

Competition Keen For Tackle, End

(This is the second of a series concerning Penn State's 1956 football outlook. Today—ends and tackles.)

Competition seems to be the by-word when speaking of Penn State's current end and tackle positions.

Both end coach J. T. White and tackle mentor Jim O'Hora have discussed emphatically the "hard work and competition" among their pupils.

"Only one player is assured of a starting position right now," White said, "and that's

(Maury) Schleicher. But even his position could change by the Nebraska game.

"This is the easiest group of ends I've worked with at Penn State," continued White, who has been directing Lion terminals since the spring of 1954. "They're all working hard and have not been plagued by injuries, knock on wood. They're all in good shape.

"As for size," he added, "they're the biggest I've had here."

White figures Schleicher for the starting right end post. Schleicher, you may recall, was switched to the wing slot last spring after working at fullback for the last two years. His two-season statistics as a line smasher totaled 257 yards gained in 72 rushes (an average of 3.47 yards per crack) and two touchdowns.

Schleicher, who saw some duty as an end in high school, also caught two passes as a fullback in 1957, picking up 62 yards.

"He's a very good receiver," White said of his mammoth (6-3

230 - pounds) wingman," and once he catches the ball, he'll be hard to bring down. He's also a good defensive player, having played there for the last two years. (Under head Coach Rip Engle's system, the offensive fullback moves into a defensive end slot.)

Two juniors, Norm Neff and John Bozick, are waging an all-out dogfight to team with Schleicher at the left end post.

"It's a toss-up right now as to who will start," White stated. "Bozick has an edge as a receiver but that's as far as it goes. I'd say that he and Schleicher are the best receivers we have."

Running behind Schleicher at left end is Stu Barber, a standout on last year's freshman team. But Barber, according to White, needs more experience. So does the rest of his end corps, all of whom are sophomores—Jim Schwab and Henry Opperman at right end and Dave Truitt, Dave Alexander, and Dick Alleman.

"I compare Barber and Schwab with Jack Farls," White said. "Both are good, steady players both on defense and offense. Truitt compares favorably with Les Walters with his great hands and speed. (Both Farls and Walters were two-year starters for the Nittanians. They graduated in June.)

"Opperman, Alexander and Alleman are also coming along," White concluded, "but they are typical of all sophomores—they need experience."

O'Hora finds himself in a similar situation at tackle when it comes to picking a starter.

"Andy Stynchula will probably be the left tackle," O'Hora



Norm Neff ... may be starter



Joe Bohart ... natural ability an asset

said, "but there's no edge at right tackle between (Joe) Bohart and (Chuck) Janerette.

Stynchula and Bohart are lettermen. Stynchula, who was singled out for his outstanding work in spring practice, played behind Bill Wehmer while Bohart was a starter.

"Stynchula is a real solid tackle," said O'Hora, who with 12 years as a Nittany coach is the dean of Penn State's grid staff. "He's way ahead in the left tackle slot. Bohart has improved from last year in his speed. He's one boy who can get a lot of mileage out of his natural ability. He's the type who won't make a mistake, he'll get licked first.

"Janerette has shown great improvement over last fall and spring. He understands the position much better and can also go a long way on natural ability. He could be as good as he wants to."

The second team slot behind Stynchula is wide open, according to O'Hora, either junior let-

terman Tom Mulraney, Jim Zaino and John Sava in contention. Mulraney was slated for the position

after his showing the past spring, but he reported overweight and missed several day's practice.

"Zaino is the fastest tackle since he had been a fullback in high school," O'Hora said. "He's a sophomore and has lots of faults, but he should be able to overcome them.

"Sava has been hampered by a knee injury since he came here, but he's holding up very well. His chances have increased 100 per cent since losing weight. He also has desire and wants to be helpful."

A couple of sophomores, Bob Gilmour and Jim Guzik, rank

(Continued on page fifteen)



EDDIE CAYE

Injuries Hit Lions As Opener Nears

(Continued from page one)

Rip Engle as he prepares his club for the early opener at Nebraska next Saturday. After last night's practice, his squad was down to 36 of the original 52 able-bodied men that started drills less than two weeks ago.

"It really has me worried," the Lion mentor said. "We're definitely going to miss Caye, but if his injury was the only one, it might not be so bad. As it is, I have to limit the boys to light contact—no rough stuff. I might even have to call off Saturday's scrimmage.

"And if you think that I have a halfback problem, just look at my fullbacks. I have only one man doing much work and even he's not at full strength. Besides that, he's a sophomore."

Engle was talking about Sam Sobczak, who has been one of the biggest backfield surprises this year. He's impressed Engle with his fine running and is currently running with the first unit due to injuries to veterans Andy Moconyi and Pat Botula.

Moconyi is suffering from a twisted knee and Botula from a charley horse. Moconyi, who

started at right half last fall, was in pads yesterday afternoon, but Botula wasn't. However, Moconyi reinjured his knee in a running routine, causing another headache for Engle.

Engle also has a headache at center—perhaps his biggest problem of all. He has been undermanned from the start, but now he's down to one center—Steve Garban. Veteran Sam Stellatella, recently transplanted from guard, has a twisted knee and sophomore Wayne Berefield is down to a bruised foot. Previously, senior Dick Dill had broken his leg.

Here's a list of the other current injuries (subject to change without notice): Jim Kerr—achilles tendon; Pat Funair—back; "Bull" Smith—charley horse; Bud Kohlhaas—twisted knee; John Sava—sprained ankle and bruised elbow; Andy Stynchula—sprained ankle; Tom Mulraney—bruised hip; and Bill Popp—charley horse.

If this keeps up, Rip will have to use a couple of his managers and trainers for the Nebraska game!

Lions' Oldest Gridder

Penn State's oldest alumnus, 92-year-old James C. Mock, of Detroit, Mich., is the only living member of the University's first football team in 1887. He won letters in '87 and '88 and captained the team in '89.



Sobczak

TAKE NOTE...

Frosh, you'll soon find for quick efficient two-hour laundry service on week days the Launderette can't be beaten.

Stop in soon!

Launderette
210 W. College Ave.

NIGHT FOOTBALL

State College High School

vs.

Moshannon High School

TONIGHT at 8 p. m.

Student Admission --- 50c

— PENN STATE STUDENTS —

PLEASE SHOW TEMPORARY MATRIC CARDS

FOR YOUR BACK TO SCHOOL NEEDS

Ball Point Pens . . \$1.95 up

Liquid Lead Pencils . . \$2.95

Alarm Clocks from \$4.95 plus tax

Also...

Penn State Jewelry

Penn State Class Rings

Everything you would expect to find in a fine jewelry store

CRAB TREES

State College

Jeweler's



Registered Jeweler

American Gem Society