

Jeffrey Record Shines

By George Vadasz

As the last molecule of air escapes from the soccer ball and as the last Blue and White uniform is put into mothballs one can only look back and reminisce. Another soccer season has passed and the record book for 1949 shows seven wins against one loss and one tie.

Discounting the tie, that's a .875 won-and-lost percentage. That's good batting in any game but averages like that are nothing uncommon for Nittany booting men. Under the guidance of their veteran mentor, Bill Jeffrey, they have been adding percentages like that to the soccer archives for the past 22 years, Jeffrey's tenure at Penn State.

DEPARTURE FROM SCOTLAND

Jeffrey left Scotland in 1912, to get away from the game he loved—soccer. But getting away from one's favorite sport isn't easy and it wasn't long after he landed in this country that he took up the booting game.

He played with the Altoona, Braddock and Bethlehem Steel soccer squads and in 1925 became playing manager of the Altoona team. He brought the Altoona soccer men to Penn State for an exhibition tilt with the college eleven.

Hugo Bezdek, then athletic director at the College, liked the display of power of the Altoona team and the following year asked Jeffrey to come to Penn State for a three-month trial period as coach.

His team went through the schedule without a defeat and his contract was renewed immediately. Since then the Nittany Lions have finished 12 seasons without a defeat, reeling off unbeaten records nine years in a row.

Penn State soccer record from 1926 to 1948:

w. l. t.	w. l. t.
1926—6 0 1	1938—8 0 0
1927—6 2 1	1939—9 0 2
1928—4 1 3	1940—8 0 0
1929—6 0 1	1941—5 1 1
1930—4 1 2	1942—6 1 0
1931—4 0 3	1943—1 2 4
1932—3 3 0	1944—3 4 0
1933—6 0 0	1945—2 2 1
1934—6 0 1	1946—7 1 1
1935—7 0 0	1947—5 2 1
1936—6 0 2	1948—7 1 1
1937—7 0 1	

Total—won 126; lost 21; tied 26.

One hundred and twenty-six wins against a mere 21 losses, that's Jeffrey's record. Outstanding? It certainly is when you consider that his charges annually have encountered the best in collegiate booting circles and an .857 average over a 22 year span—that's outstanding anywhere!

UNBEATEN SKEIN

From November 5, 1932, until November 15, 1941, the soccer men had a string of 65 consecutive games without defeat. Syracuse downed the Blue and White



BILL JEFFREY

in '32 and it wasn't until 1941, when Army upset the Lions 1-0, at West Point, that the Jeffrey men were again defeated.

Between 1926 and 1946 the Lions played a total of 118 games, winning 84, losing 15 and tying 19. The average score per game for the Jeffrey men was 3.3 to the opponents' .78.

"The war years were pretty hard on our record," said Jeffrey. "In the 15-year stretch from 1926 to 1940 we only lost six games, while in the five years between 1941 and 1945 we lost nine games."

THE RECORD

Only twice in his 22 years as head coach did his charges end with a record below the .500 mark. In 1944 the booters won three while dropping four contests and in '43 they won seven, lost two, tied 4. In 1932, they broke even with three wins and three losses. In '27, '43, and '45 they lost two encounters.

That's 13 losses for five years while the remaining 17 years his charges dropped only eight encounters. Jeffrey considers his '35 outfit the best he has ever coached. Captained by Joe Bilicki, a present United Airlines pilot who flies over State College twice weekly, the '35 unit

won seven straight games without giving up a goal.

Ray Bell, a State College lad, guarded the nets that year and during his three year tenure of goal-tending only three shots went past him—a record that still stands.

BILL McEWEN

"Highest scoring man that ever played for me," comments Jeffrey, "was Bill McEwen, the captain of the 1936 team. Bill scored 21 goals his sophomore year and during his three years here he had 40 goals."

Captain of the 1928 soccer crew, Dick Marshall, from Munhall, is another Jeffrey great while Bud Anderson, performer on the '31 outfit, was the greatest outside man that Jeffrey ever tutored.

Jeffrey looks back with great sorrow to that depression year of '32. His men lost three contests by close margins. October 4, 1941 the Lions' encounter against Gettysburg was cancelled because of an infantile paralysis epidemic at that school. Highest margin of victory for the Blue and White came October 20, 1939 when the Lions outscored Carnegie Tech, 13-0.

ALL GREAT

"It's hard to look back and name the outstanding players of my tenure," the veteran Scot says. "I wouldn't want to leave any one out but I want to make sure such 'greats' as Mousa Serry, Egypt's great center forward of 1930; fullback Bob Schuler, captain of the 1940 team and the present assistant graduate manager of athletics at the College, Walter Hosterman, all were top flight performers."

It's all in the record books now, one but not forgotten. . .

Between Lions—

Continued from page four

ately wired the Scotchman on what to do with the fish and the body of his beloved wife.

The Scotsman wired back: "Sell Fish. Reset the Bait."

(If you read this far and discovered you heard that one before, we ask you to be lenient with us and practice Andy Kerr's definition of a diplomat: "One who'll laugh at a joke he's already heard.")

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&LISTEN TO WMAJ tonight at 9:30 when NAACP presents a program on discrimination.

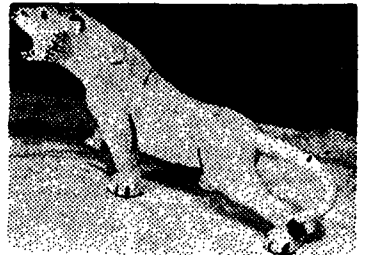
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