

Frosh Team Shows Excellent Material

By DICK McDOWELL

Even if the freshman football squad was not to play a game all year, come next fall it would, in any case, be ready to move up to varsity competition.

Coach Earl Bruce's lads have been getting some real experience in the past three weeks, scrimmaging against the varsity crew. And, what is more important, the Nittany juniors have been giving Rip Engle's squad some tough competition.

It probably isn't bothering Engle, though, to see the frosh giving his team such stiff workouts. Besides helping the varsity, the rugged freshman play thus far, should be giving Engle some satisfaction as to future plans. He's the one who will eventually receive the dividends.

Outstanding Backs

It's not hard to see why the freshman squad has been looking so good. Bruce has a host of big linemen, and a group of backs that would make any coach happy. Halfback Lenny Moore has been raising a lot of eyebrows with his swift, shifty ball carrying, and quarterbacks Bob Hoffman and Walt Hochberg have shown themselves exceptionally well.

Defensively, Bob Allen has been outstanding, and Frank Reich has been looking "very good" at center. Guards, Dick Bobo, and Bob Pegues have been the biggest mainstays in Bruce's line.

The frosh are only scheduled for two games this season. They will meet the University of Pennsylvania, and Annapolis freshman squads.

Play 2 Games

Bruce is making no indications of a starting eleven as yet. The frosh mentor is trying to give everyone a chance to show him, as well as Engle, who is keeping close tabs, whether he is Penn State varsity material or not.

In regards to their games with Penn and Navy, Bruce doesn't have much to say. Not much is known about the two squads. But it's a sound guess that both schools will field strong ball clubs. Penn is in the midst of a rebuilding program, and it is likely to have a group of outstanding freshmen at hand this year. As far as Navy goes, the Middies are always tough, and this year should be no exception.

The Lions will meet Penn on Nov. 1, probably in the morning, preceding the varsity clash. The following week, the frosh travel to Annapolis to take on the plebes.

Champion Fireballs Win IM Grid Opener, 20-0

By BOB DUNN

The Fireballs, 1951 Independent touch football champs, opened defense of their title last night by scoring an impressive 20-0 win over the Nincompoops in the first of four games.

In other games, the Crusaders scored a 1-0 overtime win over the Graymen, the Blue Streaks defeated the Polecats 6-0, and in the lone fraternity clash of the evening, KDR edged Alpha Sigma Phi, 1-0.

The Fireballs proved that they again will be hard to stop by displaying a great one-two punch in Walt Laska and Dave Eskey. Just before the first half ended, Eskey caught a punt on the Nincompoop 45 yard line and promptly threw a long pass to Laska, who caught the ball on the five and stepped across for the first Fireball score. Laska passed to Russ Miller for the extra point.

Early in the second half, Bill Strazynski intercepted a Nincompoop pass and raced to the enemy 15. This time it was Laska on the passing end, heaving to Eskey for the score. Laska added the extra point with an end run.

The champ's final score came just as the game ended, with Laska going 18 yards on a fake pass play. A pass for the extra point failed.

The Crusaders victory came in an overtime thriller. On the fourth play of the extra session, Merle Cooper passed to Jim Lappen, moving the ball across the 50. The Graymen were unable to move the ball back into Crusader territory.

The game was a hard fought defensive battle throughout, with play staying around the middle

of the field. The Crusaders made the deepest penetration of regulation time early in the second half. They got possession of the ball on the Graymen 18 when the latter had too many men on the field on fourth down. LaRue Fritz, who ran well all night, moved the ball to the ten, but here the drive stalled.

The Blue Streaks scored the winning touchdown late in the ball game. From the Streaks own 40 Angie Manolas passed to Al Smith on the Polecat's 25 yard line. Then Manolas passed to Don Sweeney, who made a fine catch in the end zone. A pass attempt for the extra was batted down.

The Polecats deepest penetration was early in the second half, when they recovered a fumble on the Blue Streaks 25. Here, the Streaks defense tightened and the winners took over on downs.

In KDR's triumph, the winners moved the ball a foot and a half past midfield on the first overtime play. The ball stayed there as five subsequent pass plays failed.

TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE: 7 p.m. Joe's Boys vs Dorm 13; 7:45 p.m. Beaver House vs C.A.'s; 8:30 p.m. Dorm 26 vs Lumberjacks; 9:15 p.m. Sigma Pi vs Alpha Phi Delta.

Tackle Stew Scheetz . . .

Told to Quit High School Team

By JOHN SHEPPARD

"I'm sorry Stew, but you just don't have what it takes to play on my eleven," the coach said to the tall, stocky candidate who had missed another tackle.

The young lad felt something tighten up inside and pretended he didn't hear what the coach had said. That was some ten years ago . . .

Today, anyone who has watched Stewart Scheetz, Nittany Lion defensive tackle, carry out his



Stew Scheetz

tackling assignments on the grid-turf would find it hard to believe that, a few years back he wasn't good enough to make his high school football team.

Soon after that high school incident, Scheetz joined the Army and that's where this story takes its form.

One fall afternoon in 1946 Scheetz decided to try out for the base football team. It was a smart move at that, for he made this team and it was better than the one in high school.

Declared Ineligible

Following his discharge from the service in '47, he entered Temple University and played freshman football for a while. After a few months, he decided that city life wasn't for him, so he transferred to State.

When the '50 grid season rolled around, Scheetz was declared ineligible because of the transfer ruling which states that an athlete who switches schools is ineligible for varsity competition until one year following the change.

Stew didn't mind it, however. In fact, he related to us, "It was probably the best thing that ever happened to me. I got plenty of experience in those daily scrimmages. It's really helped me today."

The following campaign he established himself as a regular on State's line and has been playing regularly ever since.

Coach Rip Engle has decided to

reserve Scheetz principally for defense. As was evidenced in State's first two games this year, his defensive work played a major role in halting the opposition's touchdown-minded backs.

Big and Fast

Standing 6-2 and weighing 228, he's big and tough. Enemy linemen have discovered that they can't move him on defense or get around him as was demonstrated in the Army game two seasons ago.

Despite his size, he's quick and well-coordinated. Stew's greatest thrill in intercollegiate football was in the Nebraska game two years ago, when he recovered a fumble and ran 15 yards toward State's goal line before he was pulled down.

"Everyone kept yelling to me to lateral the ball," he said. "I guess I looked like a slow freight coming around the bend."

His 2.43 All-College average plus his phenomenal feats of strength on the field have influenced the Cleveland Browns of

the pro ranks to select him as their draft choice.

BODY CONTACTS . . . senior . . . member of Sigma Nu . . . married . . . likes to work with oil paints . . . 25 years old.

Formerly Coached

Ralph Ricker, newly-appointed special assistant in the School of Physical Education and Athletics, formerly coached football at Dickinson and Lebanon Valley.

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