



Here's the large and small sizes in lacrosse packages. Bud Thomas, left, a Nittany attack man, and John Finley, who plays midfield, represent the two extremes on Coach Nick Thiel's current stick crew. Thomas is 5-feet-7, weighs 130; Finley is 6-2, weighs 200. Both are first-stringers and hail from Harrisburg.

## The Nittany Realm

Lacrosseman Finley—Now Tape-less

By Bob Kotzbauer

No longer the "mummy" of College athletics, Johnny Finley emerged from the handball courts last week, swung his arms over his head, and smiled with approval at his freedom of movement.

This could be the tall athlete's best lacrosse season in four years of competition. His confidence shows in his eyes. Finley has (permanently, he hopes) cast off his "strait jacket" of shoulder tape. Now he can raise his arms above the shoulder line.

The "mummy" business began in pre-season football drills last summer when Johnny's shoulders started the painful habit of jumping out of place. Wrapping, was Trainer Chuck Medlar's way of keeping the limbs in place, but despite a liberal 25 yards of two-inch tape over his star's torso (making Johnny probably the most expensive player on the team), the arms kept jumping out at erratic intervals. And that, after 20 minutes of winding with the thought of an agonizing, de-skinning pull after the festivities had ceased.

### EAST—WEST

The situation caused embarrassing moments also, like the time in the East-West classic in San Francisco when teammates John Simon and Larry Cooney had to fight off a contingent of medics while Finley shoved his arms back into their sockets. He could do it better without help after he learned where they fitted.

But those days are passed. After a winter's rest and proper exercise and care, Johnny's shoulders are back to stay. He doesn't need to be wrapped and sealed now before he's delivered to the lacrosse field.

A senior, Finley was also exempt from Spring grid scrimmages this season. For his first three years, he would work out with the lacrosse men for awhile, then race over to wind up his day blocking and tackling. Now he concentrates on the Spring sport entirely.

Johnny plays midfield in lacrosse, a position he described as "both offensive and defensive. You're with the offense on the scoring chances, then you're back defending the goal with the defense men soon after. It takes a lot of running."

### EASY SPEED

Finley, however, carries his 6-foot, 2-inch, 200-pound frame around with easy speed. His biggest thrill in sports came back in 1945 when, as a freshman playing in the State-Navy game at Annapolis, he was the first man down under a Lion kick to spill the Middie ball carrier.

"It was my first college game," Johnny recounts. "I probably wouldn't have got in the contest, but John Nolan, first-string tackle, was injured and I took his place. I was a little excited, playing against stars like Smackover Scott and Bob Kelly, who later went to Notre Dame—stars I'd been reading about just the year before.

"Our first play from scrimmage was punt formation. The only man to break through the line, I raced down under the kick but I didn't know whether to tackle Kelly or what to do. Luckily, I hit him, he fumbled the ball, and we recovered."

Navy, however, went on to win that game, 20-0.

### HIGH SCHOOL

Finley hails from Paxtang, a suburb of Harrisburg, and went to high school at John Harris high. He was tackle and captain his senior year in 1944, on the team that won the Big 15 championship in the Eastern part of the state. After graduating in 1945, he came here in the Fall of that year, and continued his grid career. He played four straight years, at both tackle positions.

A Physical Education major, Johnny is looking forward to a professional football career for a few years after he leaves college. The Detroit Lions hold draft rights on him, but he can't work out contract terms until lacrosse season is over. After he finishes football, Johnny would like to coach either the grid sport, or lacrosse, though he thinks football is his favorite sport. He's 21 years old.

Incidentally, despite that shoulder trouble, Finley never missed a football game last year. He piled up the third highest active time, running behind teammates Chuck Drazenovich and Sam Tamburo.

Lacrosse, the old Indian game, is the coming thing in Johnny's  
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## Greens, Tee Take 1 Stroke From Course

Re-location of two greens and one tee necessitated by new construction will shave one stroke from the former par of 70 for Penn State's 18-hole golf course, it was announced today. Work on the greens is now in progress.

The stroke will be lost on number 7, formerly a 520-yard hole which now has been reduced to 445 yards. The two greens affected are 5, which is increased from 350 to 377 yards, and 6, which is 26 yards longer at 159 yards.

Number 17, a 440-yard hole, returns to par-5 after an experimental period during which par was reduced to four strokes. Par for the second nine therefore remains at 35, while par for the first nine drops from 35 to 34 strokes.

R. B. "Pop" Rutherford, veteran golf coach and greenskeeper, said the re-location was necessitated by the erection of a new college foods building on land adjoining the golf course.

The course is open for student play everyday until dusk; however, on Sundays, tee-offs are not permitted until after 1 p.m.

## Stick--

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Md., to battle Navy.

Coach Thiel, after witnessing his squad's rapid rush through the South, is highly optimistic regarding Saturday's encounter with Loyola. He plans no changes in his starting lineup against the Baltimore team which he recognizes as having been strengthened considerably over the past year.

"My only fear is getting the boys up for the game," the State mentor said. "After all, they've just completed four games in eight days and are a bit on the stale side."

"Loyola has never beaten a State lacrosse team, consequently it would be quite a feather in its cap to flict such a defeat," said Thiel, explaining his wariness.

After scrimmaging Johns Hopkins, in a non-scheduled match, Thiel feels confident that the fight for the national lacrosse championship will be waged between the medics, Army and Navy. Incidentally, Navy, appearing on the Lions' slate this year, is reputed to have the best stick team in Middie history.

Also on Penn State's schedule, Syracuse rates as the top team along with Rensselaer, as the top team in the North.

In his 19 years at the helm, Penn State football teams coached by Bob Higgins won 91 games, lost 57, tied 9.

## Rebuilt Golf Squad Faces Georgetown U

Faced with a complete rebuilding task in one brief month of practice, Coach Bob Rutherford has molded a team of seven golfers around a nucleus of his two returning veterans. The team left yesterday for two weekend matches.

Joe Boyle and Tom Smith are all that remain of last year's Eastern Intercollegiate championship Lion squad. Boyle is a senior and this year's captain, while Smith is a junior. Sophomores Ray Artz, Bob Kunkle, Jim Yerkes and George Mazanowski, along with another junior, Marvin Goldenberg, make up the rest of the regular golfers. Also with the squad is sophomore alternate Henry Lozar.

## 2 Lion Booters Leave for Tilt

Bill Jeffrey and his two All American soccer proteges, Dick Hannah and Ralph Hosterman, leave today for New York City where the veteran Lion booting mentor will coach the soccer All-Americans when they battle an all New York Amateur squad tomorrow afternoon.

Twelve colleges will be represented on the collegiate all star team. Hosterman and Hannah were selected last fall on the 1949 All-America team.

Both halfbacks were vital cogs in the impressive record of seven wins, one loss and one tie that the Nittanymen rolled up last year.

At the present Hannah is the top relief goalie of Coach Nick Thiel's lacrosse forces while Hosterman is practicing with the soccer squad in daily spring practice sessions on the golf course practice field.

## His Teams Win

Penn State's baseball record in 18 years under the coaching direction of Joe Bedenk shows 182 wins, 86 losses and one tie.

The Nittany golfers invaded Washington, D. C., yesterday for two non-league matches with Georgetown University today and tomorrow. The match will be played on the Congressional Country Club course, while Saturday will find the two squads moving to the Georgetown Prep course.

Penn State will begin its league action against its three section opponents May 6. Opposition in section play will come from Army, Pitt and Cornell. This year will see a new system of scoring in the E.I.G.A. Each match will consist of a total which may be won for the team by the winner of each of the seven twosomes participating in the match.

All sectional contests will take place on the Penn State course. Since workers are busy on new greens for the fifth and sixth holes, it is not expected that they will be ready for these matches. This will necessitate playing two holes, possibly the first and ninth, twice.

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