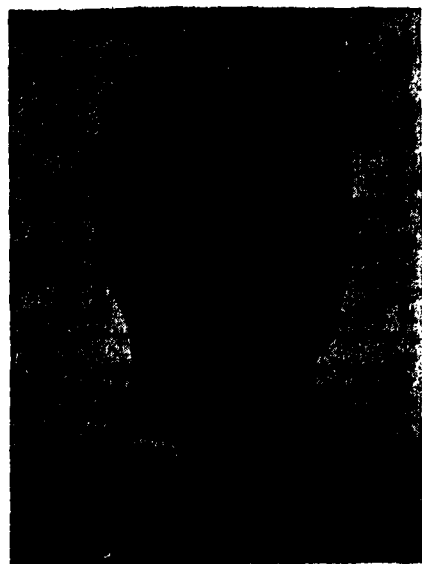
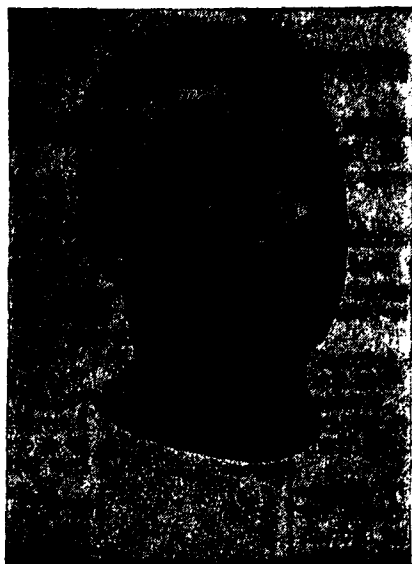


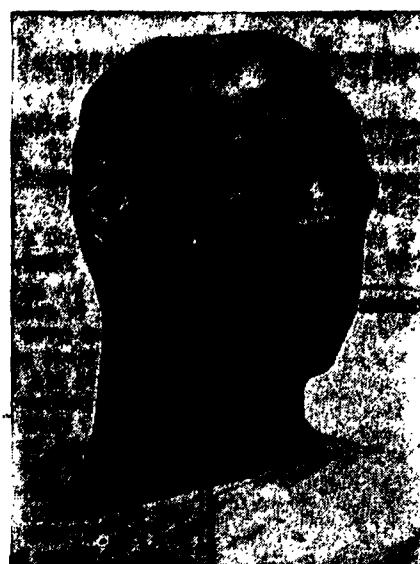
Head Coach



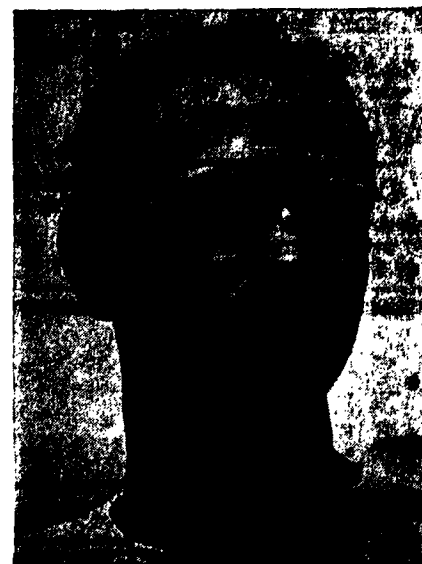
Line Coach



End Coach



Backfield Coach



# Higgensmen Open at Hershey

## Lion Single Wing Meets New Cougar Double T

By JIM NEIMAN

According to advance reports, the Lions' opener with the Washington State Cougars will be a sell-out affair. The game, to be played at the Hershey Stadium, is scheduled as an arc-light show on Saturday, September 20. Tickets sell for \$3.60, including tax.

A Cougar traveling squad of 37, including coaches and officials, is expected to arrive in Harrisburg September 18, bringing prospects for a better season than the last.

Lloyd A. Bury, graduate manager of Washington State athletics, notified Penn State officials that the trip East will be made by commercial airline and will inaugurate a regular program of flying for Crimson and Grey football teams.

Two other flights are planned later in the season, when the Cougars oppose the University of Southern California, at Los Angeles, and the University of California, at Berkeley.

Phil Sorboe, Washington State coach, says the 1947 club will be stronger as a result of the valuable experience gained last year by his freshmen and sophomores.

**'46 RECORD**

The 1946 gridders, who were young in the ways of tough, big-time football, displayed a remarkable amount of offensive talent but cracked under pressure on the defense. The Cougars last year lost six games, winning only one and tying one.

The Washington State line shapes up as a powerful aggregation spearheaded by Andy Lazor, outstanding center of the last two years. Francis Bacoka, a fine all-around end will be winding up his final varsity year. Laurie Niemi, 225-pound tackle, likewise has shown great ability the last two years and should rank with the best on the Coast.

Sorboe's backfield will possess unusual offensive ability built around his double-T formation. This variation of the standard T involves both the quarterback and the fullback instead of only the quarter.

According to Lion coach Bob Higgins, the Washington State formation affords a greater variety of plays than does the standard T. Sorboe developed it by accident late in the 1946 season and used it to great advantage in his last three games.

**RAVES OVER LIPPINCOTT**

Jerry Williams, a fast break-away runner, alternates at left half with Bill Lippincott, All-Coast conference star two years ago, who is a powerful runner along with being a good passer and kicker.

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 said.

Don Paul looks like the leading prospect for right half. He's big, fast and a fine pass-catcher. Chuck Eckert, a heady little performer and 205-pound Gordy

Brunswick may alternate at quarterback. Brunswick, who excels at forward passing and kicking, may play at his usual fullback position, however.

The Cougar backfield will be missing 1946 Captain Dick Abrams, but Bob George, powerhouse on the offensive, is being groomed to take over the fullback spot.

**FILM EXCHANGE**

Since it is the first game ever played between these two schools and was arranged so late in the year, both Higgins and Sorboe agreed that it might not be a bad idea to scout each other via the movie screen.

When they agreed to exchange two sets of 1946 films, the Washington State coach chose the Michigan State and Pitt games, both matches in which the Nittany Lions were beaten.

Higgins returned the compliment when his turn came and named the University of Washington and Michigan State games because Washington State also was on the short end in these two engagements.

The 1947 meeting, first of a home-and-home series which will take the Lions to the coast in 1948, will be played under the lights and will mark only the third time in more than 50 years of intercollegiate competition that these two teams have played under artificial rays.

**NIGHT GAME HISTORY**

Penn State played its first nocturnal affair against New York University at the Polo Grounds, New York, in 1941, and last year

## Blue and White Builds '47 Hopes Around Nucleus of 26 Lettermen

The Nittany Lions will enter the 1947 grid season with high hopes built around sixteen 1946 lettermen and 10 war-time monogram winners.

With a tough nine-game schedule ahead, Coach Bob Higgins is priming his squad for the first hurdle of the season, Washington State. That is the one to worry about, according to Higgins.

"Other teams," said the Hig, "that we'll really have to be on our toes against are Pitt, Navy and West Virginia.

Last year Pitt was one of the two teams to put us on the short scoring end. They looked good and were good, with a mountain of experience gained playing rugged Big Nine teams. The '47 club from the Smoky City has lost practically none of its material and should prove a formidable foe.

**MIDDIES, WEST VIRGINIA**

Navy, although losing eight out of nine last season, showed potential strength in its last game against mighty Army. Coach Tom Hamilton will have few losses this year, and the team is determined to reverse its 1946 record.

West Virginia is classed as a dark horse that will rely on a host of regained army veterans. "The Mountaineers are loaded and are going out for big game this

season," said Coach Higgins. "This year's squad may be the heaviest football team fielded by Bob Higgins in his 18 years as Penn State gridiron mentor. Of the top 50 candidates, there is only one lineman under 185 pounds and only two backs under 170 pounds.

**TAILBACK CHUCKRAN**

Johnny Chuckran, star and captain of the 1944 team, who won recognition as one of the nation's outstanding plebes, has been slow to shake off a leg injury sustained last Spring and may not be ready for combat until after the start of the season.

He recently underwent a tonsillectomy and thereby lost another week of needed conditioning. Doctors recommended the operation in the belief that infected tonsils were at the root of his

troubles, and they expressed hope that the surgery would hasten his recovery from a persistent case of "shin splints."

Also on the list of injuries serious enough to keep them out of the starting game are Harold Elicker and Bob Urion, the latter nursing a recurrence of a knee injury sustained in last year's Bucknell game.

Other war-time standouts who have returned to don the Blue and White are Bill Luther, prospective triple threat, Negley Norton, who handles his 215 pounds well at tackle, and the Drazenovich boys, Joe and Charles.

Larry Cooney, who caught the coaches' eyes when he was a 16-year-old freshman, is back with some army experience under his belt. A promising wingback, Cooney played in the American Football League of Japan while serving with the Army of Occupation.

**SURE BETS**

Come what may from these younger gridders, Higgins is convinced that he will get good football out of the more seasoned players like guard Steve Suhey, co-captains Johnny Potskian and Johnny Nolan, end and tackle respectively, and wingback Wallace Triplett.

Other veteran players who turn-

Continued on page twenty-one

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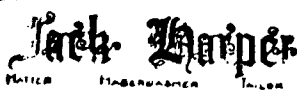


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