

## Off The Cuff



### Gus Bigott Ends Soccer Eligibility

By ART BENNING  
Assistant Sports Editor

Looking back through the victory-marked soccer record books at Penn State, you come up with some interesting facts. A win streak of 66 games, for instance. There, too, you find a long list of All-Americans. Among others, you spot the name of Gus Bigott, All-American — 1938 and 1939. True, it's rare that you find a soccerman who makes the "All" team both his sophomore and junior year, but there's more to it than that.

Where is his 1940 record? Wasn't he named to the greatest team in the nation again? Why wasn't his name in any of the lineups that year?

That's where the mystery starts. And you wouldn't find the answer in the record books until 1950. There again you see the name of Gus Bigott, and it's the same Gus who starred on Coach Bill Jeffrey's soccer squads in the late '30's.

That's the story that most of us know. Let's fill in the missing chapters.

The Bigott story starts in Caracas, Venezuela in 1916. Gus says that the sports pages modestly list him as a 32 year old, but he stoutly maintains that he knows when he was born, and it was in 1912, making him 34 years young.

His parents decided that their children should be educated in the United States, so Gus and his two brothers came to Harrisburg in 1930, and enrolled at Harrisburg Academy that same year. Finding no soccer team there, they turned to other games to satisfy their sports enthusiasm. Tennis and basketball were the ones Gus favored, and before he was graduated from the school he had captained both teams.

After graduating in 1933, the boys decided to return to South America for a visit. The visit lasted four years before they made up their minds to get more education in the States. Gus chose Penn State because of its reputation as a good agriculture school.

At last the boy who had started playing soccer at the early age of seven, found a place where his talent was appreciated. He says nobody encouraged him to try out for the team. Nobody had to. Gus loves the game.

That was 1937, the year Gus first met soccer coach Jeffrey. Gus played freshman soccer that year, and says modestly that he guesses he did all right. But the next year the good-looking South American really hit the limelight. Between Jeff and Gus, a perfect combination, Gus Bigott was named All-American in 1938.

In 1939 the selections committee just couldn't ignore the names of Bigott, and Gus was named a repeat All-American. Two games stand out in the Venezuelan's memory of that season, but the record book tells that story, too. Penn State 3, Army 0; goals by Bigott. Penn State 1, Navy 0; goal by Bigott.

Those two years Jeffrey's teams went undefeated, keeping alive the consecutive win streak which was eventually to end at 66.

When the soccer season was over in 1939, Gus longed to get back to his homeland. So in February he left Penn State and returned to Venezuela. This time he went into the real estate business. Romance might have influenced him in his decision to leave college, because a year later Gus married a hometown girl who had also been to the United States for an education. His wife Lily, is a graduate of Marywood College in Scranton.

In 1945 the first of the Bigott's two children was born. Little Tito could be seen in the locker room in Recreation Hall almost every afternoon this Fall, while his dad was playing soccer for "Uncle Bill." He's a dark haired, bright eyed youngster who loves sports as much as his father, even though he's only five years old. He had the job of teaching Spanish to the phys ed boys. And how they love it. If he didn't show up on a certain afternoon there was something missing around the locker room.

The other child is cute little three-year-old Lilibet. Gus has no soccer aspirations for her other than from the grandstands.

The Bigotts spent 1949 touring European countries. They both agree there's nothing like travel, but Gus was glad to get back to

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## Orsini, Anders Pace Rip's 1st Lion Crew

Although Rip Engle's Nittany Lion gridders wound up the 1950 season with a mark of five wins, three losses and a tie, they were outscored 155 to 141, a check of the season's scoring shows.

Halfback Tony Orsini, the workhorse of the backfield, was the team's leading scorer with six touchdowns, all scored on rushing plays. Sophomore fullback Paul Anders was runner-up for scoring honors with four six-pointers. Anders played in but three games.

### Lions Count 21 TD's

The Lions scored 141 points on 21 touchdowns and 15 extra point conversions. The opposition accounted for its 155 points on 23 touchdowns and 17 extra points.

Quarterback Vince O'Bara was fifth in the scoring although he failed to register a single touchdown. O'Bara scored all his 15 points on conversions. He also passed for three touchdowns. Second-string quarterback Dick Koerber passed for two scores, and wingback Owen Dougherty was on the throwing end of another.

Army registered the highest score of the season against the Lions in its 41-7 victory, while the largest Penn State one-afternoon production was run up at the expense of Georgetown, 34-14. The Lions were blanked once, 19-0, by Nebraska, and administered one whitewashing themselves, 27-0, over West Virginia.

The longest scoring play of the



Tony Orsini

season was a 75-yard touchdown pass from O'Bara to end John Smidansky in the Boston College encounter. The longest touchdown run of the campaign was credited to halfback Bill Abbot.

## State-Ithaca Fives

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ter; and Angelo Fuciletti and John Fletcher, both sophomores, at the forward posts.

Gross will counter against the soph-dominated Ithaca squad with a first five composed of Captain Lou Lamie and Frank Moore at guard, Tiny McMahan at center, and Hardy Williams and Ted Panoplos at forward.

Also slated to see action are Joe Piorkowski, George Lynch, Tom Shuptar, Chet Makarewicz, and Stu Phillips.

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## Doughty Conquers Indyk In IM Fight

Jim Doughty and Charlie Indyk, a couple of lightning-fast independents, clashed in one of the best intramural boxing bouts of the season last night, with Doughty, on the basis of his aggressiveness, coming out on top.

The first two matches of the evening were TKO victories. Bob Wilson, of Alpha Tau Omega, stopped Dave Conover, of Delta Theta Sigma, in the first round, and Bill Celani, of Alpha Phi Delta, rocked Walt Saxe, of Pi Kappa Alpha, in one minute and five seconds of the second round.

Dick Dum, of Alpha Gamma Rho, topped Con Kresge, of Alpha Zeta, in their 165-pound bout, and Tony Lawless, of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, led all the way in defeating Jack Graham, of Kappa Delta Rho, in a 145-pound go.

who raced 52 yards against Syracuse.

Other scorers were John Smidansky, 18; Ted Shattuck, 18; Owen Dougherty, 6; Bob Pollard, 6; Bill Abbot, 6; Art Betts, 6; Andy Silcock, 6; and Bill Leonard, 6.

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