

O'Hora Expects Tackles To Improve Steadily

(This is the third in a series of articles on the positions on the Penn State football team. Today the tackles.)

"We'll get better as the season progresses," were the words Coach Jim O'Hora used to describe the tackle situation for the 1957 Penn State football team.

O'Hora, who concentrates chiefly on the tackles and defensive alignments for the Lion coaching staff, said that there was no way at present to measure the strength of the tackles. "We have no way to measure their effectiveness except against ourselves," he said.

The Lions had no scrimmage against an opposing college this year and O'Hora readily admits that intersquad scrimmages are not the "best method to use in judging team talent.

Inexperience seems to be the main weakness among the tackles from last year's 6-2-1 team—Walt Mazur, Jack Calderone and Clint Law—only junior Bill Wehmer is left among the experienced tackle returnees.

Wehmer worked as the number two tackle on last year's second team and, in the words of O'Hora, "did a good job." O'Hora added that he expects Wehmer to be the leader among the tackles because of his varsity experience.

Behind Wehmer, O'Hora has juniors Joe Bohart and Frank Urban, both of whom ran with last season's third unit. They, however, do not have very much competitive experience since they saw only limited action in 1956.

Right now, Wehmer and Bohart are listed as the leaders for the first team berths. Wehmer at left tackle and Bohart at right. Urban, because of his versatility, is the top replacement at either tackle slot.

As for the sophomores, O'Hora listed Charlie Janerette, Tom Mulreany, Andy Stynchula and Mike Romigh as the leading aspirants for the varsity. However, he admitted that they are still a little behind because of their lack of ability to consume all that the coaches are feeding them.

He said he expected them to perform creditably once they continue to gain varsity experience. He said it will be a fight among these sophomores for the number two tackle post on the second unit.

In the way of a prediction for the role the tackles will play in the Lions' 1957 future, O'Hora said: "We have a willing group of boys who are all agile and sound football players. If we (the tackles) get the techniques down before Penn, we'll make a good showing.

"They won't hurt our football team because they'll get better as the season goes along," he said.

"We're making fewer mistakes now than we were in our opening scrimmage . . . that means we're showing progress."

Mat Manager Candidates

Sophomore students interested in becoming wrestling managers are requested to sign their names immediately in the Athletic Office, second floor, of Recreation Hall.

Three to Graduate

Penn State will lose only three players from its unbeaten baseball team of 1957. The three who will be graduated are pitcher Ed Drapcho, of Clarence; outfielder and captain Jim Lockerman, of Cheswick; and shortstop Guy Tirabassi, of Ebensburg. They played three NCAA, District Two, playoffs.

Speidel Receives Award

Charley Speidel, dean of Penn State coaches, was one of three Eastern wrestling coaches voted to the Helms Hall of Fame for achievement in the sport. The others were Billy Sheridan, former Lehigh coach, and Ray Swartz, of the U.S. Naval Academy.

Of Penn State's three Eastern champions, only 130-pound Johnny Johnston will be back for the 1957 wrestling campaign.



—Daily Collegian Photo by Bob Thompson
LION TACKLE AND defensive Coach Jim O'Hora is seen instructing center Charlie Ruslavage in a finer technique of the grid game. Tackle Andy Stynchula (l) and end Norm Neff (r) lend an ear to the conversation.

Four Changes Made In IM Grid Rules

Four major changes will be introduced this season which should inject added interest and action in the intramural touch football program.

The 1957 tournament will be conducted on a round robin basis, with fraternity and independent teams broken down into leagues, rather than the single elimination system of past years. Each club faces all the others in its division, with the emerging winners then meeting in a series of playoffs.

This system gives all clubs entered in the tourney an equal opportunity to compete and may lead to a marked increase in entries.

The coming seasons sees the IM scene shift from the practice gridiron at Beaver Field to the new, lighted fields on the lower end of the University golf course. In addition, the playing field has been shortened from 100 to 80 yards, a change which involves several technical variations in play.

The offensive team must move the ball beyond any of the three 20-yard stripes for a first down. In previous seasons, a first down was chalked up only by a 20-yard gain in a series of downs. The new plan eliminates the need of linesmen to

lug yardsticks up and down the field.

Kickoffs will be made from the kicking team's 20 (instead of the 40), while the receiving squad lines up behind the midfield stripe. In order for a free ball to be called, the kickoff must travel 20 yards rather than 10.

Other key rule changes include an additional allowance for charging and blocking and a limitation on forward passes and laterals.

Line play will show a noticeable reversal of the no-contact ruling. An offensive player may now make every effort, short of hard contact or elbow-tossing, to say between rusher and passer. In turn, a defenseman may attempt to shove the blocker out of his path without charging directly into him.

The wide-open style of play witnessed on the touch gridiron before this season will be greatly toned down by the new restrictions on passing. No forward passing is allowed beyond the scrimmage line, while unlimited throwing is permissible only on punt and kickoff returns.

The use of laterals will be limited to interception returns, with incomplete laterals resulting in the return of the ball to scrimmage.



A Glance at . . . SPORTS

By VINCE CAROCCI
Sports Editor

THE CATCH-ALL CAMERA AND FOOTBALL

Did you ever hear of the old saying, "Nothing ever escapes the magic eye of the camera?" Well, we did but it wasn't until we had the pleasure of watching a few minutes of last Saturday's Lion scrimmage film while waiting to talk to one of the grid coaches that we realized just how true that statement is.

Nothing does escape the magic eye of the camera. And, with the camera filming their actions, football players are almost assured that no mistakes will escape the trained eyes of their coaches—that can apply to almost any major college team in the country.

As we watched, we were amazed to hear coach after coach point out mistake after mistake as the scrimmage progressed. These were mistakes which would have been missed by the ordinary football fan or an apprentice reporter such as ourself. But, with the magic eye on hand, nothing went unnoticed to the coach.

Engle and his staff of assistants are as efficient as any coaching staff can get when they view films of Lion combat. Nothing goes untouched—plays are re-run and re-run again until they are certain that nothing has been missed. We feel safe to say that by the time they are through with each film, little, if anything, was missed.

But the camera is not for the coaches use alone. Often times, various squad members will be found reviewing the films with one of the staff, picking out deficiencies here and attributes there. They, too, receive the benefit of the magic eye for it is easier to correct a deficiency after seeing it performed themselves than by simply receiving verbal instruction from the coaches.

Each coach has ready for his use at his desk in the Rec Hall football office, a smaller projector with an approximately 7x12-inch screen. These projectors are the workhorses of the Lion grid camera family. Seldom a day goes by without at least two of them being put to use.

It is here that the specialists are at work, picking out faults and deficiencies in their own position assignment. The memos taken here are accumulated and passed on to the squad in a skull session.

After seeing the magic eye in practical work, we'd venture to say that a coach can tell more about his team by several hours of watching films than he could in a comparable length of time of practice with no pictures.

Now we can understand why a griddier, returning to the bench in a recent scrimmage, sounded so worried when he said: "I missed that block . . . and this is on film. I'll sure hear about that." He knew how deadly the magic eye is. We didn't realize it at the time but now we can appreciate his plight. We're just glad that we're not being filmed when we're sitting down to write—it would get us awfully nervous.

ASSORTED FOOTBALL NOTES—

After reading about the shakeup in the professional Pittsburgh Steelers' football roster, we can't help but picture Coach Buddy Parker as anything but the Frank Lane of football. He shakes 'em up more than the nearest soda jerk fixing a malted . . . Froth is out today and in it you will find a football preview with captions by this writer and cartoons by the magazine's editor, Ron Casseralla. Please don't hold us to the predicted scores . . . it was all done in fun and there's not a word of truth in it . . . Keep your eyes on ticket manager Ed Czekaj—he may be pulling a rabbit out of his hat . . . probably in the form of an Army chair at Beaver Field . . .

Two-Sport Freshmen

Two football players—Earl (Bud) Kohlhaas, of Mechanicsburg, and Sam Stelatella, of Nutley, N.J.—both won numerals in freshman wrestling. The two, who had never tried the sport before, competed as heavyweights. Champaign-Urbana in 1954.

Lion-Illini Game Set

Penn State and Illinois have contracted for a football game in Cleveland Municipal Stadium on October 24, 1959. The Nittany Lions upset the Illini, 14-12, in their only previous meeting at Champaign-Urbana in 1954.

FALL OPENING

of another "Spot"

THE TASTY SPOT

ACROSS FROM ATHERTON HALL

featuring

Pastries

Ready-made sandwiches

Dairy Products

Soft Drinks

THE TASTY SPOT

W. College Ave.

Partially open for business now

ANY CAT KNOWS

that neatness is a prime factor in the grading of reports and term papers. That's why I'm having my typewriter cleaned and conditioned by Nittany Office Equipment. Free pickup and delivery service.

NITTANY OFFICE EQUIPMENT

231 South Allen Street
AD 8-6125

your portable typewriter headquarters