

Higgins Issues Grid Call

Sixty-five candidates received invitations this week to the opening session of pre-season football drills in preparation to the season's opener against Washington State, at Hershey, September 20.

Numbered among the players invited to return for the early drills are 16 lettermen from the 1946 squad, and ten monogram-winners from the war-time squads of 1944. About 25 boys who played as freshmen at state teacher colleges a year ago, also were invited.

A preliminary list indicated that in the returning squad would be ten ends, eight tackles, eight guards, six centers, six wingbacks, six full backs, six blocking backs, and ten tailbacks. Thirty-six of the 65 boast prior varsity experience.

Washington State will field a much more experienced team than the one which lost six games in 1946. Only seven of 38 lettermen will be missing.

Wing Against

Coach Phil Sorboe will counter the Higgins single wing with a T-formation-schooled team that boasts a speedy backfield.

Bill Lippincott, all-Pacific Coast Conference halfback in 1945 will spearhead the attack and Lion line coach Jim O'Hora, who scouted the Cougars against Michigan State last year, states that Lippincott will be the man to watch.

"He is the type of runner, passer and all-around ball handler that a team has to be on its toes to stop," O'Hora emphasized.

All-Star Candidates

Other Cougar men who will stand watching are center Andy Lazor and end Francis Bacoka, both candidates for all-star honors. Gordy Brunswick, 205-pound fullback, is noted for his passing and kicking.

Two veterans John Godfrey,

Bob Doornick, the tackles with 185, and Phil Claymore, 182, are at guards; Tom Parry and Bob Doornick, the tackles with Dave Swanson serving with Bacoka at the end positions.

The Cougar backfield will be missing 1946 Captain Dick Abrams but Bob George, a light but fast fullback, is being groomed to take his place. Either Jerry Williams or Bruce Bradley will share the halfback work with Lippincott with 200-pound Bob Keiser at quarterback.

Among the familiar faces Lion fans will see at Hershey Stadium will be tailbacks Elwood Petchel and Bobby Williams from last year's team and Johnny Chuckran from '44 and '45. Joe Colone and Bob Weitzel are expecting competition from Francis Rogel, a California import, at fullback.

Many Wingbacks

Jeff Durkota and Wally Triplett run into a host of good men as they try for the Wingback position. The Drazenovich brothers—Joe and Charles—will work out at blocking back and center. Both were lettermen during the war. Charles will run up against stiff opposition from Charles Beatty, another California player.

Grid Schedule

Sept. 20—Wash. State, Hershey
Oct. 4—Bucknell, home
Oct. 11—Fordham, away
Oct. 18—Syracuse, home
Oct. 25—W. Virginia, home
Nov. 1—Colgate, home
Nov. 8—Temple, away
Nov. 15—Navy, away
Nov. 22—Pittsburgh, away

Newman Club Plans Loop

A softball league is being planned for the Post Session according to plans released by Frank Tidona president of the Newman Club.

All organizations and individuals interested are invited to enter teams in the league, Tidona stated. Entries may be left at Student Union.

The Nittany Lion

All this publicity about the College refusing to schedule football and boxing with schools where discrimination is practiced is not, we learn, a new policy of Penn State.

In 1936, three Penn State boxers—Izzie Richter, Sammy Donato and Frankie Goodman—refused to participate in tryouts for the Olympics. The reason: the Olympics that year, you'll remember, were held in Germany, and Germany at that time was under the thumb of a paperhanger who later took up butchering as a hobby.

By their action they showed the way for other college athletes and started off the trend which pops up every now and then in northern schools.

Penn State, according to an issue of Froth at that time, was more proud of its boxers than it was when they cleaned up the Eastern Intercollegiate team championship the preceding March.

One athlete—Jesse Owens—spoiled the whole Olympic program for Hitler, because the Ohio State flash shot Der Fuehrer's non-Aryan theory to nothing.

The funny thing is that back in 1936, Penn State whole-heartedly approved the action of Messrs. Donato, Goodman and Richter. There didn't seem to be the difference of opinion which is currently prevalent about the Sugar Bowl bid for Penn State's 1948 boxing team.

A trip to New Orleans for a squad of boxers, coach and trainer is not to be sneezed at, and there are some fellows who would have made the trip this year that don't think a little thing like principle should have prompted the Athletic Board to decline the invitation.

But if you think a paid trip to New Orleans is nice, how would you like to travel first class to Berlin in pre-war days?

This sudden surge of Penn State spirit supposedly started last year when the Nittany Lion football team was scheduled to play at the University of Miami, then withdrew because the southern school refused to allow a couple of Negro members of the Penn State squad to make the trip.

People were bitter about that all over the nation. In fact, several U. of Miami pros went on record as opposing it. But nothing was done.

This year, we find that a state law on the Louisiana books prohibits mixed competition. While there are no members on the Penn State boxing squad who aren't 101 per cent white and as free from any racial tinges as the whitest Louisiana senator, the College decided that it was the principle of the thing and politely said so.

One of those boys who refused a chance at the Olympics, Frankie Goodman, now offers an award for the outstanding Penn State boxer each year.

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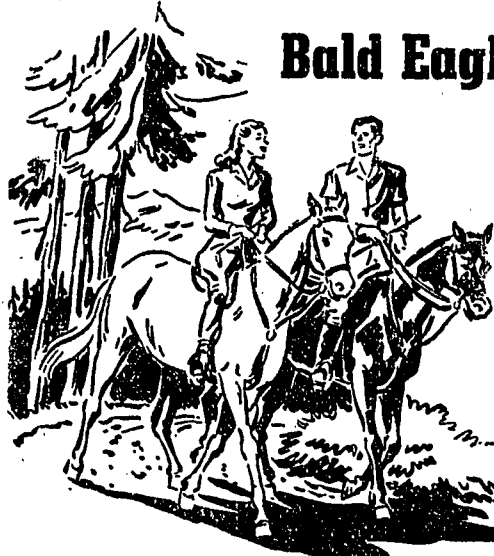
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