and if we hit tomorrow we have a good chance," the coach said as he returned to reality.

Tumbler Dave Dulaney, who sprained his ankle earlier this week in practice, and trampolinist Chuck Fegley were the only two Lions who failed to qualify for a single position in today's events.

Disappointing features of the all-around were the low finishes of Gil Leu and Dion Weissend. Also disappointing was the inability of the two to make the grade on a Penn State specialty—the parallel bars.

Both came through on the high bar though, Leu was fourth with 259 points and Weissend fifth with 256. Florida State's Ron Amster led the qualifiers with 272, followed by Vega and Illinois' Abie Grossfeldt at 270.

Bob Foht, who finished fifth in the Nationals last year, placed ninth on the parallels with a 242. Tumbler Adie Stevens placed seventh and Vega ninth in the event.

Jack Biesterfeldt came through for Wettstone with an eighth spot on the side horse with 240. The

Lions Lead Tournament

side horse specialist is expected to finish higher in today's competition.

The rope climb became a big surprise from any point of view. Dick Rehm qualified ahead of defending champion Phil Mullen on the rope with a 4.0 clocking compared to Mullen's 4.2.

But the major surprise was pulled by 32-year old Garvin Smith of Los Angeles State College who climbed the rope in 3.2 seconds on a "bad climb."

Vega was two points, 272-270, behind first place Amster on the high bar; three points, 270-267, behind first place Tom Darling of Pitt on the flying rings and four points, 267-263, behind first place Ronnie Ashmore of Florida State in the calisthenics.

Cronstedt, incidentally, holds the record for the most crowns won by one competitor in a National tournament. The former Lion Olympian took four in the 1954 race—the all-around, parallel bars, horizontal bar and free exercise.

Today's championship competition is completely independent of yesterday's preliminary scoring. The Lion's 8-man team has Vega defending his parallel bars crown, Mullen defending his rope climb championship and eight other contenders in the eight events.

Dick Rehm will join defending champion Mullen among the finalists for the rope climb while Bob Foht joins defending champion Vega on the parallels.

Adie Stevens and Vega qualified for the tumbling. Jack Biesterfeldt and Vega will be competing on the side horse. Vega is the only Lion on the flying rings and calisthenics. He, Leu, and Weissend will be competing on the horizontal bar today.

ALL-AROUND RESULTS:

1. Armando Vega—1601
2. Abie Grossfeldt, Illinois—1514
3. Sam Baillie, Iowa—1471
4. Ed Gagnier, Michigan—1439
5. Charles Neeley, Temple—1387
6. Rafael Lecuona, Florida State—1375
7. Rennie Amster, Florida State—1367
8. Jamile Ashmore, Florida State—1348
9. Dion Weissend—1341
10. Gil Leu—1336

The team scoring is on the basis of 11 points for first in an event, 9 for second, 8 for third and so forth for all ten finalists.



ARMANDO VEGA, smashes his way to fame

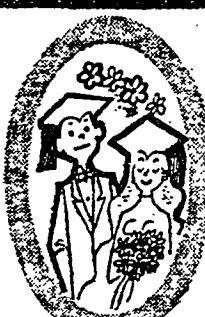
Men in the know know true from false



More than 50% of college men earn at least half their way through school

TRUE FALSE

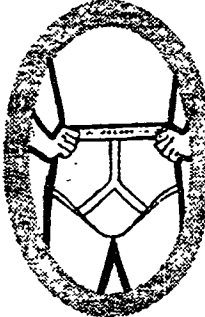
False. While 71% earn part or all of their expenses, the breakdown is: 17% earn nothing; 25% earn less than 1/4; 20% earn 1/4 to 1/2; 14% earn 1/2 to 3/4; 24% earn 3/4 to all.



College men usually marry college women

TRUE FALSE

False. They might like to, but there are just so many more college men than college women that they can't. However, it is true that college girls usually marry college men.



The vital part of Jockey underwear lasts longer than the rest of the garment

TRUE FALSE

True. The waistband is usually the weak point of most underwear, but Jockey developed a special, long-wearing, heat-resistant elastic (with U.S. Rubber and the American Institute of Laundering) that actually outwears the garment itself.

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