

Eastern Mat Championships

Powerful Orange Grapplers Favored To Unseat Lehigh

By Walter Taylor

An all-out fight between defending champion Lehigh and heir apparent Syracuse is presaged for the fifty-ninth annual Eastern Intercollegiate wrestling tournament opening a two-day run tomorrow at Annapolis.

One hundred fifty grapplers, from sixteen colleges, will participate in a 4-round affair that lists preliminaries at 1 o'clock and quarter-finals at 8 P.M. tomorrow, with semi-finals Saturday at 12.30 and finals at 7.30.

Orangemen Beat Lehigh

Syracuse has been tabbed the title choice, on the basis of a perfect 9-0 season that includes a smashing 23-6 conquest of Lehigh.

But any squad gunning for its third straight diadem, that garnered six of nine individual crowns a year ago and rolled up a 10-1 dual meet mark this season, as Lehigh did, must be considered a serious threat to all contenders.

Bulwarking the Engineers' bid to keep top honors is the fact three of five returning rulers wear Lehigh toggery. They are Bill Merriam (123), Pat Smartt (130) and Kirk Pendleton (157).

Amazing Career On Mat

Pendleton has just completed one of the most amazing careers in collegiate wrestling—35 victories, 19 of them by falls, against no losses or draws in his three years at the Bethlehem (Pa.) university.

The Lehigh captain is the only gripster in the 53-year history of the sport at his school to turn the trick.

In addition, he has won two straight Eastern crowns and is trying to become the third Engineer ever to make it three in a row. The last two winters he also went to the N.C.A.A. finals.

The other defending champions are Mike Harman, Navy's unbeaten 137-pounder, and Dave Scharer, Rutgers heavyweight.

Darkhorse Role For Navy

Because of Harman and three others who placed in last year's tournament, when the Middies finished a strong third, the host Tars are accorded a dark-horse rating.

But, so is Rutgers (7-1) with good men to back Scharer in Hank Mazzoni (147) and Dennis Focht (191). Temple, 11-1 in dual meets, is considered an outside possibility.

Others in the field are Pitt, Penn State, Army, Cornell, Columbia, Harvard, Yale, Brown, Princeton, Penn and Franklin and Marshall.

Syracuse, power of the East, bases its hopes mainly on unbeaten grappling gridders Gerry Everling (191) and heavyweight Jim Nance, wrestlers of the "fall" variety.

Besides its three returning mon-

archs, Lehigh also has fine representatives in John Leek (137), Doug Kich (147) and John Gladish (177).

Pitt, customarily 'a toughie but this season fielding a team of sophomores, feels it may have championship timber in Mike Johnson (130) and captain Jim Harrison (167).

Other standout gripsters are captain Mike Natvig of Army

(157), heavyweight Lou Asack of Columbia, Navy's Ron Tebben (191) and heavyweight Earl Bishop.

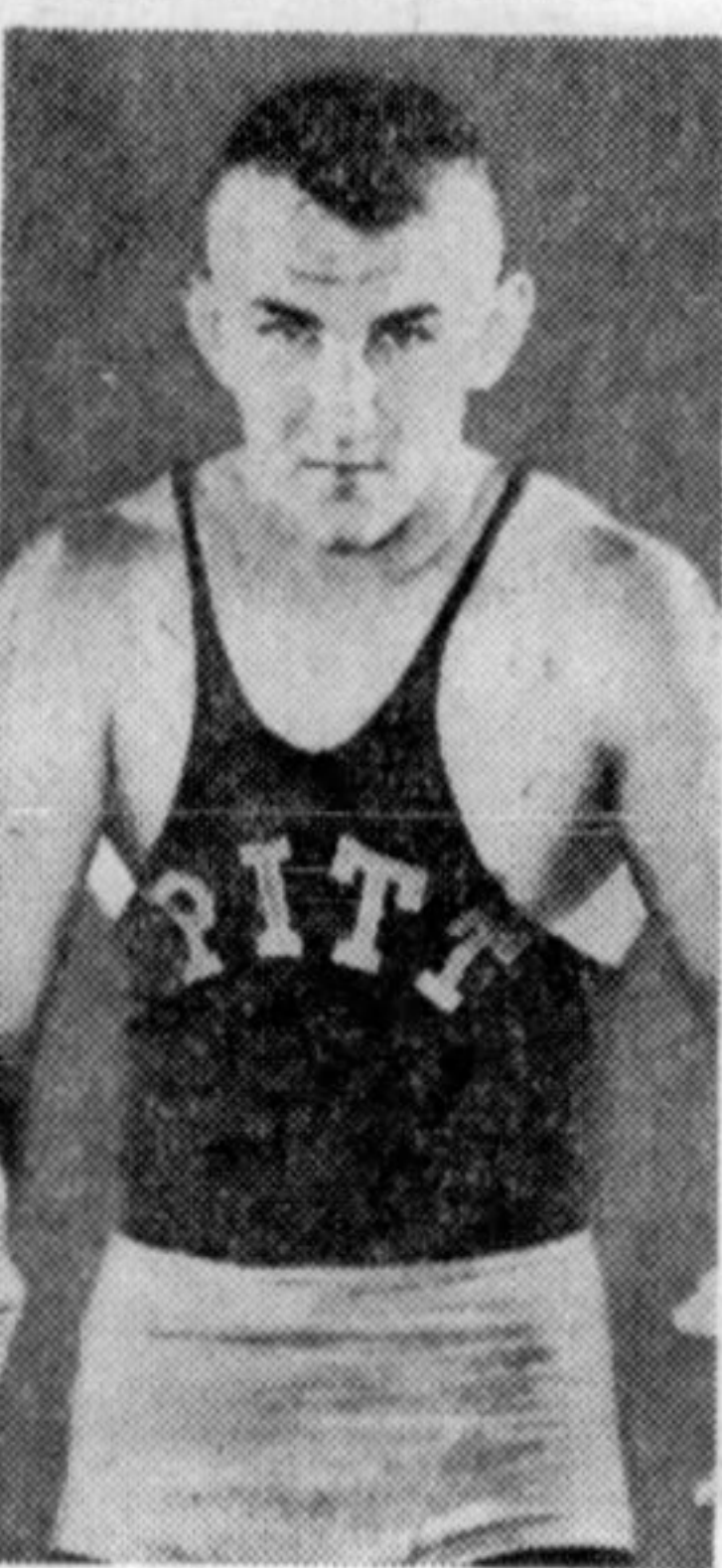
Trying to look ahead to Saturday's finals, some mat buffs figure top individual bouts will be the dreadnaught duel between Scharer and Nance and resumption of the Pendleton-Natvig rivalry.



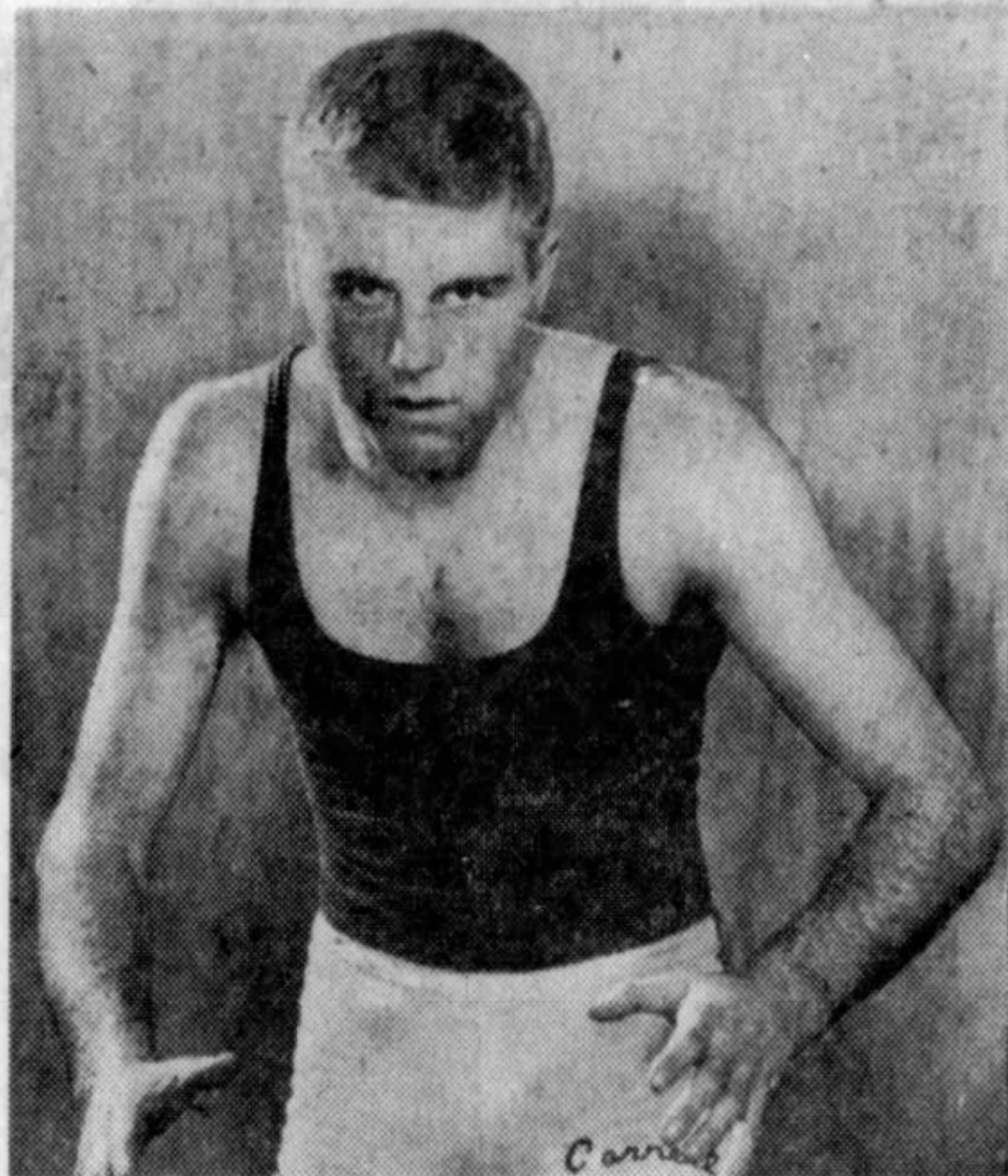
MIKE HARMAN
Navy's 8-0, 137-pound champ



LOU ASACK
Columbia's mat anchorman



JOHN CARR
157-pound Panther soph



CHARLES BUSH
123-pounder wrestling for first time on Cornell varsity team

A.C.C. Swims

2 N.C. Schools Share Favorite's Role

Raleigh, N.C., March 7.—Defending champion Maryland in the 100-yard breaststroke, 200-yard breaststroke and 200-yard individual medley, and Smokey in the 50-yard freestyle.

The favorites are Willie Bloom in the 200-yard freestyle and Thompson Mann in the 100-yard backstroke and 200-yard freestyle, both of North Carolina; and Ed Lupien, of Maryland, 1,500-yard freestyle.

Also returning are Bill McGinty and Maryland's Gilson, who tied in the 100-yard freestyle. Ron Squires, of Maryland, is defending his one-meter diving crown.

All '62 Victors Back

Winners of all twelve individual events in the 1962 meet are back.

They include North Carolina State's Ed Spencer in the 440-yard freestyle, 100-yard butterfly and

200-yard butterfly, Pete Fogarasy in the 100-yard breaststroke, 200-yard breaststroke and 200-yard individual medley, and Smokey in the 50-yard freestyle.

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