

## 'On The Ball'



BY RAY KOEHLER  
Sports Editor

Leon Root, an odds-on choice for at least one of the name All-America teams and labeled as "the greatest center I've ever seen" by his coach Harvey J. Harman, is also a brilliant pre-med student and president of the senior class.

Harman, a veteran of many grid campaigns at Rutgers, isn't one to look a gift horse in the mouth, but when asked if he wished that Root were twins, he offers:

"Well, he plays both offense and defense, which makes him almost twins. But wouldn't it be nice if he were quintuplets?"

After two seasons as a full-back, Root was converted to center last season, following which his opponents voted him as the outstanding Rutgers' lineman.

Forgotten by many in the light of his current political and social activities is the fact that Paul Robeson, one of the greatest of all Negro athletes, was named as an All-American end at Rutgers by Walter Camp in 1918.

Isn't it ironical that the nickname of the team he played for as a college youth should be the "Scarlet?"

Down at Virginia's William and Mary the publicity boys are thumping the tub overtime in an attempt to find new adjectives describing W and M's 1950 football crew.

Receiving the greatest amount of praise is the sensational Vito Eupollio Ragazzo—hailed as the greatest pass catcher since the college days of Don Hutson.

Last season Ragazzo scored more touchdowns than any other lineman in the history of collegiate football as he snared 15 scoring aeriels. He paced the Southern Conference in scoring and ranked second among major college point-getters. Last winter he was drafted by the Chicago Cards.

Three gold-inlaid spittoons for the gentleman correctly putting the finger on Michigan State's No. 1 center prospect. He's none other than Dick Tamburo, younger brother of Penn State's All-American end, Sam, who starred during the '48 season.

The moving of State's fine end coach Earle Edwards to Michigan State in 1948 couldn't possibly have prompted Dick's decision to enter there instead of Penn State could it?

Willie Thrower, another fine grid performer who, with a little more pressure, might have been persuaded to come to State, is one of the top-rated prospects for Michigan State's left halfback spot. The pass-throwing New Kensington back was the only notable absentee from the opening session of M.S.U.'s Fall football practice.

It seems as though Willie was en route from his Pennsylvania home with his 1928 jalopy loaded with the belongings of all five members of the New Kensington delegation on the Spartan squad. The others—Vince Pisano, Renaldo Kozikowski, Bill Horrell, and Tamburo—took other means of transportation and arrived on time.

Last heard from as the Spartans took the field for the press photographers' day session, Willie was somewhere near East Liverpool, Ohio, after nearly 12 hours on the road.

Biggie Munn, the Michigan State head football coach who used to be a crack punter during his All-American guard days at Minnesota, still has a whale of a kick left in his right leg. This summer while instructing a football clinic he booted the pigskin more than 70 yards through the air . . . kicking barefooted!

## Nittany Backs Talented — But Scarce In Number

While Rip Engle may lack manpower to put on a full display of winged-T explosiveness, the wily grid tactician can count on no less than four lettermen, two good-looking sophomores, and a handful of holdovers from last year's squad to give him a well-balanced crop of ball-toters.

Although no one who has watched the Lions go through their routines on Beaver Field would go so far as to claim Engle has real depth in any department, the fact is that if the Lions boast any real strength it is in their offensive backfield.

Game-hardened veterans quarterback Vince O'Bara, halfback Tony Orsini, and wingback Owen Dougherty, will probably hold down three of the starting positions. Dougherty, was the team's leading ground-gainer last year while O'Bara was second in total offense. Orsini saw enough game-time at wingback to earn his letter.

### O'Bara Pitching

The conversion of O'Bara to "pitcher" in the winged-T has been "The Project" for Engle and backfield coach Frank Patrick. A good runner, Vince completed 7 of 21 passes last year as a tailback in the single-wing. O'Bara is also doing most of the booting. Last year he averaged 38 yards in 16 punts.

Unheralded Dick Koerber, an also-ran tailback on last year's junior varsity crew, is making O'Bara hustle for the job. Sophomore Joe Gratson might also prove to be of some help.

The fullback job, vacated by the incomparable Francis "Punchy" Rogel, is the only backfield position void of veterans. Sophomore Ted Shattuck, a promising

(Continued on page four)

### Penn State Whiz Kid



Tony Orsini

## Bischoff Urges Indie Swimmers To Enter Teams

Many independent students have the idea they can enter themselves individually in intramural swimming, Eugene C. Bischoff, director of intramural athletics at the College said yesterday. He reminds all independents that they must enter as a team with a minimum of five men.

Last year's aquatic competition was the initial independent venture into intramural swimming. Six teams entered with Dorm 2 of Pollock Circle becoming the ultimate winner. An intramural pool record was set last season when Gene Kolber backstroked his way 60 yards to a 39.4 timing. Kolber swam for Dorm 2.

Pi Kappa Phi Champ Other records are 32.0 for the 60-yard free style, made by Jack Senior of Pi Kappa Phi in 1948; 42.3 for the 60-yard breaststroke, held by Harry Nelson of Alpha Sigma Phi in 1949. The Phi Epsilon Pi quartet of Goldenberg, Weiser, Rosetsky, and Magaziner hold the 120-yard relay record with a time of 1:02.3.

## Sykes Calls Out IM Tennisers

Dutch Sykes, director of intramural tennis, has announced that men interested in IM tennis should report to 213 Rec Hall before 5 p.m. Wednesday.

There will be a separate tournament for independent and fraternity men. Each fraternity may enter two men; any independent may enter and represent himself. However, any man who has won a varsity letter will not be eligible for competition.

The fraternity champion, Mark Borland, of Phi Gamma Delta, has graduated while the independent monarch, Richard Wieland, will not be eligible for tournament play this year.

### Holler 'n Hades . . .

## Baseball World Awaits Outcome Of Final 9 Days Junior Loop Play

By JOE BREU

With the exception of two night games major league baseball took a holiday yesterday.

But the nation's fans did not. Instead, they took advantage of the break in the schedule to look a bit closer at the tight American League pennant chase.

With each team having 10 games left to play, Casey Stengel's New York Yankees and the Detroit Tigers were deadlocked in first place and Boston was 2 games behind. One of the Tiger's games was played last night at Cleveland.



Casey Stengel

The Tigers definitely have the edge as far as the schedule is concerned. Going into last night's contest the Bengals had six games left with Cleveland and four with the St. Louis Browns.

Meanwhile the Yanks and Red Sox will face each other in four games and each have four games left with Washington, who has

specialized in knocking off the big boys this season. The Yank games with the Nats are consecutive double headers. The Sox must also play two double headers in the final week. Only one twin bill faces the Tigers, and that with the Browns.

Things look blackest for the Red Sox despite the fact that they play their last six games at home where they are practically unbeatable. Two games to make up in ten is a large scale task.

At the same time it appears that the Tiger pitching staff is back to full strength while Vic Raschi's sore arm is not going to aid the Yank's somewhat erratic pitching staff. As for the Sox, Mel Parnell and Ellis Kinder were unable to pitch them to a pennant last year and the task is even greater this season.

## Ex-Lion Stone Works Out With Cross Country Squad

Curt Stone, former Lion miler who toured Europe last Summer with an American track contingent, arrived on campus recently and will work out with Coach Chick Werner's cross country squad for the next few days.

Werner has approximately 80 varsity and freshman candidates going through conditioning drills preparing for the grueling season ahead.

Included in the group working out with the varsity are eight senior lettermen. The holdovers from last year's harrier squad includes Don and Bill Ashenfelder,

Jack St. Clair, Bill Gordon, John McCall, Al Porto, Bob Freebairn and Bob Parsons.

Werner emphasized that it is still not too late or candidates for either the varsity or freshman squad to report for practice. No competitive drills have as yet been held.

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