

Nittanies Underdogs in Opener

Illini Rated 14-Point Favorites

By DICK McDOWELL

For the second year in succession Penn State will find itself an underdog on opening day when the Lions open their 1954 football campaign against top-notch Illinois Saturday afternoon at Champaign, Ill.

The Illini, co-favorites to win the Big Ten championship again this year, and a pre-season choice to finish the year among the top ten college teams, has been installed as a 14-point favorite.

Last year Coach Rip Engle's gridders opened the season against a whirlwind Wisconsin team and dropped a 20-0 decision when Allen (The Horse) Ameche began a season-long rampage at Madison, Wis.

Caroline, Bates Star

This season, instead of Ameche, they must do battle with all-American J. C. Caroline and hard-driving Mickey Bates, rated as the country's best one-two punch. Besides this fabulous pair, coach Ray Elliot has come up with another sensation—fleet sophomore halfback Abe Woodson.

Despite the loss of quarterback Ray Falkerstein, the Illini are expected to field another fine offensive unit with, of course, Caroline packing the big punch.

The Lions, who will leave for Champaign by train Thursday afternoon, are meanwhile putting the finishing touches on a month-long training period and with the opener only four days away, Engle still hasn't decided on a starting quarterback or a left guard.

Don Bailey, Milt Plum, and Bobby Hoffman are all in the running for the signal calling berth while four men—Chuck Sowers, Pete Petroff, Sam Valentine, and Dick De Luca—are shooting for the starting slot at the guard position.

One bright note came out of the Lion camp today. Co-captains Jim Garrity and Don Balthaser, injured in scrimmage almost three weeks ago, may be ready to see some action Saturday. Neither player will be in the starting lineup, but according to trainer Chuck Medlar, both may be used in spots against Illinois.

Medlar said that although both men's leg injuries have "come along well" lack of heavy practice during the past two weeks will limit their use. Balthaser put on pads for the first time in two weeks yesterday and probably will not be used Saturday unless it is absolutely necessary.

Fullback Bill Straub, sidelined last week with an ankle injury, played in the scrimmage against Cornell Saturday and will be ready to go against Illinois.

The opener Saturday will mark the 68th year of intercollegiate football at Penn State and will be Engle's fifth as head coach.

Lions Will Meet Foreign Soccermen

The annual soccer match between Ken Hosterman's varsity squad and The Cosmopolitan Club has been scheduled for Saturday at Beaver Field.

The Cosmopolitan team is composed of foreign students from Norway, Mexico, India, and Iran. But a call has been issued by officers for the organization for additional help for the game Saturday. The game is traditionally played prior to Penn State's regular intercollegiate season. Game time Saturday is 1 p.m.

Dressen Denies Rumors

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 21 (AP)—Chuck Dressen says he has had feelers from major league clubs for 1955 but any report that he has agreed to terms is "only rumor."

Dressen managed Brooklyn to pennants in 1952 and 1953 and then resigned last year when tendered only a one-year contract.

Penn State's new basketball coach, John Egli, is a Purple Heart veteran and native of South Williamsport.



J. C. Caroline
Illinois All-American

Two Sports Will Open Intramurals

Touch football and tennis singles open the array of 16 intramural sports that will be conducted on campus this year. The deadline for entries in both sports is 4:30 p.m. Friday, according to Gene Wettstone and Dutch Sykes, officials in the intramural office.

A large turnout is expected in the touch football tournament. Throughout recent years this sport has increasingly found the fancy of intramural competitors. Both fraternity and independent entries will swell the field, making the tournament stretch into the first week in November.

The tennis tournament will be a single elimination affair. Entries have been coming into the IM office in Rec Hall with rapid fashion since yesterday and close competition is expected. In both independent and fraternity divisions many tennis enthusiasts of last year's tourney have entered, attempting another try at the coveted championship.

Remaining intramural tournaments that will be conducted throughout the year include swimming, golf-medal, basketball, boxing, wrestling, handball-singles and doubles, badminton, volleyball, horseshoes, tennis-doubles, golf-team, soccer, and track.

Reds Club Braves, 5-0

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 21 (AP)—Joe Nuxhall fired a six-hitter at the patched up Milwaukee Braves today as Cincinnati posted a 5-0 victory before 10,001 fans, smallest paid attendance of the year at County Stadium.

Scribes, Coaches Will Begin Contest

By RON GATEHOUSE

Although it's a fact little known to the outer world, the life of a sportswriter is filled with numerous chores other than planting himself behind a typewriter and banging out a story.

In keeping with tradition, the scribes of the Daily Collegian will once again venture a crystal ball outlook of the top grid contests each weekend while the number one fall sports attraction is in session.

Providing first-hand opposition to the local boys will be none other than the Penn State grid coaching staff. Rip Engle and his boys will be going all out to regain their prestige in the fall coin-flipping classic.

Last Year's Winner

Last year's Sports Editor, Sam Procopio, outfoxed the grid mentors the whole way to gain the first victory over the coaches. Second place honors went to the coaches and Assistant Sports Editor, Dick McDowell. Herm Weiskopf, final member of the staff writers, took number three honors.

Procopio earned the coveted

X-Country Coaches Seek Talent For Varsity, Freshman Squads

By HERM WEISKOPF

The big hunt is on once again.

The annual search for talent for the cross-country team is once again underway. Leading the searching party are head coach Chick Werner and his assistant Norm Gordon.

Werner is on the lookout for upperclassmen for his varsity team and Gordon is interested in freshmen for his yearling squad.

Penn State's cross-country outfits have perennially ranked among the best. One of the reasons is that the coaching is also regarded as among the tops. Both Werner and Gordon were well-known runners in their time and have carried their knowledge to the point where they have been successful in imparting their teachings to their pupils.

Fresh Soccer Meeting

Freshman soccer candidates will meet at 7 p.m. tomorrow in 14 Recreation Hall, located in the basement of the new wing, soccer coach Ken Hosterman has announced.

Bell Brands Big 10, Others On 'Selfishness'

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 21 (AP)

—Commissioner Bert Bell of the National Football League today blasted Big Ten athletics officials and others as "isolationists and selfish men" intent on severing years of harmonious relations between college and professional football.

Bell said Kenneth (Tug) Wilson, Big Ten commissioner; Theodore B. Payseur, Northwestern University athletic director; Tom Hamilton, Pittsburgh athletic director, and Fritz Crisler, head of athletics at Michigan, are the ringleaders in an attempt to cause a rift between college athletics and professional sports.

"They're not kidding us. We know what the real reason for their sudden attack on pro football is—our elaborate nationwide television program. They're sore because we televise on Saturday nights."

"Well, we're going to televise on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. We went through a lawsuit alone for eight weeks in federal court at a great expense. We won and we're going to give the public all the television we can," Bell said.

The portly commissioner said Wilson, Payseur, Hamilton, Crisler and the rest are afraid to allow unlimited television in college football "because they figure Notre Dame would sell their games coast-to-coast year in and year out, freezing the rest of them out of the picture."

Werner has been working with the varsity for the past week and a half, but is still looking for additional talent to help make up for the loss of three of the team's top stars from last season.

This year the yearlings will have a schedule. On Oct. 2 the frosh will be at Annapolis for a dual meet with Navy's freshmen. Cornell's Big Red will host the Nittany fledgelings at Ithaca on Oct. 9. Gordon will take the freshmen to New York City for the IC4A championship run on Nov. 15.

Previous running experience is not needed. "The only requirement needed to run cross-country," Werner said, "is the will to run."

There is no better example of this than the oft repeated legend of the famed Ashenfelter brothers who helped prove Werner's theory that "skill" is secondary to "will." Neither Bill nor Horace Ashenfelter had any experience as runners before they came to Penn State.

By the time the Ashenfelter brothers left the Nittany Valley they had established themselves as two of the finest runners in the nation. Horace's victory in the Olympics in 1952 marked him as one of the top track stars in the world. And it all started when he tried his hand at running for the first time at Penn State.

Giants' Gomez Tops Bums, 5-2

BROOKLYN, Sept. 21 (AP)—Climbing the National League pennant didn't halt the New York Giants who rode over Brooklyn today 5-2 on five-hit pitching by Ruben Gomez and Jim Hearn. The Giants eliminated the Dodgers last night, but all regulars except Hank Thompson and Wes Westrum started against left-handed Johnny Podres.

Bobby Hofman, filling in for Thompson at third base, hit a home run with the bases loaded following singles by Don Mueller and Willie Mays and a walk to Monte Irvin in the first inning. It was the Giants' seventh grand slam of the season, tying their own club record of 1951 but three under the major league record of 10 set by Detroit in 1938. The National League high is nine by Chicago in 1929.

After the first inning outburst against Podres, it was all over. The Giants rubbed it in a little when Gomez hit a home run off Podres in the fifth inning for their other run.

Junior Gilliam's double and a wild throw by Hofman gave the Dodgers their run in the first.



PENN STATE GRID SCHEDULE

- Sept. 25 Illinois at Champaign, Ill.
- Oct. 2 Syracuse at Syracuse, N. Y.
- Oct. 9 Virginia at State College, Pa.
- Oct. 16 West Virginia at State College, Pa.
- Oct. 23 Texas Christian at Fort Worth, Tex.
- Oct. 30 Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, Pa.
- Nov. 6 Holy Cross at State College, Pa.
- Nov. 13 Rutgers at State College, Pa.
- Nov. 20 Pitt at Pittsburgh, Pa.

PENN STATE Co-Captains Jim Garrity (85) and Don Balthaser (57) look forward to rugged campaign which opens against highly-regarded Illinois at Champaign, Ill., Saturday. The Lions will play nine games in 1954, four of them on the home gridiron.