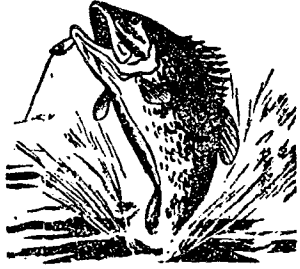


summer sportsman



The Firearm Issue

By Don Macalady

Of the many public issues which confront our legislators, one of the most important to sportsmen, especially hunters, is that of the extension of firearms registration regulations.

In nearly every legislature, law enforcement officials, states attorneys, and even fish and game commissions seek the enactment of laws which will simplify the job of apprehending lawbreakers. Public and private groups, too, seek such legislation to curb accidents, vandalism and general misuse of firearms.

In Pennsylvania, a firearm is presently defined as any pistol or revolver with a barrel under 12 inches, any shotgun with a barrel of under 24 inches, and or rifle with a barrel of under 15 inches.

Any firearm (as defined above) must be registered with the county treasurer if it is to be carried unconcealed while hunting or fishing.

In order to carry a concealed firearm or to carry a firearm within an automobile, a person must obtain a permit from the county sheriff or city chief of police. No permit or registration is required to keep a firearm within the owner's place of abode or business.

Firearms regulations vary from state to state but are limited to some extent by federal regulations which define a firearm as any automatic weapon, any shotgun with barrel under 18 inches, or any rifle with a barrel under 16 inches in length. Federal regulations also prohibit shipping assembled firearms and require all firearms manufacturers to maintain complete records of shipments and sales.

Proposed laws to extend firearms regulations and to broaden the definition of a firearm are of interest to all hunters, plinkers, and target shooters.

In response to this interest I'd like to present in a series of two articles, a review of the pro's and con's of this extension of firearms regulation. This will be done in the hope that many readers will form a definite opinion in this matter and tell his state or national congressmen of his views.

Today, I'll review the reasons given for the desirability of the proposed laws.

As previously mentioned, the extension of firearms registration would make it more difficult for undesirables to obtain a rifle or gun and thus facilitate both a reduction in criminal practice and an improvement of apprehension techniques (through an easier weapons tracing procedures).

Such laws could also make a criminal offense of merely possessing any unregistered rifle or gun. Many crimes could be prevented in this manner.

Lost or stolen weapons could more easily be returned to their rightful owners if each gun were registered with governmental officials.

And finally, such legislation would keep rifles or guns out of the hands of minors, mental incompetents, drug addicts, habitual drunkards, etc.

Thus, briefly described are the reasons behind many proposed extensions of firearms regulations and registration laws. Next week I'll present the other side of the picture and attempt to represent the views of groups who oppose such legislation.

9 Games On Tap For Soccer Team

Nine games are on tap for the soccer team next fall.

The Nittany Lions will open Oct. 7 against West Chester in the first of five home contests. In other home games, coach Ken Hosterman's team will face Maryland, Navy, Temple and Pittsburgh.

On the road, the Lions will play Colgate, Bucknell, Gettysburg and Army.

The schedule: Oct. 7, West Chester; 14, at Colgate; 21, Maryland; 24, at Bucknell; 28, Navy; Nov. 4, Temple; 8, at Gettysburg; 17 at Army; 25, Pittsburgh.

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1961 Football Rules Favored By Engle

The 1961 college football rules are the best ever. So says Rip Engle, who next fall will embark on his 12th campaign as head coach of the Nittany Lions.

As immediate past president of the American Football Coaches Association and a member of the rules committee,

Engle sees a long and healthy future for the wild-card substitute and the two-point conversion play.

"I hated to see two-platoon football go out," Engle said, "but I've change my mind. I'm convinced that the present rules are the best we've ever had and the best for the game."

"Unrestricted substitution would mean bigger squads and bigger coaching staffs with offensive and defensive special-

sion — "well, it has made for much more excitement," the veteran coach continued. "It might cost Penn State a game or two, but it also could win a couple for us. I like it, as do many other coaches. I doubt that we'll see any major rule changes for a while."

"About the only rule we break," Engle said, "is the one saying a football team consists of 11 players. We think in terms of 22 first-team players. Remember, our Reddy (second) team scored 15 of our last 22 touchdowns last year and logged just about as much playing time as the so-called first unit. We hope we can do that again next fall."



RIP ENGLE

ists," Engle explained. "We would be spending too much money because of the increase in overall size of the program."

"It is not especially good for a boy to learn only one phase of the game," Engle said. "Basketball players must learn to play offense and defense. So must baseball players. There's no need for football players to be different. Two-platoon football is especially harmful to those players who plan to coach and teach after graduation. How can a coach teach youngsters the complete game if he himself never learned all of it?" he said.

The present wild-card rule permits us to get our punters, kickers, and offensive and defensive specialists into the game at any time, Engle said. "This is as unrestricted as the game should become."

As for the two-point conver-

Recreational Swimming

Recreational swimming for women will be held at White Hall from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Best Pitchers For '61 Named

Bob Fenton and Marlin Biesecker proved to be the most effective pitchers on the 1961 baseball team.

Fenton, a sophomore southpaw, posted a 0.94 earned run average while winning one and losing one. He appeared in 28 1/2 innings, allowed 18 hits, 3 earned runs, walked 10 and struck out 19.

Biesecker won two and lost two while racking up a 1.22 earned run average. In 22 innings the junior righthander allowed 13 hits, three earned runs, fanned 19, and walked eight.

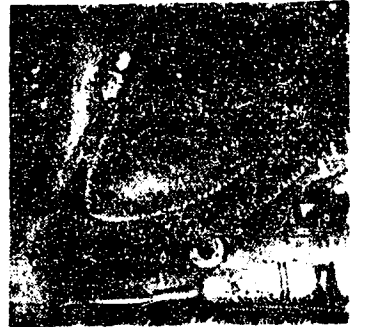
Senior lefthander Ed Kikla was the strikeout leader, fanning 41 batters in 39 innings. He also walked the most batters, 18, while posting a 3-2 won-lost record. His earned run average was 3.69.

Among other regulars, Tom Durbin compiled a 2-1 record with a 3.15 earned run average, and relief specialist Bill Saul won one, lost none, and had a 2.07 earned run average.

E. M. Czekaj, business manager for athletics at Penn State, reports a heavy sale of season tickets for the Nittany Lions' five home football games next season.

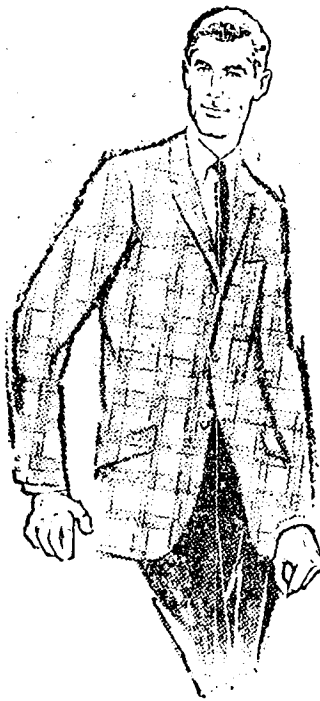
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