

Menhardt continues placekicking tradition

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa.—"Linebacker" may be the position most often associated with Penn State football, but that doesn't diminish the importance of Nittany Lion placekickers in the last decade.

Recent NCAA statistics indicated that Lion placekickers averaged 1.06 field goals per game in the 1970s — third-highest in college football — and senior Herb Menhardt and junior Brian Franco are maintaining that pace this fall.

Tradition is what attracted Menhardt to Penn State and he hasn't disappointed Penn State's kicking fans, who watched Alberto Vitiello, Chris Bahr and Matt Bahr in the 1970s.

"I liked Penn State's tradition of kickers," the senior from Flourtown, Pa., explains. "It was the same situation as the linebackers. I knew I might not play right away, but I knew I would get a chance."

Menhardt played briefly his freshman year of 1976, missing his only try. Last year as the regular kicker, he booted 14 of 20 field goal tries and hit on all 28 extra point attempts. Menhardt has hit on four of five attempts this fall, missing a 32-yarder last week, ending his streak at a school-record 12 consecutive suc-

New club formed

A racquetball organization has been formed on campus. The organization, informal at the present time, is directed by Dr. Joseph Marchesani. The organization was formed on the basis of "meeting regularly, and sharing in the good fellowship which such playing permits," Dr. Marchesani stated.

The racquetball organization has no set meetings, but plays at the Royal Courts in Wilkes-Barre. The reason the club does not meet on campus is because the one-wall courts the campus offers are not as popular as the four-wall courts.

The racquetball organization costs \$20 per year for students plus \$6 an hour for court time.

Solution to Cryptogram

A - J	N - W
B - K	O - X
C - L	P - Y
D - M	Q - Z
E - N	R - A
F - O	S - B
G - P	T - C
H - Q	U - D
I - R	V - E
J - S	W - F
K - T	X - G
L - U	Y - H
M - V	Z - I

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cessful tries over a two-year period.

His first two years at Penn State, Menhardt split duties between football and soccer. That followed a Lion tradition, because Vitiello and the Bahr brothers all lettered in soccer. Menhardt was an outstanding soccer player, reaching the final Olympic tryout camp in 1979 before breaking his arm the first day of practice. Now he's turned his attention strictly to football.

"I came into this season with more confidence than I had last year," Menhardt says. "I geared all my attention to football."

Harter renews vow for basketball powerhouse

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Penn State basketball coach Dick Harter renewed his vow to make the Nittany Lions a national basketball power, when his team opened practice for the 1980-81 season October 15.

When Harter accepted the job as the Nittany Lion coach on March 14, 1978, he said, "We want to be competitive, we want to win and we want to be champions." He's already fulfilled the first two goals and has taken a giant step toward the third goal.

In two seasons, Harter has begun to restore Penn State's winning tradition in basketball by

reversing the losing pattern in recent years. His 1980 team finished the season with an 18-10 record, the Lions' first winning season in six campaigns and the most victories for Penn State since 1966.

And Penn State's appearance in the National Invitational Tournament last year was the first step toward completing Harter's goal of a championship team.

Four starters and 10 lettermen return from last year's team and Harter is expecting improvement from his third edition of the Nittany Lions.

"There's no question we're improved in every area over last year's team," says Harter, who has compiled a 247-162 record in 15 seasons.

"Assuming we're not hit with any major ailments or injuries as the season goes on, we will be an improved team," Harter explains. "I think that our record might not reflect that improvement, because of the very difficult road schedule we face this year. There's no question in my mind that just about every night out, we will be a considerably better team than we were last year."

Heading the list of returning players are 6-10 senior center Frank Brickowski (11.4 points, 7.8 rebounds), 6-8 sophomore forward Mike Lang (7.2 points, 6.5 rebounds), 6-7 sophomore guard Rich Fetter (9.5 points) and 6-2½ junior guard Mike Edelman (8.4 points). All four started last year, although Fetter is moving from the front court to guard this winter.

Harter also has the flexibility of moving Brickowski to forward, Lang to center and Fetter back to forward.

The other returning contenders for starting berths are 6-7 junior forward Scott Wolz (4.9 points) and 6-3½ junior guard Craig Bufie (3.5 points).

Freshmen could make a big impact on the Penn State program this year. Guards Brian Dean (20.9) and Jim Forjan (injured last year) and forwards David Griffin (15.7 points, 11 rebounds) and Dick Mumma (25.4 points, 12 rebounds) could see considerable playing time.

"I think we have good size with Frank Brickowski, Dick Mumma and Mike Lang," Harter explains. "They should do a very strong rebounding job for us, so our rebounding will be more than adequate this year."

"I think our defensive ability, with the added year of experience for all the players in our program plus the addition of Dick Mumma who's a fine defender and the other athletes who are freshmen, should make us a sound defensive team," he says.

"We should shoot the basketball better this year, because we are going to have height advantages as different matchups occur against us," Harter notes. "We will be more experienced operating against zone defenses."

"We are quicker than last year, but if we have a team weakness, it's team quickness," Harter says. "We still are not an above-average team quickness-wise. Also, we're not completely an experienced team. We still will rely on freshmen and sophomores."

Attention!

Poetry deadline extended

The New Horizons Poetry deadline will be pushed to Dec. 8 and the Art Contest deadline has been pushed back to Jan. 19.

PSU football notes

Penn State has posted a 90-20 record (81.8 winning percentage) at Beaver Stadium since the inaugural game, a 20-0 victory over Boston University on Sept. 17, 1960. Coach Joe Paterno's teams have compiled a 15-year record of 69-12 (81.6 winning percentage) at Beaver Stadium.

PSU

Penn State football coach Joe Paterno has a 15-year record of 68 victories and seven defeats (90.7 winning percentage) against Eastern independents. Paterno's teams have won 16 of their last 17 games against Eastern opponents. In the 1970s, Penn State was 49-4 against Eastern rivals, losing only to Navy (1974), Pittsburgh (1976 and 1979) and Syracuse (1970).

PSU

Sophomore tailback Curt Warner rushed 22 times for 100 yards at Maryland for his third career 100-yard performance. Warner gained 100 yards against Rutgers in the 1979 opener and 149 yards against Colgate in the 1980 opener. Although he missed three games and parts of other games in his freshman season, Warner has 840 yards rushing in two seasons and could become the first Penn State sophomore over the 1,000-yard rushing mark.

PSU

Senior fullback Booker Moore's 55-yard scoring run against Maryland was the longest rushing play of his four-year Penn State career. Moore ran 52 yards on a non-scoring play in the 1978 West Virginia game and raced 52 yards for a touchdown against West Virginia last year.

PSU

The touchdown pass from halfback Jonathan Williams to fullback Mike Meade in the Maryland game Saturday marked the first time Penn State scored on a pass thrown by a player other than a quarterback, since split end Dick Barvinchak passed 30 yards to tight end Dave Stutts on a fake field goal play in the 1975 Syracuse game.

PSU

Penn State's pass defense has intercepted three passes in each of the last two games with defensive halfback Paul Lankford leading the way with two interceptions against Missouri and another in the Maryland game. The last time the Lion defenders had consecutive three-interception-days was in the 1978 season, when Penn State intercepted three West Virginia passes and then picked off five passes the following week against Maryland.

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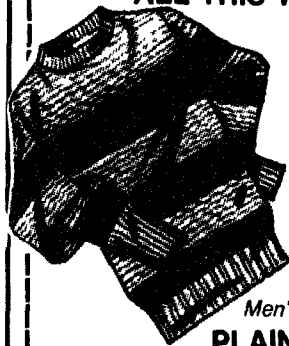
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