

Track

Dec. 7 is a past episode in the history of our nation. Since that epic day, when the attack on Pearl Harbor ignited the torch for World War II, the United States, the last of the World's great democracies, has frenziedly been preparing for the task which is before us. The repercussions of that momentous day are many and widespread, so it was inevitable that the War would have its effect on collegiate sports. The colleges of this nation have an important role to play in the war effort and an integral part of their job is to prepare their students, physically as well as mentally, for the part they are destined to play in the armed forces of the nation. We at St. Francis have accepted this duty gladly because it has always been a policy of the administration to foster the active participation of the students in the organized sports of the college and one hour of gym was made compulsory for each student. The Dean has repeatedly said that a healthy mind and a healthy body go hand in hand, and the importance of a balanced athletic program in the education of a student should not be underestimated. The wisdom of this advice is more apparent today than ever before.

Our country at war has taken its toll of men in all walks of life. In the world of sports numerous athletes of repute have been called to the colors of the armed

A trio of the team don sweat-clothes in the hope of doffing weight; the prancing pranksters on a jaunt rapidly going nowhere.





GO! With tense faces and bulging muscles the boys make a perfect break.

forces and St. Francis has been hit very hard by this situation. Any loss of a squad member is an acute one to us because we have a small team and few substitutes who are ready for the regular squad.

The season of 1942 held fine prospects for Coach Bill Miles. Optimistic plans were set for a successful campaign in the approaching Indoor Track Season, with the team showing great promise and displaying winning form in their practice sessions. Then the first blow of the war fell on our track team, crashing the hopeful outlook for St. Francis' most successful season since the advent of track in the Butler Street institution. Johnny Troy, the school's best half-miler and former Catholic High School champ in the mile run, was taken by the army and now he is breasting the tape in the khaki of the service. Johnny was not long in the army when he was followed by Joe Kazlowski, another star of the team. St. Francis had lost two of its most important members in less than a few weeks and before they were able to enter any contest carrying the red and blue of their school. This nearly broke the track team but the timely advent of the Freshman rule saved the day and the team, bolstered by a few talented freshmen, was entered in the major meets held in the Madison Square arena. The season opened auspiciously with a victory over a newly formed Poly Tech cross country team. Victory was followed by defeat in the second meet of the year. City College, with one of the most powerful units in the metropolitan area overran the Terriers and won their first victory in three years of competition with the Milesmen.

Harold Gunston, one of the new Freshmen, proved to be the best man for the Terriers over the five mile route. In the Metropolitan Intercollegiates, St. Francis fared well and placed fourth among their city rivals. This was a satisfactory performance by the small Franciscan squad.