

# Packer-less Soccermen Face Tough Schedule

By VINCE CAROCCI

Two imposing roadblocks—another grueling schedule loaded with perennial soccer powerhouses and finding a suitable replacement for two-time All-American and 1956 Olympic performer Dick Packer—may mar the path to a third consecutive undefeated season for Coach Ken Hosterman's 1956 edition of the Lion soccer squad.

Since the first scheduled practice session for the Lion booters is not until Wednesday, Hosterman has no idea as to the outlook for the coming season—except that any schedule calling for away games with West Chester State Teachers College, Navy, and Maryland is anything but "soft."

West Chester has had a very strong soccer team for the past 10 years while Navy is usually capable of coming up with a formidable crew. Maryland was the Atlantic Coast Champions for the past four years and figures to be in the thick of the race again this season.

Looking past the schedule angle, Hosterman's biggest problem is finding a replacement for Packer—the Lions' mainstay for the past years. "With Packer gone, our offense will definitely be weaker," Hosterman said. "However, our defense figures to be fairly strong," he added.

Despite Packer's loss, the Lion mentor has seven lettermen returning to form the nucleus of this season's squad. John Lawrence seems to have the inside track on the goal tending spot after spending most of last season as George Geczy's understudy. Captain-elect Steve Flamportis returns to his regular right halfback spot—the third consecutive season that he has been a starting performer.

**Brower, Hill Return**  
Ralph Brower and Ward Hill are the two other returning regulars while Tom Nute, Dave Davis, and Jim Hedberg round out Hosterman's experienced lettermen. The latter three were occasional starters during the past season. Hosterman is looking for some help from last year's freshman club to add to the varsity's depth. Leading the way will be frosh standout Per Torgeson with Mike Stollmeyer, Don Meyers, Paul



Ken Hosterman  
Soccer Coach

Bauer, and Otto Rosenberger next in line.

Bob Wittmeier, Bruce Walsh, and Derek Swire are also listed as strong possibilities to cop berths on the varsity squad with possibly one or two players coming from Ogonz Center near Philadelphia.

**Open Against Bucknell**  
The booters open the 1956 season with a home contest against Bucknell on Sept. 29, followed by an away game against West Chester on Oct. 6. They then return to University Park for home games against Syracuse and Colgate on Oct. 13 and 20. Two away contests—an Oct. 27 clash against Penn and a Nov. 3 tilt against Maryland—follow.

The booters play their final home game against Army on Nov. 10, after which they journey to

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## Penn State Sport Shorts

Bill Hess, of Manhasset, N.Y., who set a new single season scoring mark of 41 goals in 1956, may also have set a new mark for assists during Penn State's 1956 lacrosse campaign. The sophomore ace led the team with an impressive 21 assists. Bob Hamel, of Mineola, N.Y., was runner-up with 12.

Max Kneidinger, youngest brother of Otto Kneidinger, last year's co-captain, hopes to follow in his brother's footsteps at Penn State. The younger Kneidinger enters the University in the fall and plans to play freshman football.

An all-around performer, Dion E. Weissend, of Webster, N.Y., has been named captain of the 1957 Penn State gymnastics team, succeeding Hugh Cline, of Yeadon. Weissend shared all-around chores in 1956 with Olympian Armando Vega, of Los Angeles.

Jean Cronstedt, who won Eastern and National Collegiate all-around honors as a Penn State gymnast, will represent Sweden in the 1956 Olympics. Cronstedt left Penn State in 1954 to enroll in medical school at Stockholm, Sweden.

Two former Penn State heroes will join hands in 1956 as coaches of the nearby Tyrone High School football team. Johnny Chuckran, 1944 Lion captain, has chosen Otto Kneidinger, 1955 co-captain, as his line mentor.

## 3 Frosh Sports to Start

Three Penn State freshman teams will open the season Oct. 13. The freshman football team journeys to Annapolis where it will meet the Navy plebes. The soccer yearlings are also in Maryland. They meet Frostburg State Teachers College and the cross-country frosh open with Cornell at Ithica, N.Y. The gridders meet Pittsburgh

## Soccermen Highlight 1955-56 Sports

Soccer's second unbeaten season and second national championship qualified today as Penn State's top sports achievement of the 1955-56 season.

Ken Hosterman's booters won nine games to bring their consecutive win streak to 18. Dick Packer, scoring star and captain, was named to the all-America for the second straight year. He also

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