

# Bezdek Confident That Athletic 'New Deal' Will Yield Results This Year

## Former Coach Re-Affirms Faith in Sports Program

### Intercollegiate Athletics an Essential Part of 'Athletics for All' Policy

"We'll win 'em all this year." That was Director Bezdek's emphatic retort to the usual question, "How many will we win this year, Bez?" Bezdek's answer was not in the form of a prediction, but rather as an indication of the renewed spirit which seems to have swept the campus in the past week.

"In the old days we went out to win every game," the grey-haired mentor continued. "If we lost a game—well, we lost it, and forgot it in our preparation for the next one. We've got the material and we've got the coaches. The rest is up to them."

"Well, what about Columbia?" he was asked.

"Columbia can—well, they can be beaten," he declared. "That isn't impossible. Penn State teams have defeated stronger teams than Columbia, and we can do it again this year. Why not?"

"We had a few tough years while things were being changed, but we laid a good foundation. With the support of the students, the team that will be developed from that group of huskies out there should go places this year."

"I believe that most students have misunderstood the attitude of our department toward intercollegiate athletics," Bez continued. "We have often been accused of neglecting varsity competition in favor of intramural sports."

"This student attitude is entirely wrong and should be corrected. Intercollegiate athletics are an absolute essential to the program of 'athletics for all,'" he emphasized. "There is absolutely no reason to differentiate between intercollegiate and intramural athletics in such a program."

"The difference is simply one of education and efficiency. Both are athletics, but varsity teams are supposed to be composed of the best athletes in school. Whether an intramural or varsity man, the student is, however, entitled to the best instruction possible and that is just what we are trying to give him," explained Bezdek.

"Up until now the administration has been greatly handicapped by lack

of funds, but now that we are able to spend a little we are hiring the best coaches we can find and improving equipment for the benefit of the students," he said in answer to an inquiry as to recent additions to the coaching staff.

"Incidentally, these additions seem to have improved the whole morale of the team. There is a younger, more vital spirit evident on the field and it seems to have transmitted itself to the student body," he concluded.

As we walked away we thought we could already feel the warming rays as the sun pierced the clouds of Penn State's athletic sky.

## 50 Harriers Off To Early Start

Wernermen 2 Weeks Ahead of Season; 4 Lettermen Back on Squad

If the early bird catches the worm, Penn State cross-country teams are off to a good start, for with more than 50 candidates reporting daily to Coach Chick Werner, the season is two weeks ahead of last year.

Led by Captain George W. Harvey, more than a dozen varsity candidates including lettermen Book, Alexander and Vandermark, augmented by most of last year's strong freshman team, are working the kinks out of their legs over the freshman three-mile course in preparation for the first meet October 20.

Werner Issues Call

Continuing an innovation of last year, the thinly-clad are engaging in mass runs, with the idea of developing an evenly balanced team rather than outstanding stars. Consequently there are no outstanding men as yet, although several freshmen will have to do some fast stepping to stay up with their reputations.

Coch Werner has issued a call for additional candidates, who may report to the varsity locker room any afternoon this week.

## WRIGHTING BETWEEN THE LIONS

By FRED W. WRIGHT

There have been dirty headlines, and there have been dirty headlines, but the dirtiest of the pre-College year agent things intercollegiate was this from the Philadelphia Inquirer for all Republicans:

HIGH SCHOOL ROOTERS LACE PENN STATE TEAM

The jibe, of course, had to do with the failure of the Penn State soccer team to register a victory on their tour of Scotland, where, so Oscar tells us, wee laddies get a soccer ball as their first toy. Many who read that the first American college team ever to tour Scotland finished their trip with a 5-2 setback from a high school team failed to take this into consideration.

There probably won't be any complaint from this campus when the team arrives tomorrow, for most of the students were well acquainted with Coach Bill Jeffrey's opinion prior to the trip that "We don't expect to win a game, but they'll know they've been in a soccer game." One Philadelphia writer, in commenting on the trip, opined that they were all "close" games.

Herman Everhardus, Michigan's all-American quarterback, will find the student body and players wholeheartedly behind him as he takes

up his coaching duties as one of the ringmasters under the Higgins big top. There's a new spirit up on New Beaver field and the appointment of Everhardus here is a large factor. Add to Everhardus' appointment the building of new stands and a sophomore-junior backfield that looked pretty good to these expert eyes Saturday afternoon. Penn State may not win every game this year as my Cousin Hugo says in another place on this page, but you've got to hand it to administrative officials who have made possible some of the things that "old grads" and Monday morning quarterbacks have been howling about for the past five years.

Oscar is torn between two desires at this writing. He'd like to see Steve Hamas get a crack at the heavyweight championship, but he wouldn't want to see Steve Hamas get cracked by the champion.

Oscar hasn't the slightest bit of doubt that Hamas will get knocked into the last row of the balcony if he runs up against one of present champion, Max Baer's long, looping rights, but Oscar seems to be alone in this contention. People who neither know the former full-back personally nor have seen him fight seem to think that he has a better chance than any of the other heavies to knock Baer's grin around to the back of his neck.

Just at present it looks like Hamas will have a rather long wait before he gets his coveted chance. He is scheduled to meet Art Lasky October 5 in New York's Garden and should he win that bout, something which Steve seriously thinks he is capable of doing, he will have to wait another stretch of five or

six months before he can get a crack at Mr. Baer. And some of the fans and promoters seem to think he should again tackle Mr. Schmeling before claiming to be the leading challenger.

And back to football again: Judy Lasich '32 captain, was released

from the Philadelphia Eagles' pro team last week. An attack of boils is supposed to have been the reason.

Still farther back: "Zev" Zawacki, catcher last year, played with the Glen Lyon club of the Central Pennsylvania league this past baseball season.



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