

Torgerson-Wojcieszas Battle Tops U.W.'s Record-Breaking Performance

Four Badgers Punch Way to National Crowns



This Was a Battle! And Truman Torgerson of Wisconsin, shown here with his back to the camera, was in a wild, battle with America's Wojcieszas of Syracuse. This was a typical picture, Wisconsin standing in throwing punches, and Torgerson slipping down his advance with a barrage of leather.

... and Henry J. McCormick Means No Foolin'!

Russell G. Lynch, a Milwaukee sports writer, gets very dull, and not a little erudite over the National Collegiate Athletic Association boxing tournament that ended Saturday night at the university field house.

Maybe it's beside the point to advance the theory that 15,000 people can't be wrong and college boxing has been drawing that before than ever this year.

Fifteen thousand people form a pretty healthy turnout, such a turnout, for instance, as Marquette would like to draw for a football game in Milwaukee.

Such a turnout, for instance, as would make any Milwaukee promoter weep with joy if he could attract that many for three professional boxing shows.

Lynch pokes fun at the manner in which college boxing is conducted, contrasting it with that which prevails in professional or amateur events.

What he may not realize is that people hereabouts must like the way college boxing is conducted or they wouldn't go for it the way they do.

The boxes who advance to the center of the ring wear basketball shirts, as well as ring trunks? Criticize Lynch. Well, what of it? Don't try and tell me that those basketball shirts hamper the boxes. They aid spectators to distinguish between the contestants at all times, and they certainly are more sightly than having boys box with their chests bare.

By the way, I never have been convinced that it adds anything to the toughness of an individual or the ruggedness of a sport to make the contestants look as brutal as possible.

However, these considerations are rather silly. There is one point on which I become impatient with Lynch's essay. That is where he says:

The chief of the COMMITTEE (the capital letters are several times near to a corner. He was out of his chair had his eyes out and a doctor had to examine him. Again, one of the young gentlemen was knocked on his ear through the ropes and was carried out a sport.

That is a charge of college boxing believes that the welfare of the boy is the prime consideration, and they have the viewpoint that this can be done without detracting from the attractiveness of boxing as a sport.

Fights are stopped where a boy could undoubtedly finish. What purpose would it serve to let a fight go on to its inevitable conclusion where a boy is certain to take needless punishment?

By HENRY J. MCCORMICK (State Journal Sports Editor) Wisconsin lining up an all-time record Saturday night when it won four of the eight individual boxing championships awarded in the National Collegiate Athletic Assn. tournament which ended Saturday night in the university field house.

As a tremendous crowd of 13,250 roared cheering acclaim, four Wisconsin boys took the supreme honors; they were Gene Rankin at 135, Omar Crocker at 145, Woodrow Swancutt at 155, and Truman Torgerson at 175. Nick Lee, Wisconsin heavyweight, was outpointed in the finals Saturday night by Rene Trochesser of Louisiana State.

The other three individual championships went to Sewele Whitney of Loyola (New Orleans) at 120, Teddy Kara of Idaho at 127, and Fred Stant of Catholic university at 165.

The most hair-raising battle on the championship card was the one everybody expected. It was the light-heavyweight contest between Truman Torgerson of Wisconsin and Americo Wojcieszas of Syracuse. Here was a fight to quicken the pulse of the most blasé, a crashing, smashing battle such as you seldom see.

Americo Takes Beating Torgerson won, but Wojcieszas kept the outcome in doubt because he still was wading in at the finish, still throwing punches from all angles, still as strong as a horse although he had been subjected to a beating such as few men could have taken.

Wojcieszas hadn't been defeated nor tied this year prior to this match, and nine of his 12 opponents had ended on the floor listening to the referee's count.

Torgerson had been undefeated and untied, too, but there were those who thought the strong man from Syracuse was too durable for Wisconsin's "Rock of Rock Falls."

Well, you couldn't be sure they weren't right, either, until well into the second round. Only then did you know that here was a bout which Torgerson couldn't lose unless he got careless and caught a smash to the whiskers.

Torgerson smashed a right to Wojcieszas' face after time, and in between they lashed out with a left that spurted as it landed. But Wojcieszas kept walking in, catching punches most of the time, and once in a while landing them to do his share of damage.

He Misses His Stool Torgerson used the same tactics in the second round—Wojcieszas never varies his tactics. The Syracuse boy keeps moving in like an automaton, and he's mighty hard to keep away with anything short of a baseball bat.

Torgerson, however, hit Wojcieszas with about three hard rights in a row in the second and suddenly the Syracuse boxer wobbled—not a lot but just enough to be perceptible.

Then, as he went back to his corner at the end of the second round, Wojcieszas missed his stool as he went to sit down. You know then the granite-like wallpaper from Syracuse was really human, that he actually had been hurt. He recovered in a hurry, however, and he was fully as strong as Torgerson.

At that time Torgerson had a long lead, and he held it to win with little trouble.

The most remarkable career in intercollegiate boxing was climaxed Saturday night when Omar Crocker—Wojcieszas' "Mr. Destruction"—stopped Tony Guida of Temple after a minute and nine seconds of the second round. It was Crocker's 16th straight victory, and it marked his 12th triumph by a knockout. There was nothing indefinite about it, either, for either although it was classed as technical because Referee Johnson (O'Donnell) didn't go through with a 10 count.

The Warnings! Rankin Wins Guida looked like a pretty good one, but he staggered Crocker momentarily at the close of the first round. Crocker, however, landed smartly early in the second round, and then the end came. Crocker caught Guida with a left, he hit him with a right that sent the Temple boxer stumbling to the floor. Crocker lashed out with another blow that sent Guida stumbling back and the Wisconsin boy landed a moment as he looked at the referee, then he stepped in with a right that spun Guida around and dropped him. Crocker took a matter of some few minutes to get back on his feet.

Bill Sasser started on the hill for the Badgers and pitched excellent ball, allowing two hits in five innings. He was relieved by Lloyd Schneider at the start of the sixth and the latter was nipped for four runs in nine innings by a hot batter and three hits, two doubles, and a single.

Wisconsin was away to a good start, scoring one run in the second and another in the third. Two more in the fourth gave the Badgers a 4-0 advantage.

DeKalb tied the score at 4-4 in the last of the sixth by sending four runs across the plate. Wisconsin again took the lead with three in the seventh, but DeKalb cut the margin to two runs by getting one back. The Illini put the finishing touches on the scoring for the day by driving four runs home in the eighth.

Princeton retained the 300 yard relay crown in the first event of the meet. Dick Kugel, Hal Brown, and Al Vandenberg swam the distance for Princeton in 4:20.10. The team from Princeton also won their own second time on Feb. 26.

Medinah Club Third The relay team of Medinah Club, consisting of Dick Kugel, Hal Brown, and Al Vandenberg, won the 300 yard relay in 4:20.10.

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Wisconsin Loses, 9-7, to DeKalb Teachers

Ohio State Retains Swim Title

DeKalb, Ill. — Wisconsin's defense fell apart in the late innings of the game against DeKalb Teachers' college of DeKalb, Ill. The Illini put the finishing touches on the scoring for the day by driving four runs home in the eighth.

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Varsity Grid Holdovers Nose Out Yearlings, 7-6

The series of games for Wisconsin spring football candidates got underway Saturday afternoon with the varsity holdovers from last year and the freshmen.

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Wyatt to Hurl for Dodgers Today

CLARWATER, Fla.—The Brooklyn Dodgers encountered their first postponement of conditioning activities Saturday since they were training Feb. 13 when rain prevented their scheduled game with the Detroit Tigers.

Both teams club today with Whitney Wyatt scheduled to pitch for the Dodgers.

It was a cut that deprived Ed McKinnon of Washington State a chance to be the only former NCAA champion to repeat. He was being up points on Fred Taylor, who is a regular starter, a coach near his left eye was opened. A doctor examined the gash and ordered the fight stopped.

Wyatt fought a beautiful fight against the tough little Rayon Tiger, and he had a clear though not successful margin.

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Turning the Tables

A week ago Saturday night Wisconsin's Woodrow Swancutt dropped a decisive decision to clear Hiram Damon of Louisiana State, but Saturday night Swancutt turned the tables on him in the national college 155 pound title fight.

Swancutt, who was the underdog, won the fight by a knockout in the eighth round.

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Solo Loses Race Because of Calm

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Merrill L. Lehman's sole of Newport Harbor, Calif., was chased out of victory Saturday in the third and final race of the International Star class annual spring series when the meet was called off by the sea.

Lehman's sole was the first of three boats to start the race. The other two boats were from Newport Harbor, Calif., and were second.

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Derby Hope Wins Easily

TANFORD TRACK, SAN BRUNO, Calif.—G.P. Rourke here, Massachusetts stable and a 32 yard run by Cone which the bull near middle line in the preliminary.

The fresh were hampered considerably throughout by crowd and backfield-incoming penalties. An affray penalty nullified a yard gain by Cone at the start. Shortly thereafter the variety took the ball on the 33 yard line on a fumble but was held for down.

Play was in fresh territory during the first quarter, but Cone's pass was intercepted by Rourke, who was intercepted by Rourke, who was intercepted by Rourke.

The Fresh pushed to the variety 17 as the second quarter opened. Puskvan and Irv Comby, who were intercepted by Rourke, who was intercepted by Rourke.

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