

Soccer Men Confident Of Another Undefeated Season

Nine Regulars Return To Hold Fine Record

When a coach guides his team through seven undefeated seasons, faces some of the most powerful opponents in the nation, wins game after game by hair-raising margins, then smilingly refuses to take his eighth potential season serious, that's genius.

Coach Bill Jeffrey, genial master-mind of the Nittany Lion soccer squad, takes the situation calmly and just won't be bothered by a string of victories hanging over his head.

The Nittany Lions this year, although studded with nine regulars from last year, still have that eighth straight season without defeat to shoot at, and still have a streak of 48 victories to protect. Last time any Lion soccer team was beaten was in 1932 when Syracuse upset things with a 2-1 victory on New Beaver Field. Since that time, the Nittany booters have gone through 53 games without losing one although five have ended in ties.

Veterans back from last year's varsity include Zen Leskaris, senior goalie; Don Megraill, junior center halfback; Gazzy Green, junior left halfback; Capt. Walt Hosterman, senior right halfback; Van Hartman, outside right; Woody King, inside right; Ned Corman, inside left; Dan Durain, outside left, and Bobby Ernst, center forward.

Only problem facing Mild Bill, then, is to fill the two fullback posts vacated by Bob Schuler and Werner Lange.

Filling one of the positions will be a comparatively simple task for the canny Scot, but it will be no easy assignment to produce two fullbacks to strengthen this year's eleven.

In all probabilities, little Hal Freeman, a sophomore this year, will hop into Bob Schuler's All-American boots, but the spot vacated at right fullback by Lange will cause considerable disturbance before it is finally filled.

Plenty of available reserves crowd the waiting line for Leskaris' post at the goal. Three sophomores, each of them equally good, stand in line. They are Lloyd Gouthey, a Mont Alto transfer, Bob Donaldson and Bob Seavy.

Although the halfback line remains intact from last year, several experienced newcomers will push Megraill, Green and even Capt. Hosterman for their positions. They are Allen Heck, captain of last year's freshman team; Al Jones, a junior with one year of varsity experience; and Bill Hoverter, another junior who comes from the Canal Zone where they play rough and rugged soccer.

Bobby Ernst, veteran center forward, will have his toes full to keep ahead of Stan Preszdkik, a sophomore; Hal Jones, a fast State College boy and a senior this year; and Charles Taylor, a senior and one of Jeffrey's most reliable reserves.

Can't Forget



Coach Bill Jeffrey wanted to forget soccer but couldn't. Result: His Nittany Lion team has been undefeated for seven consecutive years.

Jeffrey Wanted To Forget Soccer

In 1912, Bill Jeffrey left Scotland "to get away from soccer." Luckily for Penn State he didn't succeed. Luckily, for during Jeffrey's 14 years as Lion soccer mentor the booters have lost only six contests, meanwhile winning 77 and tying 15. For the past seven years the team has gone undefeated, running up a streak of 53 games without defeat. Last year, for the seventh consecutive time, the Lions were awarded the Eastern Collegiate title, sharing honors with Princeton.

Jeffrey was born in Newhaven, near Edinburgh, Scotland. Before he was in his teens he became known for his dextrous left foot. He began to play outside left for the Newhaven Victoria School team in 1904. After leaving school he played for a well-known Scot team of juveniles and from there progressed to a big-time club.

He came to America, stayed here for two years, then went back to Scotland, but soon returned to the United States. He played for the Altoona Shop team and later with the Homestead Steel aggregation. He was picked on the 10-year all-star team of the West Penn area for the years 1910-1920.

In 1921, Jeffrey signed with the Bethlehem Steel team and while he was there Bethlehem had the best team in the country.

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Between The Lions

WITH DICK PETERS

Dear Frosh

Well, by this time you have begun to realize what a great place Penn State is and how lucky you are to be a student here.

Also, you are probably looking forward with great anticipation to your first college football game in a few weeks. You've heard, no doubt, that college football games are colorful affairs—bands playing, crowds cheering, pennants waving. I know I felt that way just three years ago.

But excuse me if I let you in on something—something which has rankled me no little in three years of college life. Football games at Penn State lack something. Maybe I should say Penn State football crowds lack something. They just ain't got no spirit.

Conditions are pretty bad when the majority of students don't even know their Alma Mater. As someone has said, Penn State students come in contact with it twice while in college, once when they learn it as freshmen, and again as seniors so that they may sing it at graduation. And it's too bad, because Penn State's Alma Mater is a beautiful piece of music and with inspiring lyrics.

As far as cheering goes, a Penn State student's repertoire is usually limited to the "Short Yell" and the "Lion Yell," of the seven listed in the Freshman Bible. I've often thought how silly the cheerleaders look swinging their arms before masses of students who do not respond.

Don't ask me why. I don't know. I've seen and heard more spirit emanate from college crowds whose football teams lost every game on their schedule. I guess upperclassmen at Penn State feel that it is below them to reverently stand and sing their Alma Mater or to beat out a good lusty cheer for the Blue and White.

Anyway, frosh, that's the story. So you'd better learn the Alma Mater now and practice it, in next two years. Ots private, of course, during your next two years so that, you won't have to go to all the bother of memorizing it all over again for graduation in 1944.

Captain GajECKI Follows In Footsteps Of Other Ebsburg Athletes

Ebsburg, the home of Penn State captains, has given the Nittany Lions another one!

Leon GajECKI, preceded by last year's Cliff McWilliams and Martin Valeri, basketball and baseball captains, looms as a surprise contender for Chuck Cherundulo's pinnacle as Penn State's all-time great center.

Mentioned on the Football Annual's All-American check list, GajECKI threatens to make State fans forget Cherundulo through his uncanny diagnosis of running and pass plays and lightning thrusts through the offense to cut down potential gains.

GajECKI "made himself" in the 1938 Penn game, 7-7, when he surprised the whole Penn forward line by viciously outcharging and completing three-fourths of all the tackles. Last year he earned the post of All-Pennsylvania center.

Although he excels in boxing and baseball, Leon could not compete on these varsity teams because his curriculum in fuel technology does not allow him enough free time.

Mayer '42 Resigns

William G. Mayer '42, first assistant manager of soccer, has been replaced by Theodore S. Casnoff '42, it was announced last night by Roger S. Findley Jr. '41, soccer manager.

Fall Intramural Entries Due By Noon, Saturday

All entries for both independent and fraternity leagues in the following Fall activities must be made at the intramural office 213 Rec Hall by noon Saturday, September 21.

Touch football, \$1 per team.

Swimming, \$1 per team.

Cross country, 25c per man (only 3 men score).

Horseshoes, 50c per team (doubles only).

Physical examination cards are required of all participants in touch football, swimming, and cross country.

New Rules Hinder Record Breakers

The day when a triple-threat backfield star averaged over ten yards gain per play and punted 40 to 0 yards per kick appears to be gone forever. The N. C. A. A. Football Rules Committee got together this summer and approved on rules for recording statistics which will dim the individual brilliance of potential All-Americans.

Pointing out that a great difference of opinion existed in interpretations and rulings, the committee drew up a set of instructions to permit this statistical work to be standardized.

One of the rules affecting yardage gains will result in a loss by rushing against any player apparently intending to pass but thrown behind the line. He is not a passer until he has thrown the ball, and he retains at all times the option of running. This will lower the average net gain of triple-threat backs considerably.

Punts are measured from the line of scrimmage to the point of ultimate advance. When a punt goes over the goal line the distance of the kick is measured from the line of scrimmage to the 20-yard line only.

Among other rules passed are the following:

No first down is recorded when a touchdown is scored.

The rushing total is a net figure. All rushing losses must be recorded to account for the net figure.

All gains on lateral passes which originated or grew out of a rushing play are included in rushing yardage.

There is no pass completed by penalty. No pass attempted or completed will be recorded in the summary.

Frosh, Varsity Harriers Start Workouts Today

Although half of the varsity cross-country squad has been working out since Monday, Coach Chick Werner has issued a formal call to all freshmen and varsity candidates to report for practice today.

With the beginning of semester activities today, Werner expects a full turnout of last year's varsity men and prospective freshman harriers. All candidates must present their physical examination cards and towel tickets at the locker room.

The harriers who already have been limbering up under Captain Bill Smith only took a few warm-up runs in order to loosen their leg muscles and build up their staying power.

Phys Ed School Expands

This year, for the first time since its inception, the School of Physical Education and Athletics will be granting doctor's degrees.

John Nixon, member of the football coaching staff, formerly of Pomona College; Edward Cubbon, West Virginia basketball star; and Bernath Phillips of George Washington University, are working for their Ph.D's.

Gridders To Drill Afternoons Only As College Opens

With the official opening of the College schedule set today, Coach Bob Higgins will limit the varsity football squad to a single practice daily. Two sessions daily have been on the roster.

Fortunately the starting lineup will consist of veterans who have been through the mill, otherwise the gridgers would find the limited time available before the opener with Bucknell here on October 5 a great handicap.

No less than ten seniors will in all probability take the field against the Bisons. The entire forward wall consisting of Tom Vargo, Carl Stravinski, Wade More, Captain Leon GajECKI, Jim Woodward, Frank Platt, and Lloyd Parsons receive their sheepskins next June. Out of the regular backfield quartet of Chuck Peters, Craig White, Johnny Patrick, and Bill Smaltz only the last named will be back for action in 1941.

So it looks as if 1940 will be the year for State to bask in the national spotlight.

Baseballers To Report For Fall Practice Today

Fall baseball practice will be renewed today after a lapse of several years when Gus Marlowe, 1939 varsity player, will take charge of workouts in place of Coach Joe Bedenk who is line coach on the varsity football squad.

Only pepper games and mild throwing by pitchers will be conducted during the first few days. All varsity and last year's freshman team are expected to report.

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