



Photo by H.R. Begley II

Chris Bahr puts a sure foot on a ball he's certain to be chasing this fall

## Bahr swinging busy foot

By MARK SIMENSON  
Assistant Sports Editor

Two-sport athletes are no longer a rarity. Every campus has a few students who switch uniforms when the season changes.

Penn State has its share of double threats. Jimmy Scott spends most of his time at Beaver Stadium where he runs post patterns in the fall and 100-yard sprints in the spring. Scott's dual role is shared by other Lions such as Jim Rosecrans (football and lacrosse) and Kevin Burke (basketball and baseball).

Participating in two activities usually presents no problems. Chris Bahr has added a new twist to the two-sport syndrome. He wants to play football and soccer this fall.

"I just want to kick footballs," Bahr said matter-of-factly of his effort to make the football squad.

The Lion junior, an All-America for Coach Herb Schmidt last year, has been kicking around the idea of helping the booters to a fourth playoff berth and the football team to another postseason bowl.

His status on the roster will be settled sometime this week when Joe Paterno decides between the straight forward kicking style of John Reihner and the soccer style of Bahr.

Bahr, who has booted 22 goals in two years as a starter for Schmidt, said he sees no problems kicking a football or a soccer ball.

Up until now there are three conflicting dates when the two teams aren't competing in the same locale.

Bahr says that the soccer match against West Virginia, a tough team especially at home, is in the process of being rescheduled. Originally scheduled the morning of Oct. 6, the Mountaineers might change the match because of their Homecoming football game with Indiana. The Lion gridders have a date with Airforce in Colorado Springs, Colo. the same day.

Herb Schmidt, who recruited Bahr from Neshaminy High near Philadelphia, is allowing his top scorer to try football.

"Well, as it now stands, he'll play both soccer and football. I have no objection to Chris doubling at football," Schmidt said over the phone last week.

It would be a great blow to the soccer team if Bahr was injured playing football, but Schmidt sees little chance of his halfback getting hurt.

"I think Chris is a gifted young man who is using the same skills in both football and soccer," he said. "His chances of being injured in football are slight. It's rare that a kicker gets hurt."

Bahr comes from a family that has three soccer All-Americans. Despite the family's heavy soccer background, Chris said he hasn't received any negative feedback on his attempt to play two sports.

Playing football is all right with his father, Walter Bahr, Temple's soccer coach and All-America at the same school. The other Bahr All-America is brother Casey, a two-time honorable mention All-America as a defenseman at Navy.

Bahr hasn't hurt his football chances in the scrimmages. He hit two field goals and an extra point Saturday. The point after touchdown was a 45-yard chip shot for the 5-10, 155 pound kicker.

"There was a procedure penalty and Paterno said move it back 20," remembered Bahr, who was hit on the play and didn't see his effort clear the cross bar.

In high school Bahr, who is nicknamed "Thunderfoot" for his powerful shot, handled the kicking chores for the football team for three years in addition to guiding the booters at halfback.

Bahr says he was only a so-so kicker in high school and has improved since then. His 35-45 yard range attests to that fact.

Now he will divide his attention between football and soccer, which begins practice today. So far his duties have been limited to kicking.

"It's the same as any other practice. I don't do any hitting," Bahr said.

So, later this week, Chris, soccer All-America, will find out if he can be Joe Paterno's designated kicker.

## Booters must plug gaps

By TIM PANACCIO  
Collegian Sports Writer

It's only September, but in a few short weeks, the Nittany Lion soccer team will be playing under the lights at Jeffrey Field.

Herb Schmidt's crew had an impressive autumn in 1972, chalking up a 9-1-2 log. State's only loss came at the hands of Penn in the second round of the NCAA's East Regionals. (Penn State edged St. Joe's in the preliminaries 2-1 to meet Penn).

The Lions open up practice today and they'll be minus five lettermen. Tonight is also designated as "Press Day," a chance for the media — and Schmidt — to meet the team.

"I haven't met with this year's team," confesses Schmidt, entering his sixth year as head soccer mentor at Penn State. "We've lost five lettermen so, obviously there are gaps to be filled and I'm not sure who will fill those gaps right now. You just have to wait."

When Schmidt mentions "gaps" one immediately thinks of Penn State's All-America forward, Andy Rymarczuk. Rymarczuk took second honors to Chris Bahr last season with seven goals and six assists. However, his 30 goals in three seasons ranks tops among Lion booters.

One question entering many minds at the moment is whether or not Bahr, Penn State's second All-America representative in 1972, can take up some of the slack left by Rymarczuk. Bahr now a junior, packed the Lions last year with 10 goals and seven assists.

This year Bahr could be seeing action as a kicker for Joe Paterno if he makes the football team, in addition to bolstering the booters' offense.

### Three in a row

Penn State football players have won NCAA postgraduate scholarships each of the last three years. The scholarship winners were guard Bob Holuba in 1971, tackle Dave Joyner in 1972 and defensive end Bruce Bannon in 1973.

Another of the returning lettermen Schmidt will be looking at this afternoon is Tom Kehan, a forward who spent most of last season on the bench after a freak accident against West Chester. Kehan attempted a head shot and the Ram goalie gave him a cheek shot that knocked Kehan unconscious and led to surgery.

"Tommy is a consistent ballplayer who we have never had the pleasure of having a full season due to injuries," Schmidt said. Other than that, if determination counts, then Tom's in great shape. Kehan who has had a previous record

of assorted leg and knee injuries worked on a conditioning program this summer while teaching at a sports camp with Bahr.

Another vet returning this year is senior Mike Arnold, a reserve goalie for the past three seasons. Mike has played back-up to Gary MacMath in his tenure at Penn State. Schmidt claims Arnold is "excellent." "He just hasn't been given the chance to play a lot, although he did play in several games and did a good job."

With the loss of several key forwards, the Lions will be

rebuilding their front line. This places the responsibility on the defense for the early part of the season.

"With losing a first team All-America (Rymarczuk) and four other key people, again, it's a situation where we have to find ourselves," Schmidt stressed.

"You have to give everything a chance to materialize. Right now, the initial concentration is going to be on defense. The defense will have to do its job — maybe more — until the forward line is ready as a scoring threat."



Photo by H.R. Begley II

Coach Herb Schmidt seeks another winning combination

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