

Varsity 'Blues' Defeat 'Greens', 18-0, In Practice Football Game Between The Lions

With DICK PETERS

Higgins Presents:

In a little less than three weeks, the 1940 "dream"-lined Penn State iron machine will be put on the market. The new model, body by Higgins, will be inspected soon after its departure from the assemblage by the Bucknell Bison, Inc. owned and operated by one Al Humphreys.

But before the chassis and newly designed body of the Nittany even is ready for inspection, Chief Designer Bob Higgins and his assistants have plenty of problems to iron out.

Right now there is no question but that the 1940 Lions have all the material necessary to slap together the speediest, flashiest, high-powered football combine ever to represent the Blue and White. The problem lies in getting the most out of that raw material making it hold together.

The chief technical problem which faced Cap'n Bob at the opening training sessions, was finding suitable replacement for Spike Alter. With almost two weeks of practice under their belts, the replacement seems to have materialized in Lloyd Parsons, a senior, who although lacking in quantity of experience, once filled Alter's galoshes, after being under fire in a few early games.

Probably most important factor in the Nittany success of 1939, was Leapin' Lloyd Ickes, who graduated last Spring. But with Bill Smaltz and Ralph Ventresco hangin' around New Beaver Field, Higgins won't miss the departed Ickes too much at the fullback post. The job now is to choose between Smaltz and Ventresco for the starting notch. Both are big, powerful runners, who can pass and kick with the best of them.

Thus, with the two holes caused by graduation blocked up, the next task at hand is to build up reserve power in the line. The first string is rough, tough and burly, but substitute guards and ends are as scarce as icicles in July.

A much over-looked and seldom-considered factor is the slim reserve supply on hand at center. Because Captain Leon Gajecki was a near "sixty minute man last fall, Penn State fans don't realize that if the Lion pivot star were injured, the Nittany aggregation would be about as potent as a right cross from an armless man. Gates is the focal point of the local lads' defense, and without him the front wall would be comparable to a picket fence.

Those are the problems that are keeping Bob Higgins awake at night, because the Hig knows where the weaknesses of his 1940 model are, and during these next three weeks, before the visit of the Bucknell Inspection Bureau, you can be sure those weaknesses will be in some manner remedied.

Smaltz And Petrella Lead Offensive Drive

Rounding into playing form after a week of hard scrimmaging the Blues ran roughshod over the Green aggregation to the tune of 18 to 0 in a regulation intrasquad football game Saturday afternoon.

The winning eleven composed of the regulars completely out-classed the reserves, scoring once in each of the first three quarters and nearly tallied a fourth touchdown in the final period when the game ended with the ball on the Green one-yard line.

Bill Smaltz and Pepper Petrella collaborated on the first touchdown early in the game, the former with his kicking and line bucking and the flashy tail-back with his dazzling open-field running. Smaltz pushed the Greens into a hole midway in the period by kicking out of bounds on the opponent's five-yard line. Pepper returned Ralph Ventresco's punt to the 20 and gained 15 yards on two plays. Smaltz accounted for the six-point on a center buck from the five.

The same two stalwarts led the Blues' march in the second quarter for four consecutive first downs, and another score. The Green team threatened when Ventresco passed to Len Krouse for 35 yards on the Blue 30-yard marker but the drive was stopped when Ventresco fumbled and the Blues recovered.

At this point the varsity started a 60 yard offensive march when Smaltz passed to Petrella on the right flank and the latter weaved his way to the Green 40. With the peppery Downingtown flash carrying the mail, the regulars gained 22 yards on two running plays around the right end, and placed the pigskin on the Green five on a pass from Petrella to Tom Vargo. Pepper zig-zagged his way through the entire defense for the second touchdown to give the Blues a commanding 12 to 0 lead.

Coach Bob Higgins put in nearly two new teams at the outset of the second half but the second Blue team took up where their predecessors left off. Following an even exchange of plays the Greens lost the ball on their own 20-yard line when Weaver failed to get off a punt on the fourth down. The Blues took advantage of this unexpected break when Vargo tallied on an end-around run several plays later. The score at the end of the third quarter stood at 18 to 0.

The final period found the varsity back in action after their well earned rest, but the fracas was completed without any further scoring.

While the high-scoring power of the varsity eleven holds great promise for the future, the offense was spotty at times and it was due more to the individual per-

Out With Injuries



Chuck Peters, flashy running back, who injured his shoulder in a scrimmage last week. He is expected to return to action in a few days.

Performance of several players rather than a smooth functioning attack that the Blues showed to advantage. Probably the most glaring weakness uncovered by the practice session was the poor open field blocking. Time and again blockers missed their men when a long run seemed in the making.

Several of the varsity holdovers, were missing from Saturday's lineup due to injuries received during the week. Chuck Peters, the starting tail-back, received a sprained shoulder and will grace the sidelines for several more days. Jim Woodward hurt his side and relinquished his guard post to Mike Garbinski who had been alternating with him. Ventresco's right knee which he had injured in his freshman year began to bother him again and the rugged sophomore fullback took things easy until Saturday. He seems to be in good shape again.

X-Country Hopes Fall; Harrison Out

With the initial cross-country practice ready to get underway this afternoon, Chick Werner's faint hope of producing a winning hill and dale combination became a mere shadow when George Harrison, his most promising prospect, reported that he must drop out this year because of a back injury.

Claiming that last year's freshman team was the worst in Nittany track history, Werner feels that the loss of a potential running mate for Captain Bill Smith means much to the squad's competitive chances.

Harrison's mercury-winged feet and Smith, the Lion's ex-IC4-A champ, might have given the Lions a one-two winning duo which would be hard to beat, with Herm Goffberg, Harold Olsen, Alex Bourgerie, and Pop Thiel furnishing the needed reserve strength.

Other cross-countrymen whom Werner expects to report are Andy Snyder, Hess, Harry Kjellman, Vern Kotz, Max Peters, Orvis King, Dick Rhodes, Paul Burkhardt, and Bill Jameson, who made the best time on last year's yearling squad.

—BUY COLLEGIAN NOW—

The University of Minnesota has announced a \$600 prize in open competition for an 80-foot mural in its new Union.

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Independent men and women at the University of Denver stage a "penny carnival" to finance their activities.

University of Michigan's CAA ground school enrollees include 49 men and a girl.

—BUY COLLEGIAN NOW—

'Mysterious Billy Smith' Leads Nittany Harriers

Dubbed "Mysterious Billy Smith" by a New York newspaperman when he came out of nowhere and won the freshman IC4-A cross-country championship, the Nittany harrier captain now is considered one of the nation's best cross-country runners.

The slim 135-pound captain, looking like a thin high school youngster, won the IC4-A varsity run in his sophomore year, placed third last year, and ran fourth in the 1939 nationals.

Leslie McMitchell, considered the top-notch cross-country runner, beat Smith to the tape in their one encounter. Ever since, the Lion captain has been pointing to avenge his defeat in their final competition this year.

The honors list at the University of Michigan reached 864 at a recent convocation.

Fourteen states and the Canal zone are represented in the student body at Presbyterian College, Clinton, S. C.

Ten Yearling Gridders Start Warm-Up Drills

About 10 freshman gridders have been issued equipment and are running through light warm-up drills although regular practice will not start until the end of Freshman Week, Coach Marty McAndrews reported yesterday.

He announced a meeting for all frosh candidates in Room 12, Varsity Hall, at 4:10 p.m. today. The meeting scheduled for Thursday was cancelled because it interfered with regular Freshman Week activities.

'44 Soccer Candidates Report at 4 P.M. Today

Freshmen interested in soccer must report to the soccer office in Rec Hall at 4 p.m. today. An informal game has been arranged with State College High School for tomorrow afternoon. Formal practice is expected to get underway Wednesday.

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