

'A Bigger And Better Team,' Says Coach Higgins

Gridders Set To Begin 53rd Season; 50 Report For First Drill Session

By DICK PETERS
 "We'll be better this year—and bigger, but you can guess as well as I just how many games we'll win. Our schedule is a lot tougher this season."
 Coach Bob Higgins summed up the Nittany Lion football preview in those few words as he begins his tenth year as the Lions' head man. This year will mark the Blue and White's 53rd session along the gridiron battlefield.

Facing a campaign which includes combats with Bucknell, Lehigh, Cornell, Syracuse, Maryland, Penn. Army and Pittsburgh, the Highmen are looking for a decided upswing in Penn State's climb back to football greatness. As Higgins stated, the prospects this year are brighter with regulars returning at nearly every position, and strong replacements coming up from the freshman squad of last year.

Rhoda Will Coach At So. Williamsport

William "Whitey" Rhoda, colorful Lion gridiron and ring performer of three years ago, has recently been appointed head coach of athletics at South Williamsport High School.
 He succeeds Lou Bath, a former teammate.

14 Varsity Sports Teams Set Outstanding Marks

Penn State's 14 varsity sports teams compiled one of the finest records in Nittany Lion athletic history during the 1938-39 academic year with a record of 86 victories, three ties and 41 defeats for a percentage of 671.

Only once in the past 20 years have State teams bettered this season's record. In 1924, the victory percentage was 717.

With Lion teams meeting stronger opponents and with the number of teams increased from 11 to 14, the present record is considered at least as impressive as during the record year.

Leading the Lion teams was Coach Bill Jeffrey's soccer eleven which was undefeated and tied in eight games. The hooters, who have not suffered a defeat in six consecutive years, won the Eastern Association championship.

The only other undefeated varsity team was the cross country squad. The Lion hatters won four dual meets against top notch rivals.

The Records	W	L	T
Soccer	8	0	0
Cross Country	4	0	0
Baseball	15	4	0
Fencing	6	1	0
Golf	7	2	0
Track	3	1	0
Wrestling	5	2	1
Tennis	7	1	0
Boxing	4	2	1
Basketball	17	10	0
Swimming	5	4	0
Lacrosse	4	5	0
Football	3	4	1
Gymnastics	2	3	0
Totals	86	41	3

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Month	Date	Event
October	7th	Bucknell (Dad's Day)
October	14th	Lehigh (Alumni Homecoming)
November	4th	Maryland (Houseparty)
November	25th	Pittsburgh (Soph Hop)
February	18th	Senior Ball
April	11th	I. F. Ball
May	8th	Junior Prom
June	9th	June Houseparty

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Practice Begins Today
 Headed by Captain Spike Alter, stellar end, approximately 50 candidates begin drills today (September 7) for the first clash with Bucknell here on October 7. Graduation's toll was not too heavy this year on the Lion squad, but a search will be on for reserve material, especially at the fullback, guard, and center posts.

Last season, the Nittanymen were in dire need of an efficient passer and kicker. Coming up from the freshmen of last year are two good passers and several good punters. These men should bolster the Lion scoring punch, but at the same time may cause the loss of games this season because of lack of experience.

Lions Will Be Heavy
 When the question of size is considered, Penn State will be able to field a heavier team this season than at any time during the last ten years. The backfield is especially strong, in the weight department but is still fast, tricky, and versatile. A line averaging close to 200 pounds is available with reserves who will be able to keep up that average.

The men who have been "invited" to return for the practice drills are:

Backs—Jack Day, Bill Debler, Larry Elgenrouch, Dick Ewalt, Bill Gerhard, Jack Goss, Lloyd Ickes, Len Krouse, Johnny Patrick, Chuck Peters, Pepper Petrella, Steve Rollins, Bill Smaltz, and Craig White.

Ends—Captain Spike Alter, Spud Erwin, Tom Megargee, Lloyd Parsons, Gil Radcliff, Bill Schott, Tom Vaigo, and Grover Washabaugh.

Tackles—Harry Dennis, Leonard Frketch, Walt Kniaz, Chuck Medlin, Frank Platt, Fred Schumacher, and Carl Staviniski.

Guards—Vaughn Evans, Mike Garbinski, Wade Mori, Ted Nemeth, Dean Sears, Charley Wilkinson, and Jim Woodward.

Centers—Leon Gajewski, Bo Kolda, and Bob Wear.

Soccer
 Continued From Page 10
 College for this contest on Armistice Day.
 Cubs Open With Syracuse
 The Freshman soccer schedule includes three tough assignments for this fall. The opening tilt with the Syracuse "greenies" is slated for October 21 in the New York city. On October 28 Cornell's Cubs will invade the Lions' lair for the only home game. Fittingly placed is the last game with the Army Plebes November 8 at West Point.

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