

Engle Isn't Kidding—Lions Face Problem at Halfback

By JIM KARL

Rip Engle isn't kidding when he says that one of his problems this spring is to uncover some able-bodied halfbacks.

The search for a replacement for Reddie unit quarterback Dick Hoak and a pair of second unit ends have received far more publicity than the halfback problem, but Engle is equally concerned over the loss of Jim Kerr, Dick Pae and Eddie Caye.

Kerr was a standout last year, leading the team in scoring, rushing, pass receiving and kickoff returns.

He became the second player in history to score three touchdowns against Army when he smashed across for three tallies against the Cadets last fall.

Kerr and Pae were right halfbacks and Caye went both ways. Their graduation leaves a gaping hole at the right halfback spot.

Don Jonas and Al Gursky, the top two left halfbacks last fall, return along with Roger Kochman, and Engle may switch one of these three to right half.

Kochman, a junior, was out all last year with a knee injury. If he recovers the form he flashed as a sophomore he could fill Engle's need for a breakaway back.

Both Jonas and Gursky have foregone spring drills to play baseball, but Kochman, one of Joe Bedenk's flycatchers last year, has decided to put his knee to the test.

"His timing is off but he's working hard," Engle said when asked about his star speedster. "He certainly hasn't shirked any contact."

Engle said that junior Bob Kline and sophomores Steve Popp and Cris Weber have the inside track to the right halfback slot after five days of spring drills.

Another of Engle's problems, the search for a replacement for a quarterback on the Reddie unit, remains unsolved.

However, Engle expects to have a good idea about who will fill Hoak's shoes by May 6, the date of the Blue-White game.

Six candidates—varsity holdovers Pete Liske and Frank Sineck—and freshmen Don Caum, Gary Wydman, Ron Coates, and Frank Potter are fighting for the job.

"Liske and Sineck have both



PETE LISKE

... one of six candidates for the quarterback spot on State's Reddie unit.

done well this spring," Coach Joe Paterno said. "Pete is a gangly kid—not much of a runner right now. But he's improving and he's devoted to becoming a good football player. He has natural leadership ability."

"Sineck is a better runner than Pete but has to improve his passing," he said. "Both are good on defense. Sineck and Liske are a little ahead of the others right now."

"We're moving the young kids

around quite a bit to give them a chance to play on all the units."

Team physician Alfred H. Griess said that Potter, a 5-10, 168-pounder from Folsom, Pa., suffered a recurrence of a knee injury last week and may have to undergo surgery after spring drills.

One of Engle's more obvious problems is a lack of depth at end. The first unit positions will be filled by Bob Mitinger and Dave Robinson, but the terminal posts on the Reddie unit are up for grabs.

Engle also must find replacements for All-East tackle Stew Barber, who signed a professional contract with the Buffalo Bills, and first unit guard Bill Popp.

Suggs Takes Golf Lead

DALLAS, Tex. (AP) — Louise Suggs, leading money winner in women's golf, shot a methodical one-under-par 70 yesterday to take the lead at the midway point in the \$10,000 Dallas Civitan Open. She had 145 for 36 holes as she sought her third straight Dallas Open title.

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Baer Switches Lineup For Loyola Game Today

By DEAN BILLICK

Penn State's lacrosse team opens its home season on Beaver Field at 2 this afternoon against Loyola, the only team the Lions have beaten in their last 11 starts.

Coach Earnie Baer's stickmen topped the Greyhounds last year, 8-3, and since then have dropped 10 straight games. In State's opener last Saturday the stickmen were ripped, 15-6, at Navy.

Baer is looking for the Lions to beat Loyola again this year. "I know we have a better team than Loyola," he said yesterday.

Baer wasn't disappointed with State's play against Navy, but he is making three changes in the starting lineup.

The biggest switch is at mid-field where Lou Meier and Mike Raiser move into the starting unit replacing Gordon Bennett and Dick Mears. Meier suffered

a twisted ankle last night at practice but Baer expects him to be ready by game time.

Tom Hayes, who scored four goals against Navy, will be the other starter.

Pete Erber gets the nod at attack over Dave Cook in the other lineup change. Dick Seelig, who scored one goal at Navy, and Steve Schrader round out the attack.

The Lions defensive corps remains the same. Andy Lockhart had been a doubtful starter, but his leg responded to treatment and Baer plans to start the defensive standout. Lockhart, Captain Dave Erwin and Jim Ogden give the Lions a rugged defense.

Jim Irwin will again man the nets for the stickmen. Last week against Navy Irwin had 23 saves.



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