

# Vega-Led Gymnasts Bid Kaul, Crowe, Klippenstein For NCAA Title Today Advance to IM Semi-Finals

Penn State opens its bid for another National Collegiate Athletic Association gymnastic championship this afternoon in Berkeley, California with its incomparable Captain Armando Vega again leading the way. The last time a Vega-led Penn State squad "entered the nationals," they made it. That was in 1957 at the U. S. Naval Academy and Vega personally scored 58 of his winning team's 88½.

Vega and Penn State are again expected to face their toughest competition from Illinois, the only university to win the NCAA team title more than the Lions.

And the two individuals that should give Vega his toughest competition will also be wearing Illini uniforms—1956 all-around champion Don Tonry and 1958 all-around king Abie Grossfeld. Which makes the first time in the 11-year history of the National Gym Championships that three all-around champions will face each other for the top honor in gymnastics.



VEGA

Penn State is hoping that it has the balancing score factor in its two brilliant juniors, Lee Cunningham and Jay Werner. They scored over half the points last year as the team finished third in the championships. Illinois and the host Michigan State teams finished in a first place tie for the top spot last year. The Lions were only nine points behind the two leaders, 79-70.

But the Illini did not have the services of Tonry who was ineligible at the time. By the same token, Coach Gene Wettstone's squad had to compete without Vega who dropped out of school. Vega has proven to be a higher scorer than Tonry and is expected to again make the difference between a win or a loss. Hal Frey, gymnastics coach at the University of California and tournament director, predicted a close battle between Penn State and Illinois. He also gives his Cal squad an outside chance: "I predict that Penn State and Illinois will fight it out for first place with the University of California breathing down their necks. I feel that we have the best gymnast in the meet (Ed. Note: Coach Frey is speaking about his own all-around ace, Art Sherlock) and he is nowhere in the condition he should be."

Virtually nothing is known, or has been released, on the rope climbing entries for the nationals, except that one of the Cal climbers has done a 3.6 at least once. But Eastern champion Don Littlewood has topped that in his last five official climbs and tied (Continued on page eight)



## As a MATT-er-a-FACT

By MATT MATHEWS Associate Sports Editor

### HOW TO WIN THE NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP—

Don't say it, I know—Score more than the other team. But that's only the end product of the strategy. The basis is laid in qualifying more athletes in today's preliminaries and also as a major part of that process, having all your athletes qualify ahead of your chief opponents and thereby knock them out of the finals.

That requires the best gymnasts in collegiate circles, their best routines and a little bit of that stuff called "luck."

Captain Armando Vega, as the Lion's top point scoring threat, will play the most important part in knocking down the opposing individuals' scores.

Take the case of Abie Grossfeld, Illinois' best gymnast. Abie scored 51 points last year with three firsts and two seconds. In all probability he'll win the high bar again, but should Vega beat him on the parallels, all-around, still rings and free exercise (as expected), the Illini ace loses six points off his team score from last year.

And so the cycle goes as one progresses down through Jay Werner and Lee Cunningham. And remember, there is no intention of calling Werner and Cunningham mediocre, far from it. As stated earlier, all these entries in the Nationals have to be among the best to compete on this high level.

The same goes for tumbler Dave Dulaney who should finish in the top three and the rope climbers who should dominate the positions there.

Now we come to my break-

down of how the top four teams should qualify:

|          | PS | Ill | MS | Cal | PS | Ill | MS | Cal |
|----------|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|
| Free x   | 2  | 2   | 2  | 1   | 2  | 1   | 1  | 1   |
| Horse    | 1  | 1   | 0  | 2   | 1  | 1   | 1  | 1   |
| H-bar    | 2  | 2   | 2  | 1   | 2  | 0   | 0  | 0   |
| Rope     | 3  | 0   | 0  | 2   | 1  | 2   | 2  | 2   |
| Still r. | 2  | 3   | 1  | 1   | 2  | 2   | 1  | 1   |

The totals give Penn State 18 qualifiers, Illinois 14, Michigan State 11, and California 13.

None of the Penn State qualifiers from the above list is improbable — in fact, it may be low. Vega is expected to qualify in at least six—free "x," high bar, parallels, flying rings, still rings, and all-around. I'm not including tumbling (in which he placed 10th in 1957) or side horse (in which he tied for third in '57).

Werner should qualify in free "x," still rings, flying rings, tumbling, and all-around. Cunningham should qualify in high bar, side horse and all-around; Dulaney in tumbling and all three rope climbers should qualify.

Should at least these 18 qualify, the next problem is quality of finish and that is determined in tomorrow's finals.

Let's see—Vega 60, Werner 25, Cunningham's 19, the rope climbers' 17 and Dulaney's . . . Nahh, they can't break the record of 137 points. Or can they?

By SANDY PADWE  
Beta Theta Pi's Bob Kaul, Sigma Nu's Kevin Crowe and Glenn Klippenstein of Alpha Gamma Rho all turned in impressive wins last night, and moved into the semi-final round of the IM wrestling tournament.

Kaul, who has been one of the biggest surprises of the tournament thus far, kept up his winning ways by pinning Jack Dellastatious of Sigma Chi in 4:47.

Earlier this week Kaul pulled the tourney's biggest upset when he pinned champion Ben Amato in 0:55. His win last night established him as one of the top men to beat in the 158-pound class.

Crowe, runnerup in the 167-pound class last year, didn't waste much time as he pinned Scotty Charlton of SAE in 1:55.

Klippenstein, on the other hand, had to go the limit before beating Delta Theta Sigma's John Mayhew on a referee's decision.

Klippenstein and Mayhew gave the fans a tremendous battle which wound up 0-0, but the referee gave the decision to Klippenstein.

Don Deckman of Delta Theta Sigma turned in the fastest pin of the evening, flattening George Layman of Alpha Chi Sigma in 32 seconds.

John Black of Acacia pulled a mild upset in the 167-pound class by beating Jim Knipe of Chi Phi, 5-4.

The top match in the independent class saw Bob Okamoto

squeek past Don Link, 6-5, in a real crowd-pleasing affair in the 128-pound class.

### WRESTLING SUMMARY

128—Bollinger (C.Phi) pinned Cunningham (AGR) 3:16; Larson (ACR) dec. Thompson (DU), 6-4; Okamoto (Ind) dec. Link (Ind) 6-5; Dulaney (Ind) and Anderson (Ind) double forfeited.

135—Kelly (Ind) dec. Wallander (Ind), 6-0; Kearney (Ind) won by forfeit.

142—Deckman (DTS) pinned Layman (ACS) 0:32.

150—Klippenstein (AGR) won referee's dec. over Mayhew (DTS); Hinkel (ASP) pinned Tucci (DSP) 1:22; Stauffer (Ind) pinned Geisel (Ind) at 2:22; Dixon (Ind) pinned Stamm (Ind) 3:05; Bridge (Ind) pinned Harlow (Ind) 5:59; Wilkinson (KS) pinned Moyer (SN), 3:24.

158—Baker (Ind) pinned Berry (Ind) 3:35; Kaul (BTP) pinned Dellastatious (SC) 4:47; Machen (Ind) dec. Maize (Ind), 4-0; Phillips (ASP) dec. Kuonman (ACR), 2-0; Ottoson (Ind) dec. Patter (Ind), 4-1.

167—Crowe (SN) pinned Charlton (SAE) 1:55; Demmer (Ind) pinned Reber (Ind) 1:45; Findley (Ind) dec. Berents (Ind), 3-0; Black (Acacia) dec. Knipe (C.Phi), 5-4.

Hwt.—Alleman (DTS) pinned Landherr (DU) at 5:05.

### PIAA Mat to Be Held Here

Penn State will be in the scene of the annual PIAA wrestling championships on March 21. This year's PIAA volley ball, rifle, tennis, golf, and track tournaments also will be held on the University Park campus.

### Speidel Holds 'Dean' Title

Penn State wrestling coach Charlie Speidel is dean of the Penn State athletic coaching staff and of the 53-year-old Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association. The 60-year-old Speidel is in his 34th season at Penn State.



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Joy and Frank Lavigne of The Park Forest Village School of Dance

Announce

that the school will be closed March 23rd through March 31st to accommodate their students who are going home for the holidays.

Joy and Frank will take advantage of the closing by attending the IRE Show in New York and brushing up on the latest dance steps at the Arthur Murray Studio in New York.

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