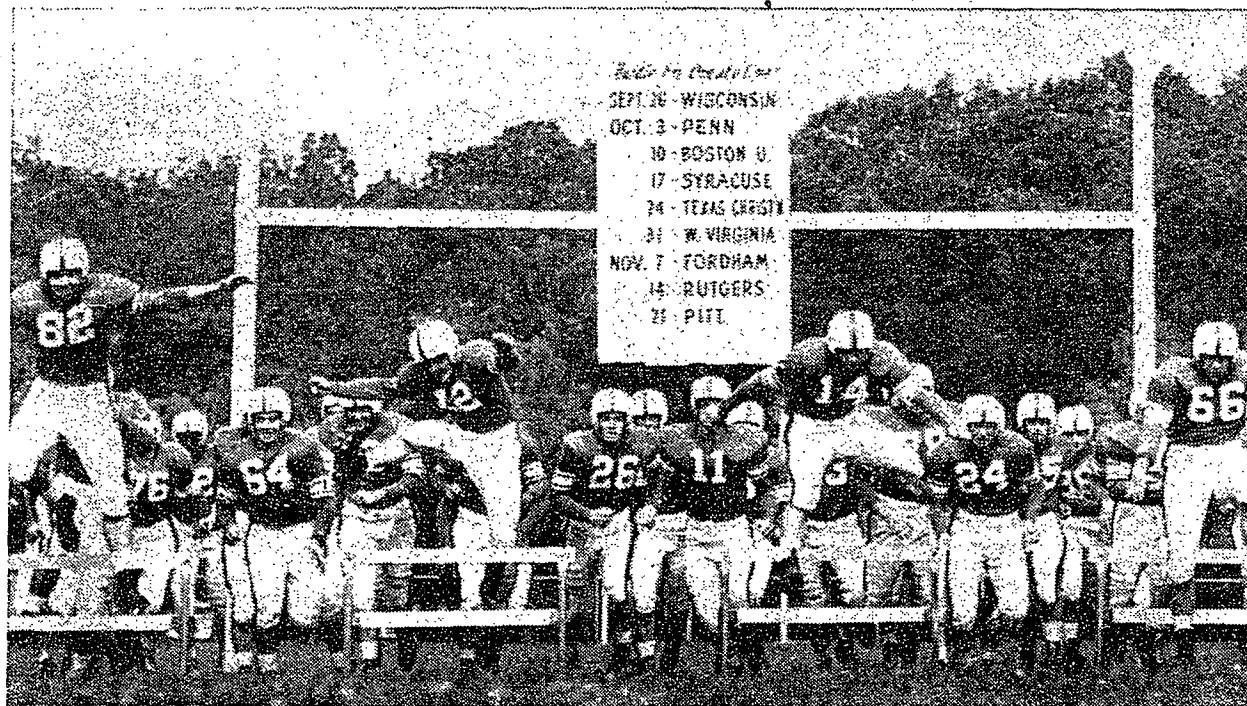


The High Hurdles Are Yet to Come



THAT FOOTBALL schedule between the goal posts is enough to make football gridders jump. And it does! Five members of the Nittany football team leap over low hurdles at a practice

session on Beaver Field. The gridders have been practicing in preparation for Wisconsin, Sept. 26, the first big hurdle on the nine-game card.

Backfield Is Hope For Lions' Success

By SAM PROCOPIO

The Penn State Nittany Lions will launch their 67th year of intercollegiate football Sept. 26 at Madison, Wis. with hopes in the line and doubts behind it.

Coach Rip Engle and his staff sit on the hot seat due to a few paper clippings which tell about—rather than perform—the “glorious” season Penn State should accomplish during its nine-game campaign this season.

Engle begins his fourth season at the helm—every year with a supposedly better outlook.

Nittany Coaches Of Varsity Teams

Football—Coach Rip Engle; assistants, Al Michaels, Jim O'Hara, Earl Bruce, Sever Torretti, Frank Patrick, and Joe Paterno.

Basketball—Coach Elmer Gross; assistant John Egli.

Baseball—Coach Joe Bedenk; assistant, Chuck Medlar.

Track—Coach Chick Werner; assistant, Norm Gordon.

Soccer—Coach Ken Hosterman.

Cross-Country—Coach Chick Werner; assistant, Gordon.

Boxing—Coach Eddie Sulkowski.

Wrestling—Coach Charlie Speidel.

Tennis—Coach Sherm Fogg.

Golf—Coach Bob Rutherford.

Lacrosse—Coach Nick Thiel.

Gymnastics—Coach Gene Weiffstone.

Trainers—Medlar, Sulkowski, and Ray Ulenski.

3 Lion Opponents Named to All-Team

Penn State gridders will be forced to battle with three all-America candidates this season, according to selections made by Sport Magazine.

Eldred Kraemer of Pitt was selected to the first string. The outstanding guard for the Smoky City 11 also doubles as a heavy-weight wrestler.

Two other opponents received honorable mention. Alan Ameche of Wisconsin was picked as one of the outstanding backs. Ben Dunkerley of West Virginia was one of the tacklers to gain honorable mention.

Grid Newcomers

Illinois, Virginia, and Holy Cross will be the newcomers to Penn State's 1954 football schedule. It will be the first meeting with Illinois and Holy Cross, the second with Virginia. Only the Illinois game will be played away from home. It will be the season's opener Sept. 25.

Neil M. Fleming, former graduate manager of athletics at Penn State, is living in retirement at State College.

When Rip arrived at State College his freshman year, he discovered, to his dismay, the Lions were fresh out of veterans. Today, he has the vets but lacks depth.

The Lions possess a forward wall that is capable of “seven mules.” The line, which averages 204 pounds, consists of two of the best ends in the country, Don Malinak and Jesse Arnette. Tackles Rosey Grier and Gene Daner are worth their weight in tackles. Guards Peter Schoderbek and Keith Horn and center Don Palthaser give the extra punch needed. Except for Horn the lineup is an all-veteran one.

Sept. 26—Wisconsin, away
Oct. 3—Penn, away
Oct. 10—Boston U., away
Oct. 17—Syracuse, home
Oct. 23—Texas Christian, home (HOMECOMING)
Oct. 31—West Virginia, home
Nov. 7—Fordham, home (BAND DAY)
Nov. 14—Rutgers, away
Nov. 21—Pitt, away

In the ??? department the biggest and most talked about is quarterback Tony Rados. About this proficient passer sportswriters have been able to pluck their typewriters freely to satisfy their editors about Penn State's success.

Rados did report to camp two weeks ago with a surplus of weight.

“The extra weight doesn't worry me,” Engle said. “I'm more concerned about his knee, and whether he can adapt himself to

two-way football. After all, he hasn't played any defensive football since he left high school.”

It's true. But he was a great one at that. In a recent practice scrimmage Rados' knee held up. His performance? Good.

Fullback? No lettermen are available for this position. Engle lost his first four fullbacks via graduation and service calls. The top two aspirants are sophomores—Bill Straub and Charles Blockson.

Moore Great Back

The Halfbacks? Keith Vesling and Don Eyer are defensive stars—especially at passes. However, their running game isn't exceptionally fast. Dick Jones is a fine speedster and an open-field runner, but his size (5-8) is a handicap on defense. Don Bailey and Buddy Rowell are fine performers and should prove helpful. Bailey played every backfield position last season. He will likely see action at the QB slot with Rados.

Sophomore Lenny Moore who may slip into the starting lineup may turn out to be the best backfieldman Engle has ever coached.

Aside from Moore, reserves from the freshman lot are Otto Kneidinger, a 6-3 end; center Frank Reich and fullbacks Charles Blockson and Frank Della Penna.

Lettermen graduated are Bill Leonard, Ted Kemmerer, Bob Pollard, Jim Dooley, Bob Smith, Don Barney, Joe Gratson, Stewart Scheetz, Carl Pfirman, Herb Raifsnider, Dave Simon, and Joe Yurkiewicz. (Continued on page seventeen)

Sport SPOTLIGHT

DICK McDOWELL
Assistant Sports Editor



In less than two weeks football once again will capture the spotlight here at the Nittany Vale when Rip Engle unveils his 1953 gridiron edition. Beginning his fourth year at the helm, Rip will face a nine-game schedule that is probably as rugged as any in the East.

Here's a thumbnail breakdown of the nine grid opponents:

WISCONSIN—Sept. 26—Coach Ivy Williamson is having his troubles this season. After tying Purdue for Big-Ten honors last year, and a somewhat disastrous trip to the Rose Bowl, the Badgers outlook is not as bright in 1953. Williamson has lost the services of five of his regulars—including quarterback Jim Haluska—through injuries. Haluska was one of the finest passers in the country last season and his loss will hurt. There is still Alan Ameche though—a great fullback—and that can mean trouble for any team. The Badgers will be hard to stop.

PENN—Oct. 3—The not-so-Ivy-League Quakers have fashioned themselves an All-American schedule this season, and figure to be plenty tough. With fullback Joe Varaitis leading the attack, and a solid line to work with, Red Munger could have the sleeper of the East.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY—Oct. 10—Minus their great quarterback Harry Agganis, the Terriers aren't being given much regard in the East. However the renewal of the State-BU rivalry should be an interesting one. The last time the two teams met, the Lions slipped by 40-34. Of course, they had Agganis.

SYRACUSE—Oct. 17—After drubbing the Lions last year, 25-7, the Lambert trophy team was humiliated in the Orange Bowl when Alabama whipped them 61-6. But one thing is certain, the Orange aren't that bad. They should be one of the best in the East this year. There's a team from central Pennsylvania, however, which is very, very hungry for revenge.

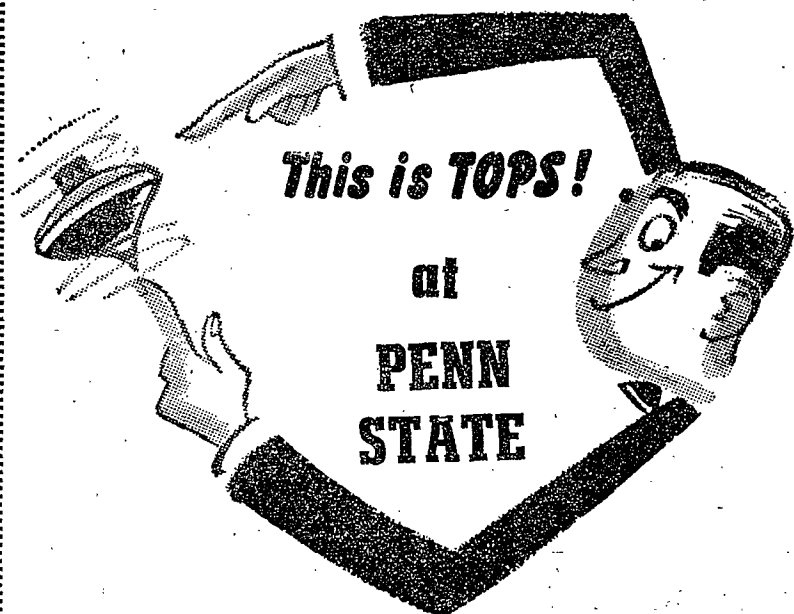
TEXAS CHRISTIAN—Oct. 24—The Horned Frogs were the door mats of the South West Conference last year, but the Lions will still have their hands full at the Homecoming contest. Abe Martin, in his first year as head coach has installed the split-T and single wing into the TCU offense, and that South West wide open style of football is plenty dangerous.

WEST VIRGINIA—Oct. 31—The Mountaineers were loaded last year and are minus only one regular end—Paul Bischoff—on this year's team. Should be a real rough and tumble affair at Beaver Field.

FORDHAM—Nov. 7—The Rams are making a desperate bid to return to the “big time.” And reports are that they might be pretty successful with their attempts. The Lions should have comparatively little trouble here—but, who knows?

PITT—Nov. 21—The battle of battles. The Panthers have been named THE power in the East, but Red Dawson has a serious quarterback problem on his hands. The line should be solid with All-American Eldred Kraemer leading the way. Running attack good. Defense solid. Passing erratic. No predictions—that's suicide.

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