

# Places Not Indication Of 'Twins' Showing Battle of Wrestling Strategists Highlights Lion-Engineer Duel

By DICK GOLDBERG

Jay Werner and Lee Cunningham fared poorly in comparison to the other performers in the Penn State - Temple gymnastics meet but a look at their scores will give a different impression.

Werner took two thirds on the flying rings and tumbling and fourth on the horizontal bar. Cunningham placed second on the horizontal bar, third on the parallel bars and finished fourth on the side horse.

However, their scores didn't match their placings. Werner, the ex-Olney High School star, had a 258 out of 300 on the flying rings, a 236 on the mats and 231 on the high bar.

Cunningham netted a 264 on the high bar, 244 on the horse and 219 on the p-bars.

These scores range from reputable to excellent for the events in which they competed. Werner's mark on the rings was particularly good since he made a major break in his routine. This indicates that the exercise was difficult and that which was completed was executed with the proper style.



Cunningham

Cunningham's 264 on the hori-

zontal bar was only good enough for second place.

It boils down to the fact that the "Golddust Twins" didn't perform badly, but rather they were outperformed on their events.

Coach Gene Wettstone was not displeased with Werner's and Cunningham's performances. "They gambled and lost. It's all part of good gymnastics," the Lion mentor said.

Wettstone also was very pleased with the performances of some of the other gymnasts who placed on their events. He said Dave Palmer looked very good on his event.

Palmer competed on the side horse and finished in fifth position with a 220 score, the best he has ever done.

The Lehigh - Penn State rivalry is always highlighted by a battle of wits between two master strategists, mentors Gerry Leeman and Charlie Speidel. And this year was no exception.

Wrestling, an individual sport to the degree that once on the mat it's one man against another, is still a team sport in that contestants can be maneuvered through the weight classes in such a way as to provide the maximum number of team points, according to the type of adversary faced.

No doubt before Saturday's meet, both coaches sat down, took out their mental chessboard and, consulting their scouting reports, figured out how to utilize each man to compile the most possible team points.

Leeman figured that to upset the favored Lions he had to split the two opening bouts and the two concluding matches and win three of the five middleweights.

In an attempt to effect this plan

of strategy he had one of his heavyweights — Doug Edwards — pared down to 191, where Leeman hoped he could notch a victory.

But the venerable Speidel countered with a few moves of his own. He inserted Ed Polacek at 167, moved Ron Pifer up to 177 and Hank Barone to 191.

But Speidel did not tip his hand ahead of time. Indeed, he probably didn't decide on his strategy till they reached the 167-pound match.

When the combatants were announced in pre-meet ceremonies, Speidel sent both Polacek and Pifer out to shake hands with Lehigh 167-pounder, Thad Turner, and Phil Meyer to greet Edwards at 191.

But Leeman's plan of attack

first ran afoul when Sam Minor outclassed Bob Gunst in the 147-pound class and Jerry Seckler kept his record perfect by winning at 157. In the 137 match Curt Alexander had run away from the Lions' Guy Guccione well enough to earn a 1-1 draw.

The Engineers had counted on Gunst to win at 147.

They had already completed the first part of their plan—a split in the opening matches—and a Gunst victory, coupled with the Lehigh wins at 167 and 177, would have fulfilled the second part.

But their strategy was torpedoed for good when the experienced Barone captured an easy win at 191, followed by Johnston Oberly's expected triumph in the unlimited category.

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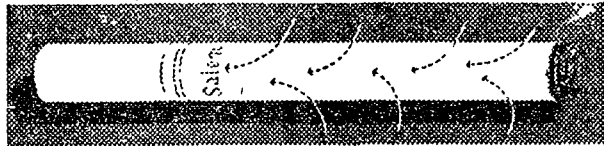
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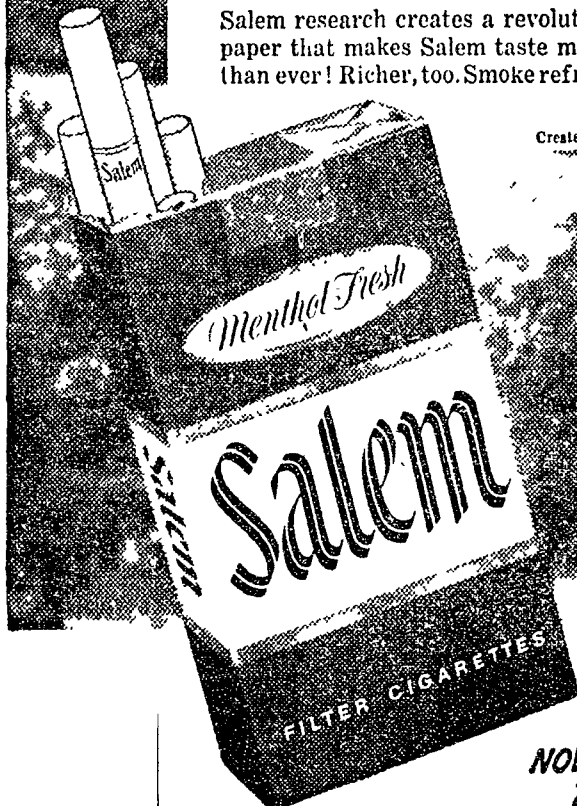
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