

# Backfield Jobs Are Unsettled

## Engle Sees 3-Way Battle Waging at Halfback Spots

Whenever Coach Rip Engle looks at two of his backfield positions—right halfback and fullback—he sees nothing but 3-D to his right and just a big question mark straight ahead.

At the halfback position he has not one but three boys to choose from. Outstanding at the position last year until an arm fracture sidelined him was Keith Vesling. Although his arm is in great shape,

he must do battle with Don Eyer and Ron Younker to win a starting berth. To prove his arm is in tip-top condition he pitched Joe Bedenk's baseball nine through eight victories as against two defeats.

### Younker Determined

Eyer, however, is probably the best bet to land a starting job. He not only is the best defensive but his kicking ability gives him a distinct edge. He's a good punter. With the new rule in effect his service is a prerequisite.

Younker, a virtual newcomer, can't go overlooked. He has determination and the old-college try.

As far as Engle is concerned it's a toss-up.

The fullback position is as gloomy as a coach would ever want it to be. It was a wide-open affair when three hold-overs stepped out because of service calls or scholastic deficiencies. The only sure thing about the fullback spot is the job will go to an untried sophomore.

### No Big Boys

Bill Straub, of Allison Park, has been seeing more action with the first team than the other candidates. Nevertheless, Engle emphasized Bobby Allen, Charley Blockson, and Frank Della Penna are still in the running.

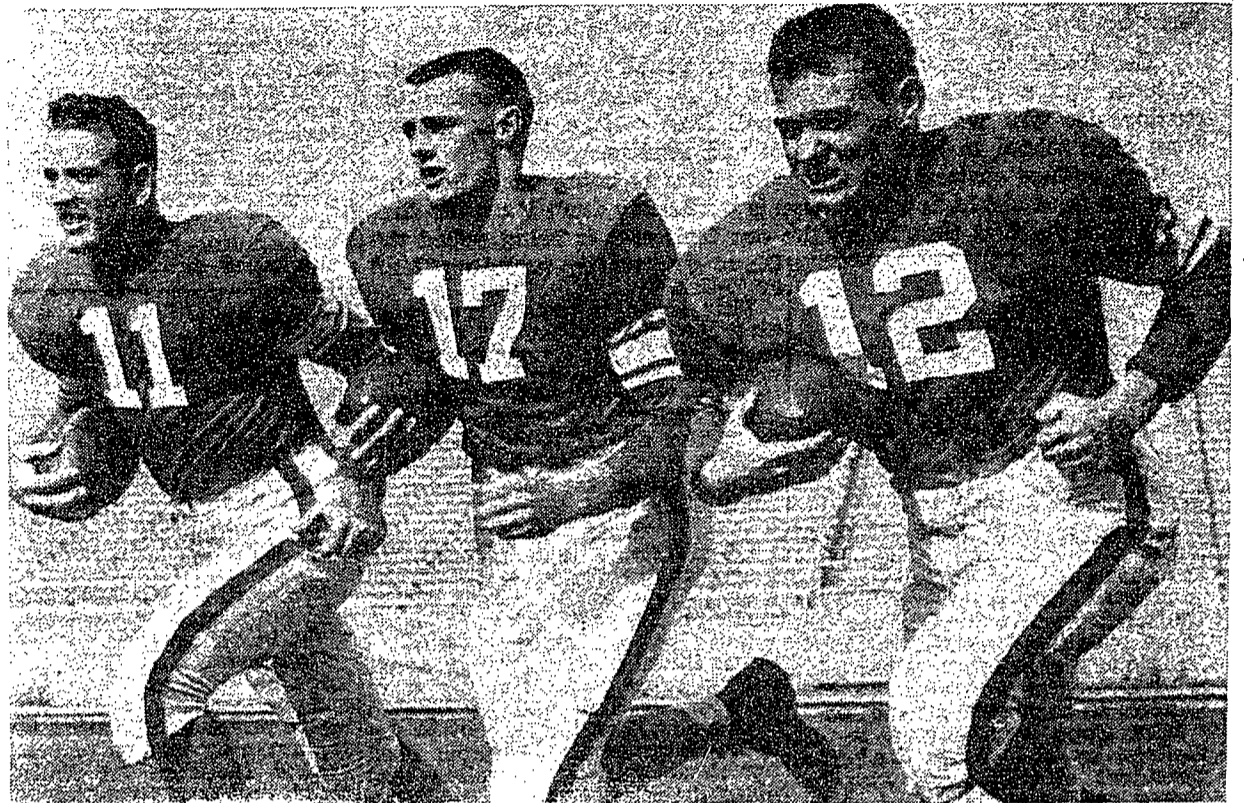
"It's plain," Engle said, "we'll have to go with a sophomore in this position. None of the boys is especially big, and they're all lacking in experience, but I must say they are putting a lot of spirit and drive into their fight for recognition."

Engle's backfield burden might be lightened somewhat if he were to see a slight image which could compare to Bob Pollard's hard-running of last season.

### Series Seats Sold Out

NEW YORK, Sept. 17 (AP)—The New York Yankees announced today that all box and reserved seats for their portion of the World Series had been oversubscribed. The seats have been allocated and will be mailed out soon to those whose applications arrived early enough to be filled.

Standing room tickets at \$4 each for single games may be obtained. Bleacher seats at \$2 per will go on sale the day of the game. There are 13,000 of those.



THREE POSSIBILITIES for State's fullback position this year are Don Eyer, Keith Vesling, and Ron Younker. Vesling held the position down last year until a fractured arm sidelined him. Younker, a carbon copy of Lion's erstwhile

great, Fran Rogel, has been handicapped with a lack of weight, but has made up for it with his spunky spirit. Eyer is a fair punter and may see extensive service because of this sorely needed talent.

## Runners Nurse Aches, Pains; Cornell 1st Foe

This is the period of sore muscles and tender feet for this season's cross-country candidates. For the next few days the hill-and-dalers will be reminded to lift knees and swing elbows by the constant aches and pains that go along with first practice sessions.

Penn State opens its dual-meet season Oct. 10 at home against the Cornell Big Red.

Members of the varsity are going through two-a-day workouts, while some others are being permitted to get into shape on their own. Now is the time when Chick Werner, head Lion coach, and his assistant, Norm Gordon, will be looking for flaws. They will point out these flaws in the hope that candidates will accept the advice offered and get into shape by opening day.

Although the squad is not yet at complete strength, the two aces, Red Hollen and Lamont Smith, are getting themselves into shape under Werner's guiding hand. Hollen is captain of the squad this year.

What the future will bring will be determined by the success of the first stage of the campaign—the period of aches and pains.

## Hornsby Fired By Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Sept. 17 (AP)—Rogers Hornsby, a blunt and rugged individualist, was ousted again today as a big league manager.

He was fired from the Cincinnati Redlegs by general manager Gabe Paul, who gave no reason for his action. His contract would have expired Dec. 31.

Buster Mills, a coach, will handle the team the rest of the season. Meanwhile, Paul said he would be looking for a new manager—one who has had experience along that line.

Paul said there was no friction with Hornsby. The Rajah veered away from that angle when talking to a reporter.

"I've had a lot of jobs and I'll have a lot more," he said.

He expressed belief that he had done a good job here.

Redleg officials are known to be disappointed because Hornsby—greatest righthanded hitter baseball has known, and a member of the game's Hall of Fame—did not lift the club higher than sixth place in the National League.

### Giants to Tour Orient

NEW YORK, Sept. 17 (AP)—The New York Giants today listed 18 games for their exhibition tour of the Orient, which starts from San Francisco on Oct. 9. Dates for a game each in Okinawa and Manila have not yet been set.

### Nine Game Soccer Card

Penn State's perennially strong soccer team will face nine opponents in 1953. The opponents, in order, are Bucknell, Maryland, Army, Colgate, Duke, North Carolina, Navy, Temple, and Penn. Four of the nine will be played at home.

## State Grid Attendance Record Seen; West to Be Prosperous

Penn State's football team, which last season set a new attendance record in its ten-game schedule, are in a position to do even better this year despite the fact that they will play only nine games.

In 1952, the Lions performed before more than 300,000 persons including a record 100,000 that attended five home games. It was the first time in its 66-year history the Lions topped the 100,000 mark.

Harold R. (Ike) Gilbert, assistant director of athletics, has announced the advance ticket sale is 12 per cent ahead of last year.

### Tickets Still On Sale

He attributed the unprecedented demand to a combination of things, among them the adoption of a season ticket plan and a renewed interest in Penn State football as played under Rip Engle.

"There are still plenty of tickets, both for home and away games," Gilbert said, "but indications are we will top our previous sales for virtually every game on the schedule."

### Engle Pleased

Chief attractions on the four-game home card at Beaver Field will be Texas Christian and Syracuse. On the road, Gilbert said, there is a heavy demand from alumni for tickets to the Penn, Pitt, and Wisconsin games.

Engle, who's fated with the task of getting his team ready for three straight on the road against Wisconsin, Penn, and Boston University, expressed pleasure at the box office news but made it plain that his outlook was not as rosy.

### Tight Big-Ten Race

According to the Associated Press, advance ticket sales indicate college football is headed for a prosperous year in the Midwest and on the Pacific Coast. But elsewhere attendance may be

below the 1952 level as Mr. Average Fan carefully weighs his entertainment dollars.

Predictions of a tight Big Ten Conference race plus the presence of Notre Dame, pre-season favorite for the national championship, help explain the Midwest fervor.

### Lions Rated High

On the Pacific slopes a local Los Angeles rivalry between favored UCLA and defending champion Southern California is

(Continued on page twelve)

Welcome Back to Campus

Bostonians



at

Jack Harper

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HABERDASHER

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PENN  
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