

The Lion's Lair

By ERNIE MOORE
Collegian Sports Editor

Well, just one more week and then "Old King Football" will ascend the throne in the Nittany Vale and we can't help but wonder how the Lions will fare on the gridiron this fall.

Although the season hasn't begun, already Penn State has received a couple of bad breaks in the forms of injuries. Although the injuries have not been what you would call serious, they've come at a most inopportune time.

With the season opener only a week off and the Lions trying to smooth out the rough spots in their offense, three of the first team backfield have been sidelined. The practice time lost by quarterback Tony Rados, wingback Rob Pollard, and halfback Ted Shattuck could seriously hurt State's chances against Boston University next Saturday.



Harry Agganis, former BU passing star, is in the lineup.

Had a chance to talk to Joe Tocci, former Penn State baseball and basketball star and last year's freshman cage coach, a couple of weeks ago. He and Jack Kurty, also a former Lion diamond star, played some ball for the Harrisburg Senators this summer.

After Joe hurt his arm when he was switched from second base to shortstop, he asked for his release and attended West Chester State Teachers College the rest of the summer.

Joe Drazenovich, former Penn State guard under Bob Higgins and Joe Bedenk, is now the assistant football coach at Butler High School. The Tornados are defending WPIAL champions and have a winning streak of 15 straight intact, not counting last night's contest.

To top that off is the fact that Buff Donelli's team will have one game already under their belts when it comes to State College. The Terriers open with William and Mary this afternoon. And don't think the Lion coaching staff won't be watching the summary of that game to see if

Thiel Team Records Don't Tell the Story

By TOM SAYLOR

Even though Penn State's 17-year lacrosse record under Coach Nick Thiel is an unimpressive 65 wins and 79 losses, it doesn't begin to tell the story.

For since his arrival in 1934 as head coach, Thiel has literally developed his players from scratch. Thus, his overall winning percentage of .452 is all the more impressive considering Thiel has started from the very beginning.

It isn't an easy job trying to teach someone a sport he has never played before. Any coach will tell you this including Thiel.

And if any person is qualified to teach someone new to lacrosse, Thiel is just that person. For Thiel played the game, and, it might be added, played it well. The Lion coach was an All-American at Syracuse in 1933, the year before he came to the campus.

Finished Strong

Last year, the Penn State lacrosse coach enjoyed one of his best seasons. State won six and dropped three, but finished strong to capture four consecutive matches from the Maryland Lacrosse Club, Ithaca, Hobart, and Cornell. The Maryland game was a real surprise. In fact, the Philadelphia Inquirer called it a "stunning upset."

The best record, however, was shown by the 1938 club which had a 6-2 log. That year, the Lions were defeated in their first two matches by Army and Maryland, but wound up the campaign by taking six straight.

Last Team Best

But even though the records don't show it, the Lion coach thinks "my team last year could have beaten my best team in previous years." Thiel explained that lacrosse is on the up-grade and the stress is now on the offense; therefore, last year's club rates the edge.

The proof of Thiel's excellent coaching may be verified by a look at the annual North-South all-star game. The former Syracuse star has been head coach of this event on three occasions and an assistant on three others.

To say that Thiel is a lacrosse expert is putting it mildly. His being a member of the NCAA rules committee and past president, as well as the present secretary-treasurer, of the Lacrosse Coaches Association will more than bear out the fact.

Thiel has personally edited for the past seven years a publication called the Lacrosse Newsletter which he began himself.

Only Wins Count

Penn State was outscored, 155 to 141, while winning five, losing three and tying one during the 1950 football campaign.



Nick Thiel

Meyer Expects To Keep Job

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 21—(AP)—Billy Meyer said today he expects to manage the Pittsburgh Pirates again in 1952.

After Branch Rickey became vice president and general manager of the Pittsburgh baseball club earlier this year, there had been reports Meyer would be replaced as the Pirate pilot.

He and his new boss have been getting along famously, Meyer said, and already they are deep in plans for a major shakeup in the team next spring.

"I've never enjoyed working under anyone more than I have Mr. Rickey this baseball season," Meyer said.

"We are going to clean house next season. Mr. Rickey will personally be in charge of the camp at Deland and we hope to find some young players from our farm clubs that will help us."

Meyer is visiting his home here during a two-day break in the Pittsburgh schedule.

Wedding Bells Ring For Gridders During Summer

Wedding bells rang for five Nittany Lion varsity football players this past summer. Art Betts, Chan Johnson, Tony Rados, Len Shephard, and Wayne Wolfkiel.

These five brand-new grooms bring to seven the number of family men on the Lion's roster. Jim Barr and Jim Pollard are the two veteran married men. Barr is the father of a 2-month-old son, while Pollard has three years of matrimony to his credit.

Betts and Shephard, co-captains, were married on the same day, June 9, but Shephard says it was just a coincidence. Betts was married in Pittsburgh and Shephard in Philadelphia.

All the players have their wives with them at the College except Wolfkiel. Mrs. Wolfkiel is serving as a WAC in Washington.

Mrs. Betts, Mrs. Pollard, and Mrs. Rados are working for the college administration, while Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Shephard work in downtown stores.

Football's Back

Grid Season Goes into High Gear

NEW YORK, Sept. 21—(AP)—The football bug who glances casually over tomorrow's national college schedule and concludes in some bewilderment that he must somehow have gotten hold of an old, last winter's paper is to be treated with kind understanding.

With the first day of autumn only just at hand, it says here that the Kentucky Wildcats are playing the Texas Longhorns at Austin, Texas, and that Southern Methodist's Mustangs are engaging the Engineers of Georgia Tech at Atlanta, both tomorrow afternoon.

It is no misprint, either. The boys just couldn't wait for a bowl game invitation. They want to find out now.

Texas vs Kentucky

The clash at Austin sends the team which lost to Tennessee in the last Cotton Bowl—Texas—against the great Kentucky club which vanquished Oklahoma, the nation's top ranking eleven, in the last Sugar Bowl.

Several other games around the nation are almost equal standouts as the big boys get further away from the old practice of feeding on setups for the first several weeks.

Two of the South's traditional rivals, North Carolina and North Carolina State, collide at Chapel Hill. North Carolina, sparked by Billy Williams, is expecting a happy season, but could have its dreams rudely shattered at the outset.

Intercollegiate Games

Michigan State, newest power in the Mid-West, is expected to show its muscles at the expense of Oregon State at East Lansing in one of the weekend's intercollegiate features. Fordham, an up-and-coming Eastern outfit, is given some chance of knocking off the Missouri Tigers in another cross-country test at Columbia, Mo.

In the Far West the perennial champion California Bears open at Berkeley against Santa Clara's always lively Broncos, and Southern California entertains Washington State at Los Angeles. Stanford plays Oregon at Eugene.

Pirates Announce Signing of Shortstop

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 21—(AP)—The Pittsburgh Pirates today announced the signing of Gair Roosevelt Allie of Statesville, N.C. He was assigned to New Orleans of the Southern Association. Branch Rickey, Buc general manager, signed the 19-year-old shortstop after watching him play at Forbes Field here.

Frosh, Sophs Brighten Future Soccer Outlook

Coach Bill Jeffrey's soccer team might be the team to beat during the next couple of years, because it looks as if the Nittany mentor has some excellent freshmen and sophomore material to work with.

In fact, two freshmen could break into the starting lineup this year. Jack Pinezich, forward, and goalie Dick Cheskis might be in the first eleven when Bucknell comes here, Oct. 6.

Another freshman, Charlie Snyder, who played his soccer at Mercersburg Academy, is also being looked over carefully by Jeffrey.

Possible Soph Starters

Four sophomores could easily start for the booters come Oct. 6. Don Shirk, who went on the Iran trip this past spring, looks like the man who will replace last year's high scorer, Bullet Joe Lane. Two other sophs, Hap Irvin and John Hess, will see plenty of action at the wing positions, with Irvin probably going in at outside life. The other second-year man, Bill Norcik, who was sidelined last year because of an injury will see plenty of action at right wing. Ellis Kocher, a good-ball control man, might also be in there against Bucknell. The only person actually assured of a starting berth is Captain Ronnie Coleman.

At halfback positions, three juniors will probably be in the opening lineup. Frank Follmer, right half, Kurt Klaus, center half, and Jack Charlton, left half, will be in the starting eleven with Gary Nugent, who was transferred from forward last year, also a reserve.

Goalie Positions

The goalie position, where Ron Coder was featured last year, will have Jack Krumrine available in addition to Cheskis.

At fullback, the Lions will open with Jay Simmons, a first-team man last season, and possibly Paul Dierk.

Against the Bucknell Bisons, State will be engaging a club that has had absolutely no luck against the Lions. In 15 previous matches, Bucknell has done no better than 0-0 tie in 1943. Last year, with Joe Lane setting the pace with seven tallies, State overwhelmed the Bisons, 11-2.

Only Six Tallies

State also won in 1949, 5-0. All in all, the Bisons have scored only six goals against State in 15 meet-

Frick Settles Into New Job

NEW YORK, Sept. 21—(AP)—A distinguished looking gentleman with a mop of greying hair settled behind his desk high up in Radio City today, accepted congratulations from his old friends of the press, and baseball was back in business again.

Ford Frick, the new commissioner, said he still was somewhat sleepy, not having silenced his ringing phone until the dark hours of mid-morning, but otherwise he felt great, though still slightly bewildered by it all.

"I can honestly say it came as a complete surprise," he said. "The screening committee never had even spoken to me about the commissionship. The first hint I got that I might be in the running was when I heard late yesterday that the vote was ten for Warren (Giles) and six for me. And that was only scuttlebutt."

With that, the man who will govern baseball for at least the next seven years got down to answering questions. First, where did he intend to establish his new office?

"I think it will be right here," he said. "I haven't really had time to think about it yet, but I can't conceive of leaving New York."

When did he intend to take over the commissioner's duties?

"Certainly not until they've elected a new National League president and I've had a chance to settle him into the job," Frick replied. "I don't know when that will be, but I don't see how it can possibly be before Nov. 1."

The Lions, on the other hand, have scored a total of 66

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