



A Glance at . . . SPORTS

By VINCE CAROCCI
Sports Editor

Lion Harrier Outlook Bright For 1957 According to Werner

With the return of four veteran-juniors and one outstanding sophomore around which to build the nucleus of his cross-country team, Coach Chick Werner called his 1957 contingent "the best we've had for some time."

Werner's optimism stems from the fact that juniors Fred Kerr, the team captain, Ed Moran, Charlie King and Clem Schoene-

beck and field competition. This, plus the promotion of sophomore Dick Englebrink—the brightest light on last season's frosh cross-country squad—to the varsity casts a pleasant glow over the harrier outlook for 1957.

"We can't predict at this stage who'll be the best of the lot," Werner said. However, he looks for Kerr and Moran to have good years because, as he put it, "They've improved in each race they've run since they've been here."

He also looked for better things from Englebrink, who, he said, improved faster as a frosh than any boy he's had under his tutelage.

With no major graduation losses confronting him—1956 captain Don Woodrow was the only starter he lost—Werner feels that juniors Schoenebeck, Jay Kirby and Bob Thompson hold the key to the season.

Although Schoenebeck was one of his front-runners last season. (Continued on page twenty-three)

LET'S NOT GO OVERBOARD WITH THE RATINGS

As most Penn State fans must realize by now, if they were reading their hometown newspapers during the summer scholastic reprieve, the football experts have cast rave after rave on Coach Rip Engle's 1957 grid squad—the boys in the profession expect big doings from this season's club and make no bones about it.

In almost all ratings that we've noticed over the summer, the Lions rate no lower than third among the eastern independents and, in quite a few cases, get the nod over Pittsburgh for top honors. At any rate, consensus has it that the Lions will finish either one or two in the race for the Lambert Trophy—symbolic of eastern supremacy in most fans' minds but a farce as far as we're concerned. (Our opinion on the Lambert Trophy ratings may be taken up here at a later date.)

Most of the expert's optimism stems from the fact that the complete Lion second team backfield from last season—quarterback Al Jacks, halfbacks Bruce Gilmore and Andy Mocoyni and fullback Maurice Schleicher—returns intact again this year.

This, plus the plentiful supply of able ends, centers and backfield reserves, made most experts rate the Lions as high as they did. And we agree—on paper the Lions look like real comers, a team capable of taking all opposition over the coals with comparative ease in most cases.

Being a football coach, Engle naturally tends to take these preseason ratings with a grain of salt. Being a sportswriter in contact with the club, we tend to follow the same pattern.

Sure, it's nice to be rated as high as Penn State is rated this season. It's easier to start on the top and stay there than it is to start on the bottom and work your way up. That summarizes Engle's feelings on the subject, and ours, too, for that matter.

But games aren't won by your ratings, Engle, his able assistant and the team realizes this. There's work to be done—and the only place it can be done is on the competitive field of battle.

Engle and Company are taking nothing for granted. Only through work, and hard work at that, can the Lions retain their preseason prestige. And work at it, they will. To put it in Engle's words: "These kids want to play football." From watching the Lions in practice the past three days, rusty as they might be right now, we know he's right.

The Lions will be a hustling, aggressive ballclub again this year, a club we expect will be similar in many ways to the surprising 1956 contingent.

But fans, and we're speaking to you, the Penn State student body, let's not overrate this club. It's green in reserves at the guard and tackle slots—vital spots along the line. These two spots figure to take a thumping in the early portion of the season. Don't expect miracles—the Lions are not sure bowl contenders as the experts might lead you to believe. Not yet, anyway.

The weaknesses must be strengthened, the errors corrected. And all that takes time. Time, and time alone, will tell the story. We'll all just have to wait and see.

Have high hopes, fans, because there is ample reason to have just that. The Lions will be strong—how strong, we won't attempt to accurately predict.

But, throwing ourselves out on a limb with the rest of the nation's sportswriters—and this, the first day, is the time to do it—here's what we see:

We feel the Lions will end the season with a record in the vicinity of 6-2-1 or 7-2—give or take a game either way. Although we don't feel that there is a complete breather on the schedule, we look for Army, Syracuse, West Virginia and Pitt to be the toughest Lion foes with Vanderbilt carrying the dark horse tag.

That's our preseason thoughts on the Lion's 1957 season. Penn State fans will have lots to cheer about—the prospect is very bright for another successful season. But, we're not going overboard—hope you're not either.



Fred Kerr
...the harrier captain

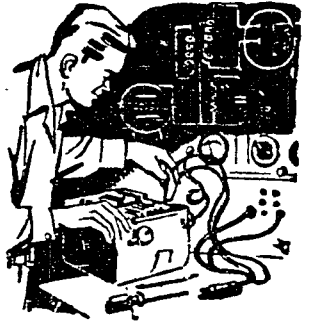
beck all are back for another season.

As sophomores, Kerr, Moran and Schoenebeck formed the backbone of last year's surprising 4-1 team—coming on the heels of a winless season in 1955. King was ineligible for harrier competition last season, but is expected to figure prominently in Werner's plans due to the great potential he showed during last spring's

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Sports

Dope

Ken Hosterman, Penn State coach, says soccer-conscious GI's in Europe will give the sport a new lift upon their return to the States.

Rip Engle, Penn State football coach, will be at the helm of the Eastern eleven for the East-West Shrine game at San Francisco in 1957.

"Lighthouse Harry" Wilson, former Penn State and Army football great, also played lacrosse at both institutions.

Penn State basketball coach John Egli directed the Mayaguez entry in the Puerto Rican League this summer.

Penn State, in 70 years of uninterrupted football competition, lost more games than it won only 13 times. The current string shows 18 straight seasons of winning football.

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