

Thiel to Start 20th Year; Nine Preps for Mounties

By HERM WEISKOPF

Nittany Baseball Coach Joe Bedenk has been watching his team "grow" during the past few weeks.

The "seeds" for the squad, which he hopes will blossom forth successfully Saturday against West Virginia, were sown several weeks back when the first group of candidates for this season's team reported for spring practice.

Bedenk has coached the baseball hopefuls much as a gardner carefully supervises the growth of his plants. The gardner sprinkles his flowers with water to help them grow and Bedenk showers his candidates with words of advise with the same goal in mind.

Now with weeks of work to look back on, Bedenk seems satisfied that his team is ready to reap the harvest of its practice.

Bedenk Pleased

Bedenk said yesterday he was very pleased with the team. Whenever the weather has permitted, the Lion mentor has held intrasquad games. During these workouts Bedenk has tried players at various positions in an attempt to discover the full potential of his men.

One of Bedenk's favorite beliefs, and one that is shared by many other baseball experts, is that "the only way to learn the game is to play it." The intrasquad games are merely a way of putting to practice what he preaches.

Weidenhammer in Center

Sil Cerchie's graduation last June left a hole in centerfield which Bedenk knew would be hard to fill. However, the Nittany coach feels he has come up with an excellent replacement. Last year's regular shortstop, Ron Weidenhammer, is the No. 1 choice to fill Cerchie's old position.

Bedenk pointed out that if he has to insert Weidenhammer at shortstop for any reason the "Weeds" arm will be stronger than it was last year. "One of his big handicaps last season was his weak arm," Bedenk said of Weidenhammer.

An ex-GI, Francis Bowman, is slated to take over the duties at shortstop this season. He is a fine fielder and along with second-baseman Charlie Russo should form a top notch doubleplay combination.

Russo, Weidenhammer, and Bowman will be the first three batters in the Nittany lineup when the Lions open the campaign against the Mountaineers Saturday with a doubleheader.

In the catching department Bedenk can rely on three good backstops. George Ettenger, a junior from Newton, is slated to do the catching in the first game of the doubleheader. Either Phil Saunders or Art Cusick will do the receiving in the nightcap.

Hubie Kline will handle the chores at third base and Pat Kennedy will play first. Kline is one of the two men on the team who have picked up two letters in baseball. The other is pitcher Keith Vesling.

Old Gold Extols PanHellenic Pres.



Heartiest congratulations, Ellen Wandel, and a carton of Old Golds, for excellent work as president of both Pan-Hellenic Council and Beta Sigma Omicron.

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By EARL KOHNFELDER

When Penn State's lacrosse team opens its season Saturday against the Kenyon College Lords, Coach Nick Thiel will embark upon his 20th season as lacrosse mentor. And for the first time in many years he will have an eager eye open to the future.

In past years Thiel has had the misfortune of having to build teams around too many last-year men and not enough juniors and sophomores. Thus it was, that at the close of each season, the majority of the starting team would graduate, leaving a lot of untried novices around whom Thiel was forced to build for the following season.

Lost Seven Regulars

It was the same thing last year. When seven players graduated in June 70 per cent of Thiel's starting team was lost. This year such is not the case however. When sheepskin time rolls around this year, Thiel will bid farewell to just four senior regulars. Captain Dave Arnold, Jim Fulton, Jim Reed, and Don Bell will bow out at the season's end.

While these men are sure to be missed, the fact remains that the abundance of talented sophomores and juniors who turned out this year will be back to form a nucleus around which Thiel can build an experienced team.

Five Junior Lettermen

There are no less than five junior lettermen, all of whom have been awarded starting roles. Juniors at the attack positions are Ronnie Youtz and Dick Klein. Herbie Horikawa and Jim Hay are junior defensemen, and George Bickelhaupt is the lone junior at midfield.

In addition, a junior non-letterman, Everett Weidner, plus sophomore Bob Hamel round out the starting ten. Thiel's second ten includes five sophomores and three juniors.

In Thiel's 19 years at the University his teams have won 68 games and dropped 92. Such figures do not appear at all impressive unless it is taken into consideration that nearly everyone who comes out for the sport at Penn State knows little or nothing about the game. Just one high school in Pennsylvania participates in lacrosse. That school is Lower Merion. Although the current campaign will pit the Lions against some tough opposition, the 1955 edition will be one to reckon with.

Kenyon College is the lone addition to a schedule otherwise identical to that of last year. After meeting Kenyon the Lions travel to Annapolis where they will meet the Middles April 14, and will continue on to Baltimore the next day where they will face Loyola. The Lions' lone victory came over Loyola.

Eyeing the Quarterback Slot



THESE FOUR Penn State griders are all in line for the quarterback position left open by the departure of Tony Rados. Left to right, Don Bailey, Jim Hochberg, Bob Hoffman, and Milt Plum, take time out from workouts at Beaver Field. The 20-day spring practice will continue until the end of April.

IM Handball Tourney Scores

The quarter-finals in the intramural handball tournament were played Monday night. The scores were:

Dave Girard, Sigma Nu, defeated Dick Matacia, Alpha Sigma Phi, 21-3, 21-6. John Hawk, Sigma Chi, won over Lloyd Eddings, Theta Xi, 21-9, 21-6. Marvin Freed, Phi Epsilon Pi, beat Joe Strasser, Tau Phi Delta, 12-21, 21-18, 21-17.

Irv Schimmel, Zeta Beta Tau, won two of three sets from Paul Dierks, Phi Delta Theta, 20-21, 21-15, 21-13. Morton Averick, Phi Epsilon Pi, defeated Frank DeSalle, 21-16, 21-15. Norman Hickey, Sigma Nu, won a forfeit from Jim Brewer, Kappa Alpha Psi. Jack Sherry, Alpha Chi Rho, also won a forfeit from Douglas Frey, Beta Theta Pi.

Soccer Managers

Candidates for Soccer managerial positions are requested to sign up at the Athletic Association in Old Main, according to Dick Gordon, head manager.

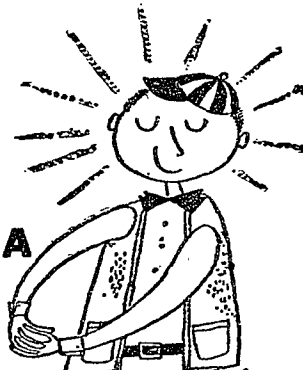
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WHAT COLOR GOES WITH A BLUSH?



A modest little freshman named Caspar Doyle found himself getting quite neurotic. It seemed that every time a girl looked at Caspar, he blushed. His sallow little cheeks turned a violent crimson. Then he would blush more because he was blushing.

He didn't get very far with the ladies and began brooding. Fortunately, he was a wealthy modest little freshman, and he finally bundled his problem off to a psychiatrist.

"I even hate my shirts. I know when I wear a white shirt it's only going to make my blush look redder," he dolefully intoned from the couch.

The head-shrinker's eyes lit up with dollar signs. He said: "Ahem. This trauma is obviously deep-seated and will take a long time to unravel. But meanwhile, try wearing some Vanahue shirts. Van Heusen makes them in lots of colors that will tone down your blush and you're bound to like the smart new collar styles. For your practical side, they're fine smooth broadcloth, color fast and Sanforized. See my nurse for the bill, please!"

Caspar bought Vanahue in all the colors and smart new collar styles for \$3.95 each. It worked. So many of the girls look at him now, he blushes constantly. Everybody thinks he just looks rugged and virile.

Baseball Citrus Dope

DURHAM, N.C., April 7 (AP)—The Detroit Tigers smashed out 17 hits, including a homer by Jim Delsing, to defeat the Philadelphia Phillies 7 to 5 today in a spring training game.

Two homers by the Phils' Del Ennis, his sixth and seventh of the spring campaign, were wasted as the Tigers rocked Curt Simmons and Steve Ridzik.

NORFOLK, Va., April 7 (AP)—Whitey Ford became the first Yankee pitcher to go the full nine inning route this afternoon as the world champions defeated the Norfolk Tars of the Piedmont League 4-1.

It was the fifth straight victory for the Yankees over minor league opposition.

BLUEFIELD, W.Va., April 7 (AP)—A pair of home runs by George Kell and another by Charley Maxwell got the Boston Red Sox off to a running start today as they beat the Milwaukee Braves, 7-2, in an exhibition game.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 7 (AP)—Hal Jeffcoat, light-hitting outfielder, made his debut as a Chicago Cub pitcher today in a brilliant fashion, hurling shut-out ball and yielding two hits in the final five innings of a 2-0 Cub triumph over the Baltimore Orioles.

BRUNSWICK, Ga., April 7 (AP)—The Philadelphia Athletics out-hit the Pittsburgh Pirates today but the Pirates came from behind to squeeze out a 6-5 victory in an exhibition game.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 7 (AP)—The New York Giants nipped the Cleveland Indians 2-1 here today to clinch the annual spring series with their American League rivals.

The victory gave the Giants an edge of 12 games to 7, with only four remaining.

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