



As a MATT-er-a-FACT

By MATT MATHEWS
Associate Sports Editor

HOW TO PICK WINNERS (??)—

About this time of year the experts get a good line on the national football teams (?) and the college crowd starts slacking off because they can't call the upsets anymore.

Well, for those of you who want new systems for picking winners, I devote this column.

I'm not even going to mention the most successful way around the Sports office. Genial George French and his darts are due to face the law of averages very soon—and if you think he picks them any other way, drop around the office sometime, but wear a long thick coat and a helmet.

A business friend of ours who is taking a course in the stock market plays every other team that is spotted an uneven number. He explains that he never picks two teams in a row.

He has also proven (to my satisfaction) that the "spots" win more than teams doing the spotting.

Of course there's always the mathematical probability theorist. He gathers past records, every game write-up he can get his hands on, the college's newspaper, and subscribes to every poll sheet on the market. Last week he said Michigan State, Wisconsin, College of the Pacific, Navy and Valpariso couldn't lose—they did.

There's another type of character who believes in newspaper prognosticators—to a degree. When the selector (in his case the Associated Press' Will Grimsley—see page 6) chooses a winner by a big score and the polls call the game even, this student plays the winner hoping for a one or two-point margin. The disadvantage to his system is that everybody wants him to pick a winner for winner for them this week.

The female view is interesting also. (Our Collegian personnel director Pat Evans warned me not to use the name of the coed here—so I won't.) This "particular" coed picks the colleges where she has friends. "Of course I also pick the schools with pretty names," she related as she asked for a dime (for a cup of coffee).

My roommate has plenty of confidence in my picks—he picks the opposite of my four "sure things." I don't really mind, he gives me a cut of his winnings.

With that background I pick the upset of the week—South Carolina over Clemson (tonight).

While reading a story last week that Lion coach Rip Engle has started nearly everybody except head manager Ed Hintz, I was reminded of a high school incident this year.

It seems a Wisconsin high school was trailing its opponent late in the game, 53-7. The losing coach was so desperate for substitutes that he just pointed down the end of the bench and shoved the last guy into the game.

The fellow happened to be sportswriter Herb Van Driel of the Appleton Post-Crescent.

Van Driel later explained to the coach that he wanted to play to break a personal record. In three years of playing end at his high school, he never caught a pass. The coach kept him out.

WORDS TO IMPRESS YOUR IMPORT BY: Buttonhook—when an end goes 10 yards downfield and stops dead as he turns and catches a pass. Zero Automatic—Lucas' rollout, usually around his left end. Reddog—defensive tactic when a linebacker shoots into the opponent's backfield. Bullets—similar to reddogging with the half-back charging into the offensive backfield. Fire—interception (of the football.)

Lions Host Rival MSU On Saturday

8 National Titles Held by 2 Teams

By George French

More often than not, the winner—or loser—of the Michigan State-Penn State cross-country dual meet has gone on to win the IC4-A or NCAA championships.

The Spartans will enter Saturday's dual meet on the University golf course with a 9-6 dual meet edge over the Lions.

The results of the first (1939) and last (1957) meetings between the two schools bear a remarkable resemblance. Both years the Spartans won by a narrow 24-31 margin. While the harriers from East Lansing won the NCAA title in 1938, the 1957 Spartan squad finished second in the NCAA's with 127 points—five points behind Notre Dame.

The Lions dropped their first two encounters in 1939 and 1940 (35-20), despite some fine running by the Nittanies' "Wild Bill" Smith, 1938 IC4-A individual champion.

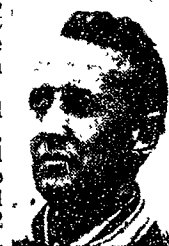
The Lions bounced back in 1942, beating Michigan State, 24-32. Led by three-time Olympian Curt Stone, former NCAA mile champion Gerry Karver, and the present Nittany assistant coach Norm Gordon, the Lions swept to a tie for the NCAA title with Indiana.

After the end of World War II, Karver and Stone returned to the campus and teamed with 1952 Olympic steeplechase champion Horace Ashenfelter to upend the Spartans 25-31 in 1946 and tie the series at two up.

In 1947, the Spartans scored a 21-36 victory over the Lions, but the Nittany harriers—led by Horace Ashenfelter—bounced back with vengeance, winning the NCAA title.

Michigan State—backed by their star distance runner Warren Druetzler—beat Penn State in 1948 (21-36) and 1949 (22-35) and went on to win the NCAA title, although Horace Ashenfelter took

(Continued on page eight)



Gordon

Terp Booters 'Up' For Crucial Game

Like so many other teams on the Penn State soccer schedule, Maryland will be seeking their first victory over the Nittany Lions. The Terps and Lions have met 10 times and the Terps have always come in second.

The series dates back to 1948 when the Lions were still under the wing of coach Bill Jeffrey. He coached the Lions until 1952 when Kenny Hosterman took over. During those years the Maryland-Penn State game was always a crucial one with the Lions winning by close scores except for 1952 when they won 11-0.

This year's game will be no different. Right now it looms as the most important on the Nittany schedule, for the Lions must beat the Terps to stay in contention for the national title.

The game is important to Maryland because it could mean

an undefeated season—something the Terps have missed the last three years due only to losses at the hands of the Nittany Lions.

Reports from Maryland say that the Terps are really up for this game. "Everybody is always up for us. That's why there is so much pressure on our team. Everybody wants to beat Penn State," moaned Lion coach Kenny Hosterman.

The Lion booters are also "up" for the game. On Tuesday they received the good news that high scoring Bill Fiedler

(Continued on page eight)

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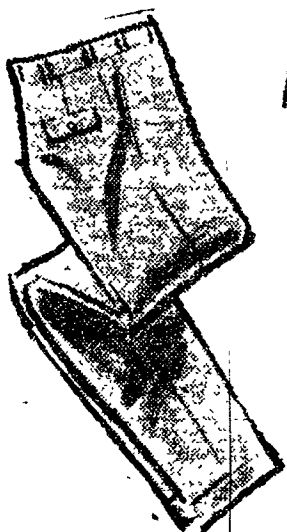
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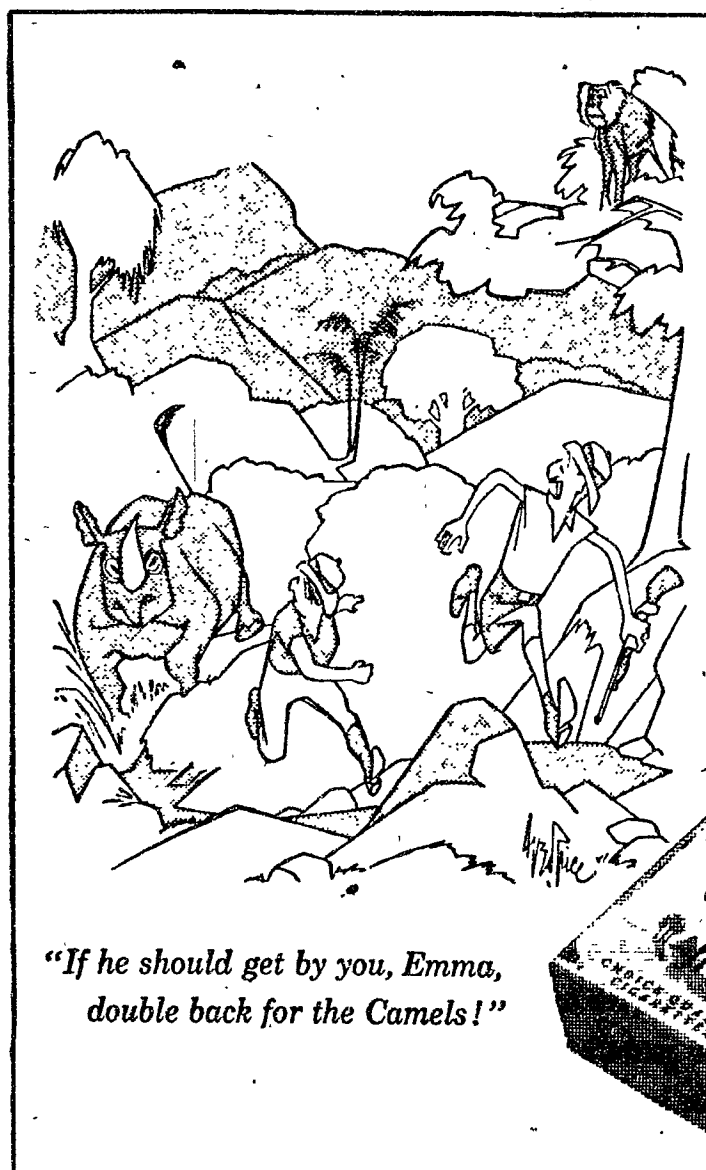


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