

Lion Thinclad Coach Awaits Season Opener With Buckeyes

By ED CARPENTER

It's as inevitable as a winter snow fall in State College. After hours, on the practice field, a coach must review his team's chances for a successful season before that first big meet. Many times a coach looks forward to the coming season with about as much enthusiasm as a Penn Stater looks forward to final exams, but this is not the case of John Lucas, coach of the Lion indoor track team.

EARLIER THIS week, Lucas stated that he is looking forward to the start of the season with great enthusiasm (The thinclads open their season tomorrow when they meet Ohio State at Columbus). The reason for his anticipation could be traced to two factors.

First is the fact that this is

Lucas' first season as mentor of the thinclads. He inherited the reins when former coach, Chick Werner left the state to become director of the United States Track and Field Federation.

The second reason for Lucas' enthusiasm could be the ability of this year's runners. According to Lucas, "we have potential winners in every event."

The nucleus of this year's team consists of two seniors, Howie Deardorff and Bob Grantham.

ACCORDING TO Lucas, Deardorff has built up his stamina to such a degree that he can run distances both less and greater than his speciality, the mile. In Lucas' opinion this is the sign of a great runner.

Along with Deardorff, the thinclads have captain Grantham. On the track roster Grantham is listed as a hurdler and high jumper. Also Grantham is probably the best sprinter on the squad. He should provide some of the necessary points in the sprints,

the weakest area for the Lions. In addition to the long distance events, the Lions next strongest area is the middle distance running. Leading the Nittanians are four sophomores and a senior. The sophs are headed by Zen Kwozko, Tom Bedick, Bob Maniello and Bill Hibschan, while the senior is Dick Tuft.

Another sophomore, Dick Lappman, is rated by coach Lucas as the most improved runner on the squad.

IN THE HIGH and low hurdles, the Lions can count on both Grantham and junior George Barnhill. In the meet against Slippery Rock, Barnhill finished first in the 80-yard low hurdles and placed second behind Grantham in the high hurdles.

In the 16-pound shot Lucas has only Tom Urbanik. Lucas predicts that the junior should be able to throw the shot 52', but there's no one else behind him.

Despite poor facilities and cold weather, Ci Risoldi, Tom Pinkerton, and Dave Briar have come along exceptionally well in the high jump.

Don Gregg, Lionel Bassett, Joe Nichols and Jim Johnson round out the heart of this year's indoor track team.



Grantham

Maryland Admits Negro Athlete As Deep South Breaks Color Line

By WILL GRIMSLEY

Associated Press Sports Writer

The color barrier is down, and other colleges in the Deep South and Southwest appeared ready today to follow Maryland's lead in opening its football roster to Negro athletes.

Some, such as Wake Forest, Miami of Florida and Texas Christian University, acknowledged they not only would be willing to use Negro players but may go so far as to start recruiting them.

While many of the Dixie schools continued to play the delicate situation eagerly, administrators and athletic directors termed the use of Negro athletes inevitable.

TOM NUGENT, head football coach at Maryland, set the wheels in motion when he announced that Darryl Hill, a Negro halfback, had transferred to Maryland from the U.S. Naval Academy and probably would be good enough to be a starter.

Hill would be the first Negro ever to play on a major sports team in the Dixie-flavored Atlantic Coast Conference.

Nugent's announcement was followed almost immediately by a statement from Coach Billy Hildebrand of Wake Forest, who said the Winston-Salem, N.C., institution will actively recruit Negro players.

"Our football staff will avail it-

self of all top athletes who meet the high standards of Wake Forest College," the coach added. He was backed up by the Wake Forest president, Dr. Harold Tribble.

A check of sentiment elsewhere in the South and Southwest, long famed for its powerful football teams and segregation policies, showed a definite softening of the general attitude toward both playing with and against Negroes.

Cagers Won 20 in '52

Elmer Cross' 1952 cagers won 20 games in one season to set a mark for most wins. The team lost six games in regular season play and dropped two others in the NCAA tournament.

Rice Homecoming Foe

Rice has been selected as Penn State's homecoming opponent for next football season.

The Owls and Lions will clash at Beaver Stadium Oct. 5 in the second meeting between the schools. State was an 18-7 winner last fall at Houston.

State's 14th annual Band Day — a program which will bring 60 Pennsylvania high school bands and more than 5,000 bandmen to campus — will be held Oct. 26 at halftime of the West Virginia game.

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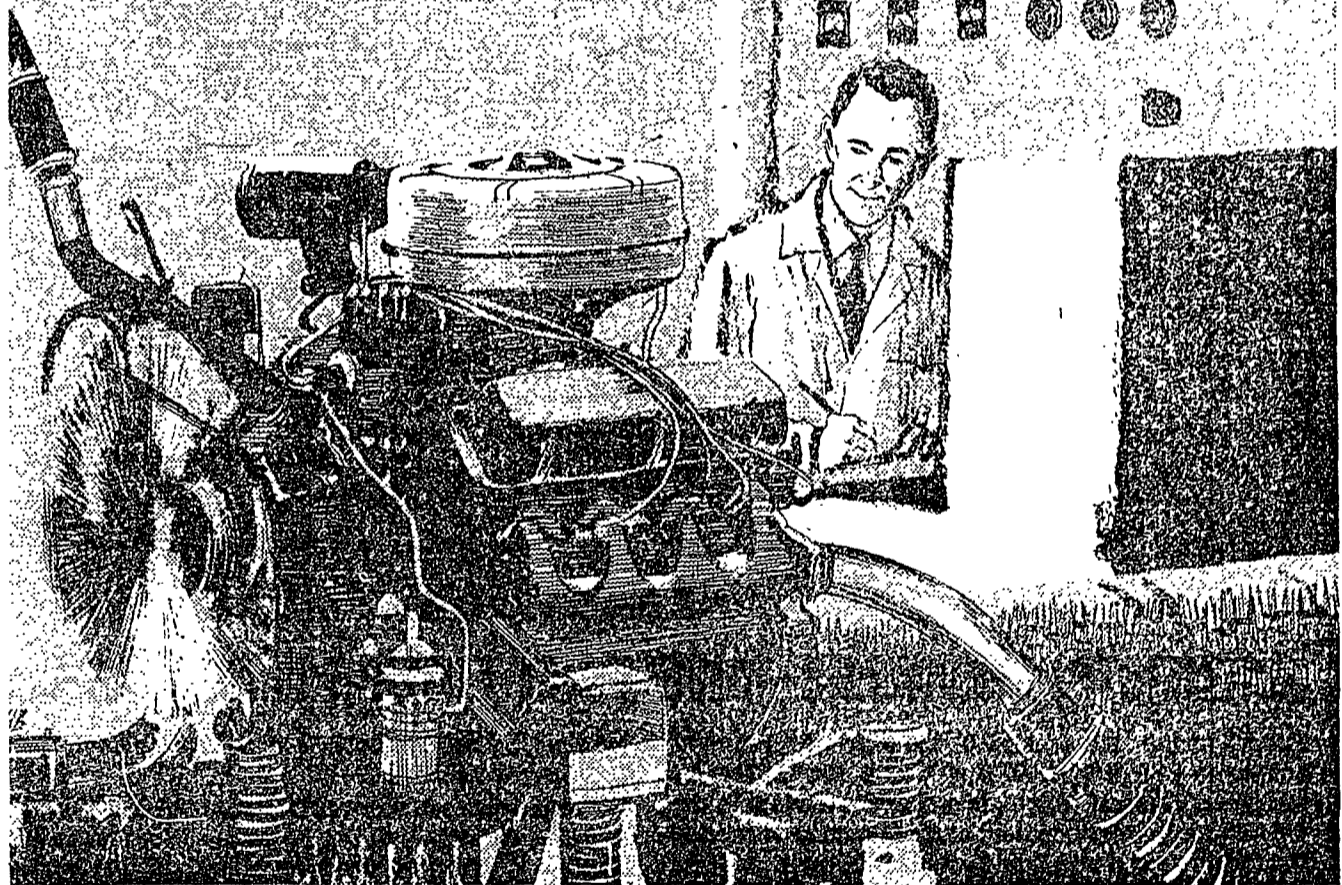
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