

Between the Lions

By J. J. TRUMPER

Working out daily on the golf course field, the Penn State lacrosse team has come up against the usual Nittany lacrosse problem—"not enough experienced stick-wielders," said Coach Glenn "Nick" Thiel.

On this year's squad there are only two men that have handled a lacrosse stick before playing at Penn State, and most of the others have never even seen a lacrosse game before playing in their first.

Pete Johnson, veteran defense man for Thiel, played at St. Paul's Prep School in Baltimore, Md., and John Schobinger was a member of the Swarthmore High School team.

Johnson has been a mainstay in the Nittany defense for the past two years, and held down a net post before the war.

PLAYED BEFORE

Schobinger played for Coach Thiel before the war and was the alternate goalie on last season's team. This year he has been moved to an attack post to strengthen the stick handling of the offense.

Thiel has had to develop men to make the Lion team a threat to the strong opposition it will encounter.

He has made All-Americans out of inexperienced players such as John Nolan, last year's captain, who never played the game before coming to Penn State, and was rated by Army Coach Touchstone, as one of the best midfielders he had ever seen.

Art Tenhula, now playing in centerfield for Thiel's ten, was a member of the All-North team last year as a defense man and played over 55 minutes of the 14-14, two-period overtime all-star contest.

Bill Hollenbach also made the All-North team as a goalie last June and both received honorable mention on the All-American squad. Neither had any lacrosse experience before taking up the game under Thiel.

FOOTBALLERS ON TEAM

This season there are three members of the Lion football team on the stick squad. John Finley, Bronco Kosanovich and Irv Smith are lacrosse lettermen and all played defense last season. Finley has been shifted to midfield this year because of his speed and experience.

Finley and Smith practice lacrosse every afternoon between 3:30 and 4:45, and then work out with Coach Bob Higgins' football squad in their Spring training.

The captain of this year's team, George Locotos, has been a centerfielder under Thiel for the past two seasons. He fills the center post in the midfield and shows promise of becoming an All-American.

This is Nick Thiel's 13th season as lacrosse mentor at Penn State. He succeeded Mike Loeb as stick coach in 1935, coming from Syracuse where he was assistant lacrosse coach.

Since then he has coached freshman basketball, when there were freshman sports, and for the past ten years he has been in charge of all required physical education for men students.

Last year he had one of his most successful seasons when the team won seven while losing three, winning the last six straight, after dropping three to the nation's best—Army, Johns Hopkins, and Navy.

Thiel has been playing lacrosse on organized teams since he was nine. He first played on a sandlot team in his hometown of Syracuse while still in grade school.

PLAYED IN HIGH SCHOOL

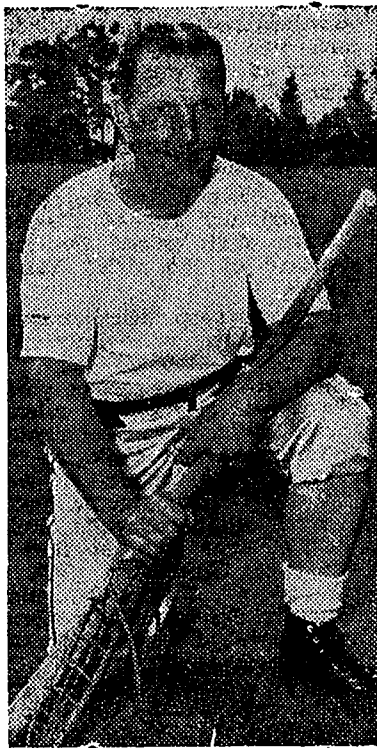
He was a member of the Syracuse High School lacrosse team which remained undefeated for five years of interscholastic competition. Syracuse was then a lacrosse city as Baltimore is the lacrosse center today.

Thiel went to Syracuse University and there he made the freshman lacrosse team and then went on to play on the varsity for the next three seasons. He was named to the lacrosse All-American squad in 1933 at an inside attack post.

He remained at Syracuse in 1934 under Coach Roy Simmons, who is still the mentor at the University. Simmons holds great respect for his pupil, for every time the two teams meet there is usually a good hard-fought game.

Thiel has directed the All-North team twice—the only coach to hold this honor. He headed the all-star staff in 1942 and again in '46, and served under others in '42 and '43.

In addition to his other duties, Thiel also edits a monthly newsletter for the Lacrosse Association, which is sent out to all the lacrosse coaches in colleges, prep and high schools in the United States.



COACH NICK THIEL

Return of War-Time Grid Stars Bolsters 1947 Football Team

Penn State's gridiron squad, which began spring practice this week, has been bolstered by the return of such outstanding war-time stars as Johnny Chuckran, Bob Hicks, and Negley Norton. Thirteen men who are newcomers to Penn State have also reported.

Chuckran, outstanding tailback and Lion captain in 1943, will provide plenty of competition for Bobby Williams and Elwood Petchel at the key backfield post.

Norton, stellar tackle from the 1944 squad, and his teammate, end Bob Hicks, will reinforce the line spots weakened by losses sustained through graduation.

BROKEN LEG

Hicks is not actively participating in the daily conditioning drills because of a broken leg which hasn't completely healed.

Versatile Bill Luther, outstanding as a freshman in 1942, has also returned to the Lion squad. Luther, a triple threat back, recently enrolled in school after a stint in the services.

Only losses from last year's squad which won six and lost two contests are Captain Red Moore, Bucky Walters, Bob Rutkowski, Bronco Kosanovich, Mike Slobodnyak and Manny Weaver.

Moore and Weaver, have signed with the Pittsburgh Steelers, while graduation claimed Walters, Rutkowski and Kosanovich. Slobodnyak has dropped out of school.

CO-CAPTAINS

Although co-captains were chosen at the close of last season, Johnny Potskian will be the acting captain until next fall when Johnny Nolan will assume his share of the duties.

The husky tackle left school this semester because of illness in the family.

New additions to the Nittany Lions include Bob Cruikshank who played two years at the University of Tennessee, Sam Firestone, a guard at VMI and VPI, and Paul Guiteras.

Bob Harris, Tom Herman, Joe Porter, Steve Romeo, Ronald Saxe, R. G. Schwartz, George Stout, Bob Titus, Lew Thomas, who played at Yale, and Tom Sheehan, a former guard at Eastern Kentucky Teachers.

ROSTER

Others who have returned from last year's squad are Fred Bell, Howard Caskey, Joe Colone, Edward Czekaj, Bud Davis, Jeff Durok, John Finley, Lee Henry, Alvin Herman, Ira Herzog, Dennis Hoggard, H. J. Howard, J. Kravnyak, Charles Kunes, and W. J. La Fleur.

Floyd Lang, Larry Joe, Ben Levy, John Misiewicz, Dave Nemeth, Leo Nobile, Jack Ogden, John Potskian, Walter Rossman, Joe Sarabok, William Scherer, Paul Schweitzer, Stanley Skuta, Tom Smith, and Carl Sturges.

Steve Suhey, Sam Tamburo, Wallace Triplett, Edwin Ulanoff, Ray Uinsky, Bob Weitzel, Bob Williams, Jack Woche, and John Wolosky.

Tennis Call

Candidates for the varsity tennis squad are requested to report to the bleacher section, Rec Hall, at 4:30 o'clock today.

Ski Captain

George Quimby was elected captain of the 1948 ski team at the banquet held Wednesday night.

Intramural Sports

Wrestling

Sixteen grapplers entered the final round of intramural wrestling as a result of Wednesday night's matches. Following are the summaries:

121 pounds: Billy Knauff decided Dick Nicholas 7-1 and Ted Holly decided John Mitchell 3-2.

128 pounds: Herb Wright decided Charlie Moser 2-0 and Bruce Blauch decided George Cleveland 6-1.

135 pounds: Paul Tompkins decided Schultz 2-0 and Dick Willis threw Bill Marshall.

145 pounds: W. Brinker was forfeit winner over Bob Hodgson and Dick Weil threw Bill Renton.

155 pounds: Bill Masseth threw Fred Punton and G. McConnell decided Gartin Seavy 5-4.

165 pounds: Tom Gerwig threw G. Roye and George Chapman threw Frank Mattern.

175 pounds: Lyle Koenig decided Vane Henry 4-1 and Bob Heckel forfeit winner over Larry Joe (overweight).

Unlimited: Steve Suhey decided Bronco Kosanovich 9-1 and Irving Smith bested Tubby Lang 6-2.

Handball

Eight more handballers moved into semi-final brackets following Wednesday night's games at Rec Hall. The summaries:

Frank Taucher defeated Byron McIntyre 21-8, 21-8; Kenneth Cook won over Walter White 21-6, 21-6; Gerald Smith over Stan Jacobs 21-7, 21-10, and Joseph Novello over Harrie Bragg 21-10, 21-13.

Warren Neiger downed Bob Christy 21-14, 21-13; Bill Hollenbach won over Sol Lubin by forfeit; Webster Moriarta over T. Smith 21-0, 21-3, and Fred Strathmeyer defeated Bob Dieruff 21-18, 21-10.

IM Wrestling Champions

Following are the champions of the intramural wrestling tournament determined by the final playoffs at Rec Hall last night:

121 pounds: Harold Holly decided Billy Knauff, 7-1.

128 pounds: Herb Wright defeated Bruce Blauch (default).

135 pounds: Dick Willis defeated Paul Tompkins (default).

145 pounds: Dick Weil decided Harry Brinker, 9-2.

155 pounds: Bill Masseth threw Gregor McConnell.

165 pounds: George Chapman decided Tom Gerwig, 7-1.

175 pounds: Bob Heckel threw Lyle Koenig.

Unlimited: Irving Smith decided Steve Suhey, 7-2.

Badminton

The first rounds of Flights 11 through 15 of Intramural Badminton tournament were played on the Rec Hall courts Wednesday night.

The results: Elishie Cloud forfeited to Gene Bixler, and Michael Samchock forfeited to Gerald Smith, Joe Glick and Jim Short forfeited to Harold Wausat and Bob Miller.

Al Stein bowed to Norman 15-5, and 15-4. John Hogan defeated Larry Linvill 15-5 and 15-5 while Glenn Yeagley defeated to Fred Caccese.

Clark and Charles forfeited to John Mull and Bob Blair. Simon and Wilson will enter the next round through the default of Herb Hollenberg and T. Condon.

Al Trueax defeated H. Brinker 15-1 and 15-6 while McIlvaine forfeited to Leonard Ascani. Carelton forfeited to Jim White as Bill Meade topped C. Wedge 15-3 and 15-2.

Jackie Tighe beat Dick Heim 15-9 and 15-14, Bill Deal took Nein 15-9 and 15-12, and J. Scarrazzo forfeited to Bill Jaffur as did B. Dible to Bob Tscheringer.

(Continued on page seven)



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