



12-1977

Intercollegiate Athletics at Gettysburg College, 1920-1975

Robert L. Bloom
Gettysburg College

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Description

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The era saw the emergence of such athletic titans as Babe Ruth, Jack Dempsey, Harold "Red" Grange, Bobby Jones, Bill Tilden, and others. An indication of the new place of women during the period was the fame won by Gertrude Ederle in swimming, Helen Wills Moody in tennis, and Glenna Collett in golf. [*excerpt*]

Keywords

Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania College, Intercollegiate Athletics, College Sports, Sports History

Disciplines

Cultural History | History | Social History | Sports Studies | United States History

Publisher

Gettysburg College

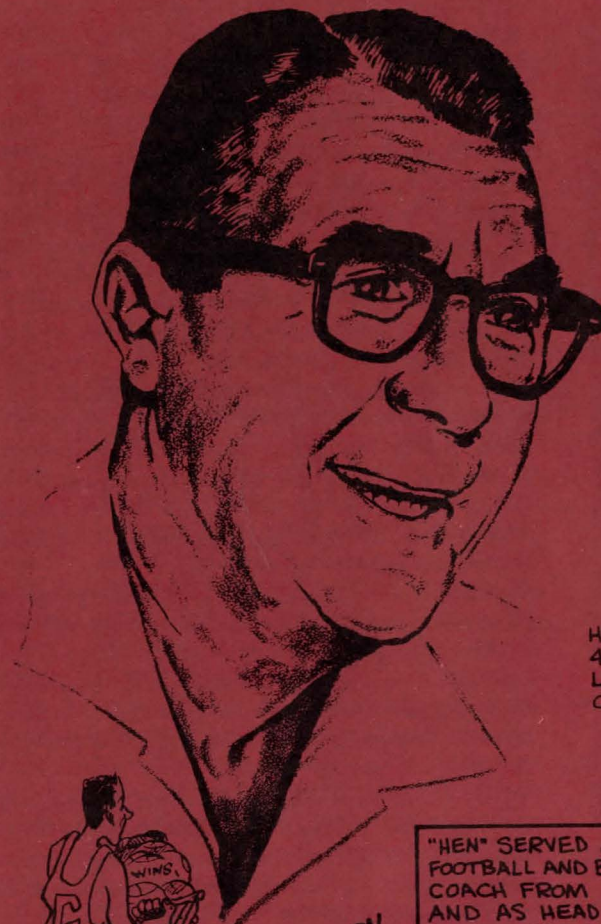
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Volume 5 of Gettysburg College's History Series. The Gettysburg College History Series was a series of monographs on various aspects of College history published in anticipation of the 150th anniversary of its 1832 founding.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS AT GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

1920-1975

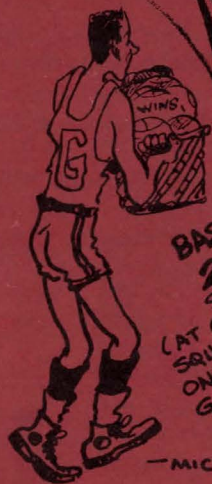
Gettysburg



GETTYSBURG COLLEGE'S
"HEN" BREAM
HAS BEEN PLAYER,
COACH AND ATHLETIC
DIRECTOR AT THE
COLLEGE FOR THE
PAST 46 YEARS, PLUS
SERVING ON MANY
NCAA AND ECAC
COMMITTEES...



HE WAS A 3-SPORT,
4 YEAR VARSITY
LETTERMAN IN
COLLEGE...



BASKETBALL MARK
298-187
SIX TIME HIS
(AT ONE TIME HIS
SQUADS LOST ONLY
ONE OF 69 HOME
GAMES)

—MICKEY SEGO—

"HEN" SERVED AS HEAD
FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL
COACH FROM 1927-52
AND AS HEAD BASEBALL
COACH FROM 1952-56...
HIS ENTIRE COACHING
RECORD FOR ALL THREE
SPORTS WAS
448-280-14...
AN AMAZING .615 WIN
PERCENTAGE!

FOOTBALL RECORD
104-69-12
INCLUDING FOUR E.P.A.
CONFERENCE TITLES
AND FOUR SHARED
CROWNS

BASEBALL YEARS
46-24-2

AS A.D. FROM 1953-69, HE HAS
DIRECTED CONSTRUCTION OF
A NEW PHYSICAL EDUCATION
BUILDING AND A NEW 6,200-
SEAT FOOTBALL STADIUM!!!

History Series Number 5

Gettysburg

Vol. 68 December 1977 No. 3

Intercollegiate Athletics At Gettysburg College 1920-1975

By Robert L. Bloom
Professor of History
Gettysburg College

Published eight times a year:
August; October; December;
January; semi-monthly in April;
May; and July. Second class
postage paid at Gettysburg, Pa.
17325. Send POD Form 3579 to
Gettysburg College, Gettysburg,
Pa. 17325.

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Gettysburg College History Series

Gettysburg College presents the fifth volume in this Series, *Intercollegiate Athletics at Gettysburg College, 1920-1975*, written by Dr. Robert L. Bloom, Professor of History.

The previous volumes in the Series are *Yonder Beautiful and Stately Edifice: A History of Pennsylvania Hall (Old Dorm)*, written by Charles H. Glatfelter, Professor of History; *Engineering at Gettysburg College*, written by William C. Darrah, Professor Emeritus of Biology; *Gettysburg College and the Lutheran Connection: An Open-Ended Story of a Proud Relationship*, written by Harold A. Dunkelberger, Professor of Religion; and *Intercollegiate Athletics At Gettysburg College, 1879-1919*, written by Dr. Bloom.

The editors,

Willard G. Books
Edwin D. Freed
Charles H. Glatfelter

Acknowledgements

Writing the second installment of Gettysburg College's intercollegiate athletic history was a pleasant experience, equal to that which the author had in preparing the first. This proved to be the case despite the larger difficulties involved in continuing the narrative. In the first place, the story told here is much more complex. It purports to cover a wider range of sports activities on the campus and extends over more than a half century in time. Secondly, many old grads with keen memories are about who will be quick to spot omissions, discrepancies, misplaced emphases, and factual errors. The author can only plead gaps in available sources, remind all that to err is human, and then accept responsibility for whatever appears, or fails to appear, in the following pages.

The author consulted a number of individuals who willingly recalled for him their knowledge and impressions of past events. They may be noted in the footnote references, but among the most helpful were Henry T. Bream, Mrs. Esther Wood, William H. B. "Bill" Stevens, Miss Grace Kenney, and Robert T. Hulton. Eugene M. Haas gave the author access to documentary material and Robert Kenworthy, Sports Information Officer, again opened his records for examination.

In addition to the information provided by the above named, valuable insights were provided by the trustee and faculty minutes and those student reactions set forth in the files of the *Gettysburgian* and the *Spectrum*. Mr. Jay P. Brown, College Bursar, again permitted the author access to trustee and faculty minutes deposited in his office. The staff of the College Library was invariably cooperative in making available materials shelved in the Library's Gettysburgiana Room. Professor Richard T. Mara graciously provided a copy of the Mara Committee Report.

Members of the Gettysburg College History Series Editorial Board—Professors Edwin D. Freed and Charles H. Glatfelter and Mr. Willard G. Books, Director of Public Relations—subjected the manuscript to their discerning examination. Through their efforts grammatical slips, involuted prose, and other solecisms that might have graced the text were reduced in number.

Finally, if some sort of dedication is in order, it must be to the thousands of sons and daughters of the College whose athletic talents furnished so many hours of healthful diversion and, it is hoped, brought a measure of educational benefit to the student body during the passage of nearly a century in time.

December 21, 1977

R. L. B.

The Golden Age, 1919-1931

Some historians suggest that despite markings on the calendar the Twentieth Century did not begin in America, culturally speaking, until after the 1917-1918 war. Until that time, they assert, Americans thought and behaved as they had in a prior and more innocent age. After 1918 Americans adopted the more frenetic life-style of what has become known as "the Roaring Twenties," the "Jazz Age," or the "Mad Decade," a period which ended with the onset of the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The era saw the emergence of such athletic titans as Babe Ruth, Jack Dempsey, Harold "Red" Grange, Bobby Jones, Bill Tilden, and others. An indication of the new place of women during the period was the fame won by Gertrude Ederle in swimming, Helen Wills Moody in tennis, and Glenna Collett in golf.

This burgeoning interest in sports found an echo on college campuses. Young men who could run, throw, kick, jump, catch, or hit a ball with superior ability received the idolatrous regard of their fellow students, alumni, and the public. This decade saw the "Four Horsemen of Notre Dame" become a household word, and also the firm establishment of post-season bowl games in which college elevens contested for the mythical national intercollegiate football championship. Even more than before, some institutions of higher learning came to be better known for the success of their football teams. When, in 1921, little Centre College of Kentucky upset Harvard in football it catapulted that hitherto obscure school into a fame it could not otherwise have gained.¹ Whether this mounting interest in spectator sports was undue or not was warmly debated.²

Gettysburg College students and alumni could not remain untouched by the new emphasis and so far as they were able they quickly adapted themselves. The college's semi-rural setting, its conservative traditions, and the continuing lack of financial resources forestalled many of the abuses which developed in college athletic pro-

grams elsewhere. Yet, such handicaps did not temper the enthusiasm with which Gettysburgians supported intercollegiate athletics on the campus. Compared to the programs in effect at many other institutions, that at Gettysburg retained a healthy balance. In October 1922, Cullen Cain, a sportswriter for the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*, visited the campus and later reported to his readers that "to my mind, athletics approach very close to an ideal state at Gettysburg College." He noted that while "they do not have outstanding championship teams down there . . . they always have good teams."³

During the 1920s, Gettysburg College grew in student enrollment and size of the faculty, developed an enlarged and more varied curriculum, and expanded its physical plant. Not the least aspect of this growth was the greater number and variety of intercollegiate sports programs offered. Tangible evidence of their larger role is seen in the construction of Memorial Field and the Eddie Plank Gymnasium, the faculty status accorded to football coaches, and in 1927 both the creation of a Department of Physical Education and employment of a full-time athletic trainer.

As the athletic program grew it became clearer that faculty influence, already in decline for some years, was being further eroded. On a few occasions the faculty tried to regain its erstwhile authority but without notable success. Responding to a faculty request of January 16, 1919, President William A. Granville appointed a faculty investigating committee to examine the college's athletic policy, but any findings or recommendations by this committee were never entered in the faculty minutes. At its meeting of September 14, 1925, the faculty voted to delegate to its representative on the Athletic Council "power to approve or disapprove the football schedule," but no evidence exists that the Council heeded the faculty on this or any other matter. On December 2, 1926, the faculty instructed the Council to exclude Navy from the basketball schedule. Whatever the reason for this interdict, Gettysburg's cagers did meet the Midshipmen that year. It is a safe guess that in this instance the Council overruled the faculty. By 1927, the professors had surrendered. An entry in the faculty minutes for March 3 reads: "Dean Jackson read the Tennis schedule . . . [which] was referred to the Athletic Council for approval."

Until the arrival of Dr. Henry W. A. Hanson as President, the faculty yet exercised

authority over athletic holidays. Within a month of his inauguration, however, President Hanson informed the faculty at its November 1, 1923 meeting that "in accordance with college custom *he* [my italics] had declared a recess in the interests of athletics on Saturday Nov. 3." Since student pressure for such recesses often was considerable, it may be that the faculty was happy to have the President assume this responsibility.

Even in those areas normally considered its exclusive preserve the faculty gave ground. As the 1921 football season got under way the faculty on September 22 voted to inform the Athletic Director that one of the star players, of whom much was expected that year, was ineligible because of scholastic deficiencies.

One can only guess at the pressures subsequently brought to bear on the professors to reconsider their decision. Three entries in the faculty minutes are both revealing and instructive. As the result of "a request . . . presented by the Graduate [Alumni] Committee on Football," the faculty on October 6 voted to consider that the student's class standing "be under the usual rule and that he be allowed to play one half of the game in contests with Dickinson, Bucknell, and Franklin & Marshall colleges." Evidently, this was not sufficient, for on October 27 the faculty adopted a motion that the student "be permitted to play during the whole period of the games" with these three colleges "if the coaches shall deem this desirable." Given the need for this young man's services to the team that fall, it is hardly likely that the coaches would deem otherwise. Then, on November 17, the faculty agreed to allow the star player to play against Mt. St. Mary's. These concessions enabled him to play enough time that year to earn a varsity letter.

So long as its actions posed no threat to prospects for athletic victories the faculty was allowed some voice in policy. For example, it could exempt athletes from paying the three-dollar fee for making up missed examinations (May 27, 1920); it could permit athletes and student managers an extension of chapel and church cuts (January 27, 1922);⁴ and it could decree that home baseball games should not begin earlier than four o'clock except on Saturdays (April 27, 1922). It is evident,

¹As early as 1919, Gettysburgians recognized the value of athletics in publicizing their college. The *Gettysburgian* of October 1 reported that C. William Duncan '17, city editor of the *Gettysburg Times*, was in correspondence with sports editors of the metropolitan press seeking more space to be given to Gettysburg College sports activities.

²Social critic Waldo Frank in 1929 denigrated sports enthusiasts as those who sought merely "the thrill of mechanical perfection, violence, hero-worship, [and] vicarious power." Frank is cited in Loren Baritz, ed., *The Culture of the Twenties* (Indianapolis, 1970), p. 376. For some alumni reaction to such criticism see Preston W. Slosson, *The Great Crusade and After* (New York, 1931), p. 276.

³Cited in the *Gettysburgian*, October 25, 1922.

⁴According to the *Gettysburgian* of March 7, 1923, however, a projected Southern trip by the baseball team was cancelled on grounds that "the players would have to take too many class cuts to make the trip." The extension of chapel cuts and church attendance requirements also was made available to students in musical organizations, participants in literary contests, and the delegates to various student conventions.

however, that faculty-formulated guidelines respecting athletics dealt with peripheral matters only.

For the most part the faculty acquiesced in the growing athletic program, and some professors regarded it with enthusiasm. Although faculties on other campuses protested against the alumni-ridden and coach-dominated athletic programs with their anti-intellectualism and commercialism, at Gettysburg they seem to have been insensitive to any threats which such distractions might pose for the academic well-being of the College. It may be that Gettysburg was fortunate in having alumni who kept some sense of perspective and coaches who made but moderate demands on the time and energy of their charges.

The college administration, particularly under Dr. Hanson, took a positive view of the value of sports. As the 1925 football season began the *Gettysburg Times* commended the President for his attitude.

Dr. Hanson is "at home" when mingling with the "fellows." It's his most valuable asset. He likes to be "one of them" and whenever an opportunity presents itself where he is privileged to associate with the "fellows" he is eager to grasp it.

Dr. Hanson almost without exception [last year] was a daily visitor to the field where the men were being whipped into shape. . . . He trudged through the mud when it rained. He followed the squad . . . when the sun beat down with all its fury. He laughed [sic] and joshed when laughing and joshing counted. He was in his glory when he was brushing shoulders with his gridiron defenders. He will be there again this year.

If the Gettysburg prexy felt any embarrassment at the effusive portrait here drawn, it is not on the record. It may be one reason why serious question as to the educational worth of intercollegiate athletics rarely if ever surfaced on the campus during his 29-year tenure. Skeptics contemptuous of the "jock atmosphere," which they may have believed prevailed, either kept silent or were shouted down by the majority.

In the innocent days before 1900, student managers attended to the details respecting athletic matters although always under the oversight of the faculty. By 1920, however, they had become little more than minor functionaries. In that year the alumni were brought more directly into the athletic picture through the formation of an Athletic Alumni Committee. In endorsing this move, the *Gettysburgian* of November 3, 1920 explained that heretofore "there has been practically no co-ordination and harmonious method of securing the assistance and advice of our alumni in the athletic depart-

ment," a role which the editor thought was the alumni's right. Not only would the new committee advise on athletic matters but, according to the *Gettysburgian*, it would devise "a permanent plan for securing funds, coaching assistants, and football material." The 1922 *Spectrum* was more explicit in setting forth the rationale for this committee:

Our Athletic Committee has always been hampered by lack of funds, and, consequently, it has been difficult to obtain needed material and personnel. With the 1920 season as the last under an antiquated policy, we begin a new phase of football history at Gettysburg. A committee . . . has been charged with the duties of securing necessary funds from Alumni and inducing football players to come to Gettysburg.

The committee, reported the *Spectrum*, had busied itself in cementing closer and more cordial relations with businessmen in the town. The success of this policy was apparent "in the friendly and co-operative spirit manifested by the Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce in a resolution of recent date."⁵ According to the *Gettysburgian* of December 7, 1921, the committee's principal responsibility was "to develop athletics on a business basis."⁶

Behind the creation of the Alumni Athletic Committee was the desire to insure winning teams for Gettysburg. This required money and in the postwar years more of it was necessary than before. Costs had gone up with the wartime and postwar inflation. Decreased wartime enrollment had reduced the income from student fees. The absence of Penn and Penn State from the football schedule meant that the normally lucrative guarantees to be realized from those sources were lacking. As a result, early as the spring of 1919 the athletic program had incurred a \$3,000 debt.

On April 30, 1919, the *Gettysburgian* reported that students had agreed to subscribe to a special fund to retire this debt, and on May 14 the paper voiced its gratification that alumni also had responded to the need. The most convenient method for raising funds, however, was to raise tuition charges, and this device the trustees adopted. On December 6, 1920, they voted to increase the yearly tuition from \$125 to \$150 to cover added operational costs of the College and the "free admission [for students] to all college athletic games held

in Gettysburg." This measure, plus the five dollar athletic fee paid by each student, still proved insufficient and by 1927 the athletic program had an encumbrance of \$7,500. At their December 7, 1927 meeting the trustees accepted Dr. Hanson's recommendation that the student athletic fee be doubled with the proceeds used to liquidate this debt.

The gate for football and basketball home games produced some revenue, but then, as now, no admission was charged for baseball, track, tennis, or other intercollegiate contests. Some additional income came from the sale of football programs at games and, coupled with the sale of advertising in the programs, this helped considerably.⁷ In an effort to increase the revenue, the Bucknell and Dickinson football games were staged on Harrisburg's Island Park Field, and the home games with Villanova were transferred to the York Fair Grounds. In 1924, the Gettysburg-Bucknell game took place on Altoona's Cricket Field, but the small turnout ended this experiment after one try.

One reason for seeking added income was to provide financial inducement to young men with athletic talent to come to Gettysburg. Limited resources ruled out large subsidies, but promising young athletes could expect their tuition charges to be waived and concessions made on board and room rent. On August 5, 1920, the trustees exempted "those holding Athletic Scholarships" from payment of the yearly \$10 athletic fee, and the faculty, on October 27, 1921, accepted a recommendation from its "Committee on Dormitory Rooms" that up to \$40 a year be credited for room rent to athletic scholarship holders.

As elsewhere, the term "scholarship" did not necessarily denote superior academic qualifications or performance. But to the degree that the *Gettysburgian* represented student opinion it appears that the student body saw no objections to subsidizing athletes. "Our school does not buy players," insisted the student weekly on December 6, 1922, but it observed that "football teams cannot be run on college spirit, whether at Gettysburg or any other school." The editor thought "sincere thanks" due the Alumni Athletic Committee which had to calculate carefully "to keep

⁵On January 12, 1921, the *Gettysburgian* reported that the Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce "has just passed a resolution endorsing the appointment of an alumni committee in recognition that winning teams are a good advertisement for the town."

⁶"Next to the sport of business," writes Slosson (p. 270), "the Americans enjoyed most the business of sport."

⁷Hen Bream remembers that the idea of raising funds through the sale of the football programs and advertising originated with Dr. Hanson and that in one year about \$4,000 was realized from this device.

Prof. Wood's warriors on the path.⁸

In January 1926, a move occurred which decidedly affected the college's athletic scholarship program. The *Gettysburgian* of January 26 reported that representatives from Gettysburg, Dickinson, F. & M., and Muhlenberg, colleges it describes as "more or less allied in their athletic programs," had consulted with an eye "to stabilize their athletic programs and bring about a certain uniformity of athletic rules." The outcome of this and later deliberations was the formation of the ambitiously named Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference. The four colleges (later joined by Ursinus) agreed on four basic rules: (1) prohibiting transfer students from varsity competition for one year; (2) limiting scholarship aid to tuition only; (3) banning payment of money directly or indirectly to athletes by off-campus agencies; and (4) holding scholarship recipients and other athletic competitors to a respectable academic performance.⁹

At the June 8, 1926 meeting of the trustees, President Hanson moved "to bring the athletic program into such coordination [with the E.C.A.C.] as will render maximum satisfaction with a minimum of misunderstanding." The trustees promptly adopted a number of Hanson proposals, but the question of athletic scholarships, desirable or not, was not resolved. Then, in December, Coach Bill Wood, now Athletic Director as well as head football coach, advanced a proposal which by its nature qualified him for expulsion from the Coaches' Union. Seizing upon a proposition first suggested at F. & M., Wood advised termination of all athletic scholarships except those then in effect.¹⁰ The *Gettysburgian* of December 12 endorsed Wood's proposal as "but another step in the program to try to overcome some of the evils of commercialism that have crept into college athletics all over the country in the past few years."

Not all students (and likely not all alumni) agreed with Wood's revolutionary proposal.

The *Gettysburgian* of March 30, 1927 carried a fervent plea to the alumni from one of its columnists:

Will our alumni be willing to send us athletes and likewise give them financial backing? Our rivals, the same schools who are willing to abide by the Conference ruling of small scholarships, have alumni who will back them to the limit. We cite the case of Western Maryland whose forward stride in football is due to alumni backing.¹¹

The writer argued for alumni-financed "lucrative scholarships" to insure Gettysburg "the same high caliber athletic material which she had boasted in past years." So far as he was concerned, financial aid from the alumni counted far more than did the limited scholarships funded by the College.¹²

Hopes held by sports-oriented students and alumni for Gettysburg athletic pre-dominance must have been dashed by a front page banner headline in the *Gettysburgian* of April 6, 1927. Underneath the headline, "College Presidents Favor Abolition of all 'Paid Athletes,'" the paper reported that President Hanson, with the complete support of the faculty, fully endorsed the idea. Apparently, however, the student reporter had not checked Coach Hen Bream's reaction to an additional presidential proposal, namely, that "the compensation, direct or indirect, of a head coach shall not exceed that of a full professor."¹³

The *Gettysburgian* reported campus opinion divided on these matters, but the editor confessed that the "Pigskin Regime" had been accompanied by "a general slump in academic morale and cultural standards." It appeared to him that "today, college consists . . . of football, basketball, Junior and Senior Dances, Fraternities, automobiles, golf, week-end parties, with an occasional class thrown in between." He concluded by voicing hope that this "admirable ruling" of the presidents would assist in ending all

campus activities not conducive to a sound education.

For the next two years the pestiferous issue of athletic scholarships was not discussed officially by the trustees, the faculty, or in the columns of student publications. Then, in October 1929, the Carnegie Foundation dropped what the *Gettysburgian* labelled "An Ill-Timed Bomb." After an investigation covering 112 Eastern colleges, the foundation spokesman declared that only 28 of them followed a "no-subsidy" policy in intercollegiate athletics. Gettysburg College was not listed among the innocent.

President Hanson's reaction to the inference was immediate and vehement. He stated that the data on which the Foundation had based its conclusions were outdated. He denied that Gettysburg had "athletic slush funds" or engaged in "cut-throat competition in seeking young men possessed of athletic ability." He insisted that the College did not "cheapen educational standards to accommodate athletic prospects." Beginning with membership in the E.C.A.C., Hanson declared, the College had "arranged its entire athletic program to comply with every rule adopted by the conference." In awarding scholarships, he said, the College considered four basic features: character, need, scholastic attainments, and athletic or other accomplishments. Dr. Richard A. Arms, identified as Gettysburg's representative to the conference, stated flatly that no Gettysburg student received more than his tuition.¹⁴

These denials appear positive enough. Nevertheless, many college authorities, caught with the same charges leveled at their athletic programs, were equally positive without being aware of what went on behind their backs. It is hard to believe that, given the intense interest of some well-heeled alumni, ways were not explored to assist deserving athletes at Gettysburg. Hen Bream remembers that on more than one occasion when he called Dr. Hanson's attention to the need of some impecunious athlete the President wrote his personal check to meet it. It should be added, however, that Dr. Hanson also performed this service for some non-athletic students.

Protests against athletic scholarships came rarely, if ever, from the student body. For most students the highest priority was a winning team. Hen Bream suggests that one reason for the absorbing interest in football was the lack of other diversions in the fall. "Students of Gettysburg at the end of the first century of the history of the col-

⁸One of Coach Bill Wood's "warriors", William "Bill" Stevens '25, recalls that his football scholarship included tuition and room rent for the year and free board until Thanksgiving. Interview with William H. B. Stevens, November 12, 1976.

⁹These regulations are spelled out in *The Constitution and Rules of the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference*, "corrected to April 1, 1928," a copy of which is deposited in the Gettysburgiana Room of the Gettysburg College Library. Hereafter, the conference will be cited as the E.C.A.C.

¹⁰Coach Wood not only was always disturbed by the athletic scholarship policy but also by the efforts of influential alumni to expand the athletic program beyond what he thought were reasonable limits. He even toyed with the idea of barring juniors and seniors from intercollegiate athletic competition to enable them to concentrate on their academic work. Interview with Mrs. Esther Wood, November 12, 1976.

¹¹Normally, Gettysburg football teams had little trouble defeating the Western Maryland eleveners. The Marylanders did not win over Gettysburg until 1926 when they triumphed 12-3. The effectiveness of the Western Maryland program was evident when in 1927 they routed the Bullets 41-0.

¹²For contemporary testimony on alumni subsidization of college athletes in the 1920s see Reed Harris, *King Football: The Vulgarization of the American College* (New York, 1932), p. 66.

¹³In the 1920s both Bill Wood and Hen Bream had drawn their pay from two sources. Until he became an instructor in mathematics at the College in 1921, Wood's principal income was from his salary as director of vocational education at nearby Arendtsville High School. Afterwards, he was paid by the College for teaching mathematics and by the Athletic Committee for coaching football. Bream inherited a similar arrangement, receiving pay as instructor in physical education and after 1926 the Athletic Committee paid him for coaching. Interviews with Mrs. Esther Wood, November 12, 1976 and Henry T. Bream, February 21, 1975.

¹⁴*Gettysburg Times*, October 24, 1929.

lege," the college's official historian wrote, "have their free life organized chiefly about fraternities and athletic sports."¹⁵

F. & M., Dickinson, and Bucknell continued to be regarded as Gettysburg's chief rivals. As the 1919 Thanksgiving Day football game with the Diplomats approached (Gettysburg won 3-0), the *Gettysburgian* declared that despite the Orange and Blue's six triumphs in eight previous games that season, "if beaten by F. & M. we cannot say the season has been successful." And on the eve of the 1923 Dickinson game the student weekly noted that "Caesar had his Brutus, Charles I had his Cromwell, and Gettysburg has her Dickinson." Fortunately, Gettysburg fared better than either of these two unfortunate monarchs, triumphing 14-0 over the Carlisle eleven.

Victories in football over Bucknell were especially savored because they came so seldom and were invariably hard-earned. A high point in student enthusiasm was reached following the Bullets unexpected 14-12 triumph over Bucknell in 1928 on Memorial Field. The *Gettysburgian* of October 31 reported the events of the following Monday.

It all started in chapel when two or three students yelled "vacation." Others took it up and the cry became universal. Probably nothing would have come of it had not big John Miller [star tackle] yelled "stand up!" After that there was no stopping it. Dean Tilberg, who was in charge during the absence of Dr. Hanson, tried to make announcements but was cried down.

Pouring out of the chapel, the students formed a parade which proceeded to Chambersburg Street and brought Lincoln Highway traffic to a dead stop. After moving to the high school where they tried unsuccessfully to involve the younger students, the crowd relieved a passing farmer of his truck-load of apples. On out Carlisle Street to the Academy went the celebrants and, augmented by Academy students, the crowd moved to Dean Tilberg's office on the campus. There, after he had been "forcibly removed from official duties," the Dean urged a return to ten o'clock classes. "Of course everyone did as the Dean suggested . . . but they were the ten o'clock classes at the Seminary." Back at the Square the parade met the band which played college songs. Cheers were given and speeches heard. Shortly before noon the crowd broke up with the freshmen scattering to collect wood for a gigantic bonfire that evening. Meanwhile, Dr. Hanson re-

turned and at the bonfire "gave a very fitting speech." More cheers and college songs "closed the biggest demonstration over a football victory that Gettysburg has seen in many a year."

On rare occasions, however, the *Gettysburgian* voiced concern over the intense football fever. In October 1923, it deplored the fact that "many of the other activities . . . are lacking the attention that they deserve," and in April 1927 it observed that "the time has passed when football should occupy the 'front page' of the student's life." Yet, football continued to get front page coverage in the student weekly. Perhaps the 1929 *Spectrum* unwittingly disclosed majority opinion with its observation, no doubt reassuring to many, that "Gettysburg's scholastic progress has not hindered her consistency in sports."

During the 1920s, we are told, football on college campuses became "a commercial amusement business run by coaches and alumni for the benefit of the general sporting public."¹⁶ Such blatant commercial impulse did not govern athletic policy at Gettysburg, but it became increasingly clear that Nixon Field and the old Linnaean Hall gymnasium could no longer accommodate enough paying spectators to insure the financial health of the athletic program. The unsuitable condition of Nixon Field both for football and baseball troubled loyal Gettysburgians. As early as May 12, 1920, the *Gettysburgian* had complained of "the objectionable swamp" in the centerfield area which caused no end of discomfort to players, irreparably damaged baseballs which fell into it and necessitated a ground rule of two-bases only for the hitter whose drives landed in the morass. Moreover, the *Gettysburgian* added, "it is an eyesore as it now stands [and] that is where the mosquitoes come from."

For some time Gettysburgians had been discussing a fitting memorial for those Gettysburg men who had lost their lives in the recent war. Indicative of the priorities of the time was the decision to honor the soldier dead, whether they had been athletes or not, by the construction of a new gridiron. On December 12, 1923, the *Gettysburgian* reported that an area west of Nixon Field had been set aside by the trustees for this purpose. Nixon Field, it explained, would be reserved in the future for intramural contests. On January 9, 1924, the *Gettysburgian* announced the formation of a "Memorial Field Athletic Committee" to be headed

by George H. Hummel; and it added that this committee had requested Dr. F. H. Clutz, Professor of Engineering, to survey the area designated for the new gridiron facility.

Then began the campaign for funds. In an open letter addressed to alumni and signed by George H. Hummel, Dr. Hanson declared that although student enrollment had doubled, "we have the same athletic equipment which the college had twenty-five years ago." Hummel closed his letter with a plea, "Help us get the boys out of a smoky poolroom into God's fresh air." Nevertheless, the *Gettysburgian* on October 8 was forced to report that "due to the fact that funds contributed by alumni have been low, an appeal was made to students to volunteer their services in order to complete the present work of laying pipes for drainage." Students thus were continuing an honorable tradition which had begun with the construction of Linnaean Hall in 1847, manifested itself again with the building of Nixon Field in 1896, and was repeated in 1908 with the laying of the cinder path for track.

In the fall of 1924, Nixon Field ended its days as a varsity football arena. The *Gettysburgian* on November 19 offered a tribute:

Last Saturday, covered with snow and mud, old Nixon Field was honored with its last inter-collegiate football game . . . It has been the scene of battle during the transformation of Swamp Angels into Bullets. Many of the old grads will hate to see the old familiar stamping grounds pass from active service but the loyal old field has done its bit . . . Be it ever honored for the service it has performed in the interest of the college.¹⁷

Expectations that the new football field would be ready for the 1925 season were realized. At their meeting on June 10, 1925, the trustees endorsed a \$12,000 loan for the Memorial Field Athletic Committee, and additional loans and gifts brought in \$8,137.25 more. According to a report filed by Dr. Charles H. Huber, treasurer of the committee, the construction costs eventually amounted to \$20,175.11. The first football game took place on the new gridiron on October 3, 1925. For the next thirty years, excepting the three-year wartime lapse of 1943-1945, Memorial Field was the locale

¹⁵Samuel G. Hefelbower, *The History of Gettysburg College, 1832-1932* (Gettysburg, Pa., 1932), p. 329. *Gettysburgian* and *Spectrum* columns provide support for Dr. Hefelbower's statement.

¹⁶Slosson, pp. 274-275. According to another historian, "by the end of the 1920s college football had become a major industry, with gate receipts each year over \$21 million." See William E. Leuchtenburg, *The Perils of Prosperity, 1914-1932* (Chicago, 1958), pp. 195-196.

¹⁷The nickname, "Bullets," dates from that fall and is credited to the late Paul L. Roy, then city editor of the *Gettysburg Times*. Roy likened the swiftness of Gettysburg teams to bullets, but no doubt the historic associations of the surroundings played a part in popularizing this nickname. Bill Stevens remembers that opponents often referred scornfully to Gettysburg teams as "Bullet Pickers."

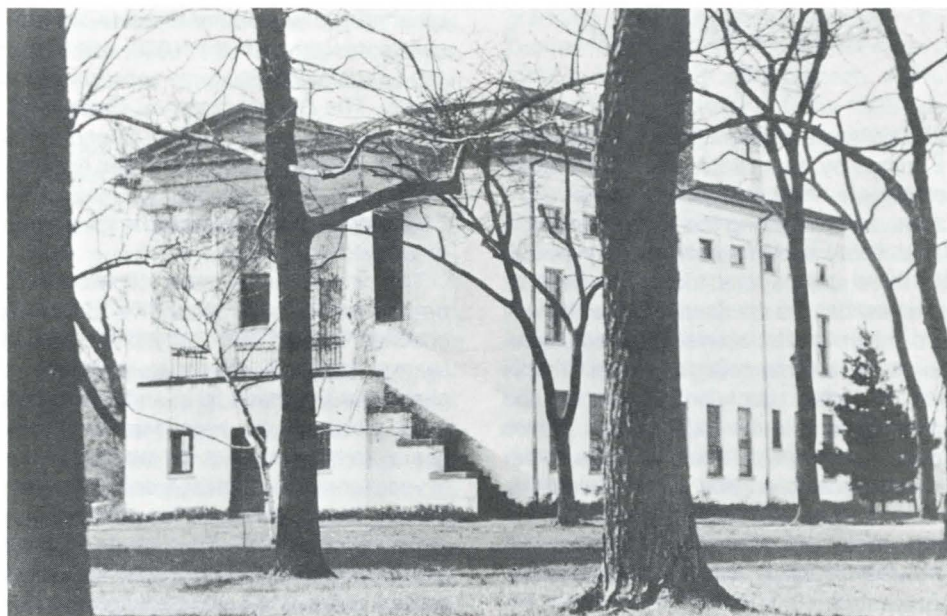
of Gettysburg's gridiron wars.¹⁸

Even more needed was a respectable facility for basketball and other indoor sports. The Linnaean Hall gymnasium which served the 294 students enrolled in 1919 was entirely inadequate for the 668 who matriculated in 1925. As early as 1921, Doyle Leathers as Athletic Director, acting on instructions from the Athletic Committee, forwarded an appeal to the trustees through President William A. Granville. He called the trustees' attention to the fact that while the gymnasium served its purpose in the fall and spring months, winter was a different story. Not only did it have to accommodate the varsity and class basketball activities; but Academy students also used it, and the often inclement weather forced the R.O.T.C. contingent indoors. Reminding the trustees that physical education was of value to all students, Leathers added that

We do not need a costly gymnasium equipped with apparatus which is seldom used but we do need a building large enough for basketball contests and which will also serve as a drill hall. Such a building would supply all our needs. It would also release the present gymnasium for other purposes.¹⁹

At the time the trustees failed to act on Leathers' proposal, but on March 21, 1923, the *Gettysburgian* voiced a plea for a more suitable gymnasium. Pointing to the playing floor, much too small for regulation size in basketball, the cramped accommodations for spectators, the lack of proper ventilation, and the overall shabby condition of the premises, the paper observed that "all the credit goes to the men on the basketball teams for holding up the standards of that sport." In its view, "it is safe to say that our gymnasium ranks among the poorest in the country."

Not until June 10, 1925 did the trustees authorize their Building Committee to proceed with plans for "a new general assembly building which is also to serve as a Gymnasium." The following December they accepted a bid of \$210,000 from A. R. Warner of Waynesboro for construction of the gymnasium and also for a new science hall. Meanwhile, the inadequacies of the old structure forced resort to drastic mea-



Linnaean Hall, the College's second gymnasium, 1900-1928.

asures. The *Gettysburgian* of November 25, 1925 announced that home games in basketball for the coming season would be played on the new basketball floor just constructed in the Hotel Gettysburg Annex. This hall represented considerable improvement since it would seat 800 spectators, and it would have to serve until completion of the projected new gymnasium.

On Homecoming Day, October 3, 1925, with Bill Wood, Athletic Director, turning over the first shovel full of earth, construction got under way. In February following the college community was saddened at the news of the death of Eddie Plank. Immediately the committee assigned responsibility for selecting a name for the new athletic edifice proposed that it be known as the Eddie Plank Memorial Gymnasium. Such would not only provide a suitable memorial to Plank, but his national fame might bring in funds from far and wide. In March, President Hanson and George H. Hummel conferred with the owners of the Philadelphia Athletics (Plank's old team) and the Philadelphia Phillies and obtained their consent to a benefit baseball game between the two teams. With the game originally scheduled for Philadelphia's Shibe Park on September 30, Dr. Hanson declared a special holiday for students wishing to attend the game. Unfortunately, rain forced its cancellation and the game was rescheduled for October 3, 1927. On that date another threat of rain kept the crowd to about two thousand and other financial sources had to be developed. At length, both the gymnasium and the new Breidenbaugh Science Hall were financed out of a \$1,000,000 campaign.

The night of January 6, 1928 saw the first intercollegiate basketball game played in Eddie Plank Memorial Gymnasium. Before the opening whistle Dr. Hanson spoke a few words of dedication and the crowd, which filled the available 1250 seats, settled back to see the Bullet quintet score a 40-30 win over the American University cagers. The cost of the gymnasium and its equipment came to \$154,649.47; and until the completion of the Henry T. Bream Physical Education Building in 1962, it provided for that time adequate facilities for basketball, wrestling, and physical education classes.²⁰

The completion of Weidensall Hall in 1922, intended primarily as a Y.M.C.A. facility but also housing a swimming pool, was another asset. Baseball, track, and tennis continued to function on Nixon Field until after the Second World War. Thus the College's varsity and intramural teams could operate with more comfort, and hopefully with more success, during the Golden Age of Sport. Perhaps Gettysburg's chief claim to fame now came to be less that of turning out Lutheran clergy and more the production of top-notch athletic teams. At least that was the impression which prevailed among Gettysburg's athletic rivals. And to that generation of students and many of the College's alumni the athletic well-being of their alma mater had become more important.

¹⁸A few additions were required to complete construction of the field. The *Gettysburgian* of October 20, 1926 reported completion of a new bleacher section seating 600, a regulation score board to hang on the west wall of the Eddie Plank Gymnasium, and "a completely modern press box" with glass windows in front. It would accommodate 24 sports writers. On April 4, 1930, the paper reported acquisition of a plot adjacent and just south for soccer and football practice.

¹⁹Trustee minutes, December 5, 1921. Leathers reported that almost a hundred men had reported for basketball for the 1921 season. Among the "other purposes" considered for Linnaean Hall was transforming it into an administration building.

²⁰Eddie Plank Gymnasium also served the college's dramatic productions. According to the trustees minutes of June 10, 1925, the Owl and Nightingale Club contributed \$1,000 to building costs with the proviso that "a suitable clubroom as near as possible to the stage" should be built with the stage equipped with proper wiring, curtains, and footlights.

Bullets in Action, 1919-1931

If a college's golden age in sport is determined by appreciable success in intercollegiate competition, Gettysburg's achievements during the 1920s justify this label. This was particularly true in respect to the three major sports, football, basketball, and baseball. As the decade got under way two minor sports, tennis and track, competed on an intercollegiate level. Tennis with the longer history on the campus, had rough going, but the track squads proved more competitive. Ere the dozen-year period came to an end soccer, wrestling, cross-country, and swimming made an appearance with wrestling showing the greatest promise for future success at competition.

The 1920s also saw women emerging as participants in many activities heretofore thought to be the exclusive preserve of men, and the new spirit manifested itself at Gettysburg with the introduction of women's sports on an intercollegiate level. In 1923, a varsity coed basketball sextette began to meet those from other nearby colleges. Later, intercollegiate swimming and tennis for women were tried. In the early 1930s, however, the trustees discontinued coeducation at the College and these programs were suspended.²¹

During the eleven football campaigns of 1919-1931, Orange and Blue gridders won 70 games, lost 32, and battled their opponents to ties on eight occasions. They accomplished this impressive record under the tutelage of two head coaches, William "Bill" Wood (1919-1926) and Henry T. "Hen" Bream (1927-1931). Before this gridiron tutors came and went with distressing frequency at Gettysburg.²² Players often arrived for the first practice session uncertain as to their coach for the season. Formidable schedules, limited financial support, inhibiting faculty supervision, and the less than munificent remuneration for their labors discouraged some from a second year at Gettysburg. Those who returned must have done so mainly for psychic compensation. A case in point was Fred C. Vail who arrived in the fall of 1904, left at the end of the 1906 season, and then

returned two years later to guide the football teams through the 1909, 1910, and 1911 campaigns. Students appreciated his loyalty. The *Gettysburgian* of October 18, 1911 reported lucrative offers extended Vail by rival colleges, and it construed his decision to remain at Gettysburg to mean "that Coach Vail is vitally interested in the welfare of Gettysburg College!"

The next seven seasons following Vail's departure in 1911 saw five different coaches leading the Gettysburg football teams. In 1918, Doyle Leathers took charge as a wartime fill-in and he needed help. Fortunately, help was available nearby in the person of Bill Wood, director of vocational education at Arendtsville High School. Wood, who had played tackle and captained the 1915 Penn State football team, commuted to the campus that fall to assist Leathers. His work so impressed all that he was offered \$600 to assume the head coaching post for the 1919 season. He remained to steer the Orange and Blue gridders through the eight following football campaigns. Upon his departure in the spring of 1927 Hen Bream took charge and began a football coaching career at his alma mater that lasted through the 1951 season. No doubt, much of the success enjoyed by Gettysburg football teams in the 1920s may be attributed to this stability in coaching arrangements.

Bill Wood carved for himself a niche on the campus unmatched by any of his contemporaries, whether faculty, administrators, or trustees. Not only did he prove to be an able coach,²³ but he quickly won the esteem and affection of the entire college community. "Not only his work as coach was gratifying," commented the 1921 *Spectrum*, "but also his splendid spirit and ever jovial disposition won for him the greatest respect and most loyal esteem of the players and the student body." On March 21, 1923, the *Gettysburgian* paid tribute to his winning record but added that "the record he has made with regard to the training of men is the real source of the full satisfaction of Gettysburg men." His popularity stemmed also from the fact that he made himself available to the entire student body, offering counsel and advice to athletes and non-athletes alike on all varieties of personal problems. Indeed, he filled the role today assumed by the Counseling Office on the campus.



William "Bill" Wood

Wood's success at Gettysburg attracted the attention of the metropolitan press. Cullen Cain returned to Philadelphia in October 1922 singing the praises of this "high class coach" in the columns of the *Public Ledger*:

He has a wonderful influence with the boys, and he believes in athletics for the many. . . . Wood wants to win, and he works to win, but his chief aim is higher than this. He wants as many boys as possible to play and to play well.²⁴

In 1926, Gordon Mackay of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* was even more effusive, describing Wood as "coach, trainer, and manager."

He loves the job with the intensity of every fiber of his makeup. He is an enthusiast of the Hurryup Yost type. He has the deep-seated intensity of a Rockne.

Nobody need tell this writer that Gettysburg has a good eleven so long as Bill Wood is working at his present berth. As a matter of fact, no college could help having a real football eleven with Bill Wood at the helm. . . . Gettysburg knew her stuff when she got Wood as her pigskin pilot.²⁵

Statistics indicated that under Wood defense was the name of the game. In 74 contests over eight years his teams shut out the opposition 35 times and suffered "goose-eggs" on but 18 occasions. The 1925 squad yielded only three touchdowns all season, two to Pitt and one to Lehigh. Defensive play goes far to explain the enviable 45-22-6 record posted by Bill Wood's Gettysburg teams.

²¹Women's intercollegiate sports programs at Gettysburg are discussed in greater detail on pp. 34-38.

²²This problem did not plague teams in other sports, at least not so much. As a rule, they were directed either by the football coach on hand or by members of the faculty who served part-time. Sometimes, outside personnel were brought in. But no other sports program received the attention or drew the interest which football received.

²³Wood had earned All-American mention in his senior year at Penn State, and upon graduation had remained there as assistant coach for two years under two experts, Bill Hollenback and Dick Harlow. Therefore, when he came to Gettysburg, he had gained valuable coaching experience under superior tutors.

²⁴Cited in the *Gettysburgian*, October 25, 1922.

²⁵Cited in the *Gettysburgian*, March 31, 1926. "Hurryup" Yost directed the great University of Michigan powerhouse football teams of a half century ago. Knute Rockne, the Notre Dame immortal, hardly needs further identification.

On January 19, 1927, a stunned student body learned from the *Gettysburgian* that Wood had accepted appointment as football coach at Wesleyan University in Connecticut. The story added that he was making this move in part because it would enable him to pursue graduate work at the Yale Divinity School. A genuinely religious man, Wood had taken courses at the Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary to prepare himself for the ministry. The Wesleyan position thus afforded him an opportunity which he felt he could not refuse.²⁶ Another reason for his decision to leave Gettysburg was a misunderstanding as to his future on the campus. Wood had understood that he would be appointed to the newly created post of Dean of Men. President Hanson, however, evidently believed that at a Lutheran institution the administration should be solidly Lutheran and, unfortunately for Gettysburg, Wood was a devoted Presbyterian. What was Gettysburg's loss proved to be Wesleyan's gain.²⁷ In 1929, Wood gave up the Wesleyan post to devote full time to his studies at the Yale Divinity School and in 1931 received his B.D. degree from that institution.

The same issue of the *Gettysburgian* announcing Wood's resignation also reported that the Athletic Council was prepared to recommend Hen Bream to succeed him. In 1923, Bream had served as an assistant to Coach Wood and following his graduation in 1924 had coached successfully at Phoenixville High School. In the fall of 1926, Bream returned to the campus as freshman coach and Instructor in Physical Education. He was thus on hand and thoroughly familiar with the Wood system. President Hanson did not wait long to accept the Council's recommendation and expressed certainty that the student body, faculty, and alumni would be pleased by Bream's appointment.

The fall of 1927 saw the beginning of what might be termed the Hen Bream Era in Gettysburg College athletics.²⁸ The

twenty-seven-year-old head coach made an excellent start. His 1927 eleven won six of nine games, and his leadership won the praise of the 1929 *Spectrum*:

"Hen" Bream, in his first year as head coach, not only efficiently filled his position, but established himself deep in the hearts of everyone because of his sincerity. His was not an easy task, for no finer, more popular coach ever lived than "Bill" Wood, his predecessor. Yet, "Hen" did it. He filled a mighty gap and turned out a team that won the conference championship.

On the same day that Wood had announced his resignation, Doyle Leathers revealed that he also was departing at the end of the year. This meant that Bream also undertook to coach the varsity basketball team for the 1928 season, and in so doing he shouldered the burdens formerly borne by Wood and Leathers. It was difficult to determine whether he was more able on the gridiron or on the basketball court, for his first quintet won eleven of its eighteen games.

The task of molding winning football teams at Gettysburg was hardly a one-man job. Both Wood and Bream had the help of able assistants. Doyle Leathers was Wood's top aide in 1919; and in 1920 Rand Miller, described by the *Gettysburgian* as "one of the greatest guards Penn State ever produced," coached the line. Wood's assistant in 1921 and later in 1925 was Henry "Hinkey" Haines, a Penn State All-American in football and baseball who later had a notable career as a professional in both sports.²⁹ Harry "Rabbit" Rote, who had starred in the Orange and Blue backfield in 1917, later enrolled at Lehigh and won varsity letters in football, basketball, and baseball. He returned to Gettysburg to complete work for his degree in 1922 and that fall assisted Coach Wood. One of Wood's most unusual assistants was Edward F. "Judy" Price. According to the *Gettysburgian* of September 24, 1924, Price had gained athletic honors at Lehigh, was "at present mayor of Danville and . . . by profession a blast furnace specialist [whose] ruling passion has always been football, so he cast aside his duties to aid Bill for the season." Price's enthusiasm for Gettysburg football lasted past the second game that season which saw Lehigh defeat the Orange and Blue team 12-0 and he then took his departure.

Hen Bream's first assistant coach was Calvin "Haps" Frank, another Penn State

graduate. Frank had been a member of the Dickinson staff but crossed the mountain in 1927 to join Bream as line coach. He remained in this capacity until the 1933 season when he returned to Dickinson as the assistant coach.

Two Gettysburg aides deserve particular notice. One of them was Dr. Richard A. "Doc" Arms, Professor of Mathematics and football devotee. In reviewing the 1924 football season the *Gettysburg Times* attributed the team's success to Coach Wood and "the sideline brain of 'Doc' Arms . . . who mapped out the plays and weighed them in the light of the opponents' strategy." Arms' chief contribution was as a scout. Apparently, his mathematically inclined brain and knowledge of the game enabled him to decipher the intent of the audible signals called by opposing quarterbacks. He then relayed the information gathered to the Gettysburg bench. Hen Bream thinks that Dr. Arms' detective work often made the difference between victory and defeat.³⁰



Bill Wood and "Doc" Arms

²⁶The *Gettysburgian* of February 2, 1927 noted that at Wesleyan Wood would receive \$1,000 a year more than he had been paid at Gettysburg. Few knew at the time, however, that he had just turned down an attractive and lucrative offer from Dick Harlow, the Harvard coach, to join the Harvard staff as an assistant coach. Interview with Mrs. Esther Wood, November 12, 1976.

²⁷At Wesleyan Wood continued his winning ways. His 1927 eleven there won the "Little Three" championship (over Amherst and Williams), the first time the Wesleyan Cardinals had achieved this since 1889 when the coach was a member of the faculty named Woodrow Wilson.

²⁸Bream recalls that he started coaching and teaching classes in Health and Physical Education without formal training in either. He began by relying on his common sense and profited by on-the-job-training. Later, he attended summer coaching schools and earned a graduate degree at Columbia University. Interview with Henry T. Bream, March 5, 1975.

²⁹Haines appeared as a New York Yankee in the 1923 World Series and later played and coached the New York Giants to the 1927 National Football League championship. He was an All-Pro halfback for two seasons.

³⁰Dr. Arms maintained eager interest for some years in Gettysburg's athletic fortunes until one day an insensitive member of the athletic staff called him "Dapper Dan" to his face. He swore that he would never attend another athletic contest on the campus, and so far as is known he remained steadfast to this pledge.



Romeo "Rome" Capozzi in 1930

It would be difficult to overstate the contributions made to Gettysburg's athletic success from 1927 to 1971 by Romeo "Rome" Capozzi, the college's first full-time athletic trainer. He had learned his trade under Lawson Robertson, famed University of Pennsylvania coach and molder of the United States Olympic track teams. When Capozzi retired in 1971, the *Gettysburgian* of May 14 estimated that more than 1,900 Gettysburg students, athletes and non-athletes alike, had benefited from his ministrations. He also at times provided therapy for members of the faculty. "I know of no other trainer," Hen Bream declared in 1954, "who knows as much about athletic injuries as does Rome." Largely self-taught through study and practical experience, Capozzi set up shop in a room measuring 20' x 20' in the basement of Eddie Plank Gym. Later this room was enlarged and served its purposes until the completion of the Henry T. Bream Physical Education Building in 1962.

Other sports programs profited from having coaches with extended tenure. Doyle Leathers coached the varsity basketball team from 1917 through the 1927 season.³¹ Leathers also coached the track teams beginning in 1918 and ending at the close of the 1927 season. Horace "Piney" Bender replaced Leathers as track coach for the 1928 and 1929 seasons, and in 1930 Captain Wilbur R. McReynolds began a two-year period at the helm of the Gettysburg trackmen. Hen Bream succeeded Leathers as basketball coach, and Ira Plank returned after the war to coach the baseball nines, a post he held until his death in 1951. It was a matter of gratifica-

tion to Orange and Blue sports followers that all of these men turned out competitive teams.

Although Gettysburg football teams during the golden age of sport were eminently successful (72 wins, 36 defeats, and ten ties), each of the thirteen seasons had its ups and downs. Hen Bream's last minute drop-kick defeated F. & M. 3-0 in 1919, a feat which led the 1921 *Spectrum* to chortle that it supported the notion that football was yet a game involving the foot. When Bucknell's Bisons rolled over an outmanned Gettysburg eleven 45-0 in 1920, the *Gettysburgian* charged that the Bucknell program was money-based and "professional in every sense of the word." It recommended that until Gettysburg could match this program, a step the writer thought both undesirable and impossible, Bucknell should be replaced on the schedule by such schools as Rutgers, Swarthmore, or Haverford.³² In the final game of the 1920 season, F. & M. held Gettysburg to a 0-0 score, largely, according to the *Gettysburgian*, because F. & M. stole Gettysburg's signals. "No team can make progress," it complained, "if the opposing team plays its signals." Although the 1921 team held Penn to a 7-0 score, the *Gettysburgian* explained that "for a big college team Penn is weak." Nevertheless, the 1921 Penn eleven won four of seven games, including an 89-0 romp over Delaware.

Both the Dickinson and F. & M. games in 1922 had their memorable moments. Gettysburg upset heavily favored Dickinson 23-6 on the Island Park Field at Harrisburg with the help of a play of doubtful legality. It began in the fourth quarter with Jim Gilliland centering the ball to Fred Stouffer in the backfield. Stouffer immediately tucked it between the legs of George Derr, the right guard. There it remained until Edward "Snaps" Emanuel came around from right end to retrieve it and, holding it high above his head, he scampered for a touchdown that gave Gettysburg a 7-6 lead. So demoralized were Dickinson's forces at this that their defenses crumpled and Gettysburg won going away.³³ The Gettysburg squad arrived back at the Gettysburg railroad station that evening a state of euphoria; and Coach Wood, forgetting completely his car parked that morning on the campus, walked the five miles to his

farm near Seven Stars. At Lancaster Gettysburg and F. & M. went into the final seconds with a 3-3 deadlock. F. & M. had possession of the ball at midfield on fourth down. The Diplomat's kicker, deciding that nothing would be lost by a drop-kick, sent his foot against the ball. The 12,000 spectators watched in amazement as the ball sailed over the cross bar nearly fifty yards away for a 6-3 F. & M. triumph.

The intense rivalry built up with Dickinson was in no way abated during the 1920s. Therefore, in 1924 Dickinson's 20-12 win was particularly dismaying since it was the first football victory over Gettysburg for the Red and White in seven years.³⁴ In the first quarter of the F. & M. game Russel Doran snatched a punt fumbled by a Diplomat player and raced across the goal line for the first Gettysburg touchdown in this annual contest in six years. Gettysburg won the game by a 27-7 score.

The 1925 season, the first in which the E.C.A.C. was in operation, saw Gettysburg winning the first conference championship. The highlight of the season, however, was the 7-7 tie with Lehigh in the game dedicating Memorial Field. On hand was the college band in "striking uniforms," and it made such a hit that two weeks later, with funds supplied by local Rotarians and Lions, it accompanied the team to Pittsburgh. Possibly the band helped little Gettysburg hold the powerful Pitt Panthers to two last quarter touchdowns, the only scores of the game.

In the spring of 1927, Coach Wood sponsored a drop-kicking contest. A review of the 1927 season shows no games decided by this device, certainly not the Western Maryland contest. Led by Earle "Greasy" Neale, later to gain national fame as a professional player and coach, the Westminster lads triumphed 41-0, the most one-sided loss for the Bullets since the 1920 season.

All who followed with eager interest Gettysburg football teams long remembered the 1928 season. Early in the campaign the Bullets threw a scare into Penn State followers by holding the power-laden Nittany Lions to a two-touchdown victory.³⁵ Most

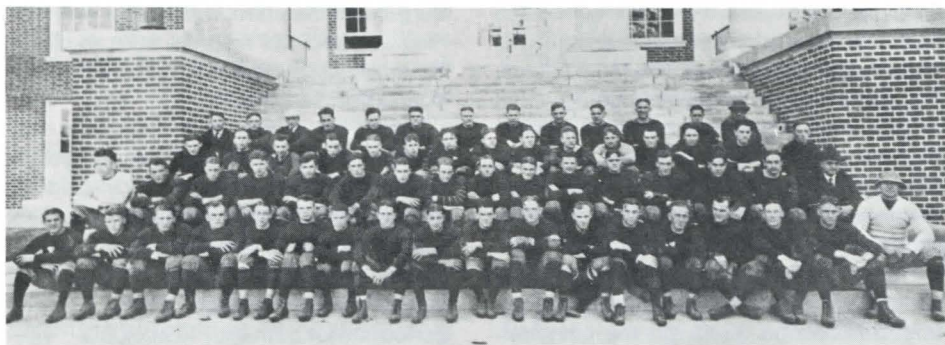
³¹Until the 1926-1927 basketball season the opening game always came after the Christmas holidays. In that year for the first time a pre-holiday game was scheduled. For reasons of convenience this account hereafter will refer to each basketball season according to the calendar year in which most of the games were played.

³²For a contrary view, see Clarence A. Neal's letter in the *Gettysburgian* of December 8, 1920.

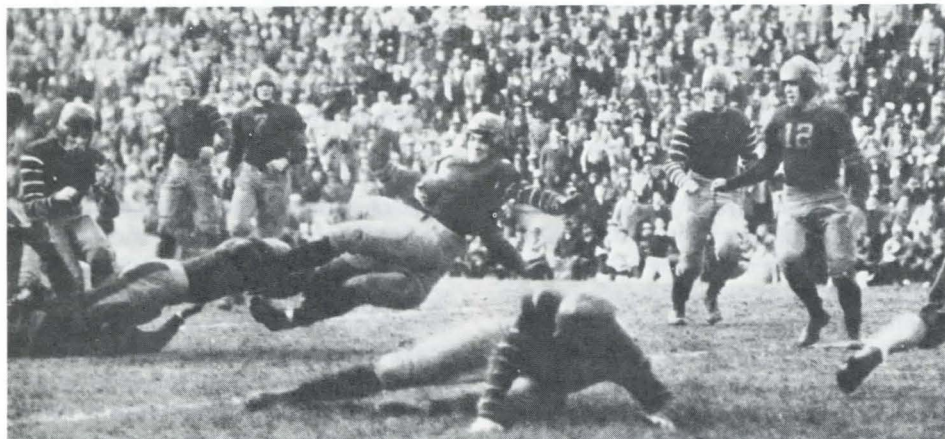
³³A Dickinson historian has written that "the unsettled conditions that followed the 'Mystifier' play allowed the additional scores." See Wilber J. Gobrecht, *The History of Football at Dickinson College, 1885-1969* (Carlisle, 1971), p. 150.

³⁴Gobrecht reports (p. 155) that in this 1924 game "Gettysburg used a huddle for the first time against the Red and White . . . a new innovation for an area team." According to one authority, the huddle was used in the early 1920s first by Bob Zuppke, Illinois coach, and made its initial appearance in the East in 1924 when employed by a Lafayette team. See John Durant and Otto Bettmann, *Pictorial History of American Sports* (Cranbury, N.J., 1973), p. 220. If this is true it would appear that Coach Bill Wood was up on the latest in football tactics.

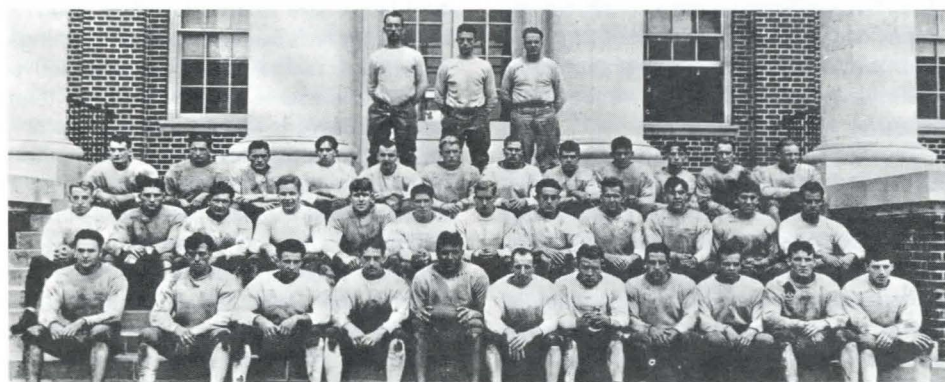
³⁵The lead paragraph in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* story of this game read: "Held even for most of the game and actually outplayed at times, Penn State managed to squeeze out a 12-to-0 victory over Gettysburg today." Cited in the *Gettysburgian*, October 7, 1928.



The 1922 football team—6 wins, two losses, 1 tie



Gettysburg vs. Penn State on Beaver Field in 1924



The 1928 football team—6 wins, two losses, 1 tie



Football Captain Eddie Gulian—1929

memorable was the unanticipated and thrilling 14-12 win over Bucknell which produced the student celebration described above. Late in the game and trailing 12-7, Gettysburg took possession of the ball on its own 14-yard line. Eddie Gulian, normally an end, shifted to the backfield and fired a pass to Earl McMillen who covered the distance to the goal line. After Charley Spangler booted the extra-point, Bucknell took the kickoff and drove to the Gettysburg 5-yard line. Stopped cold by Big John Miller at tackle on three successive plays, the Bison gave up the ball and Spangler kicked it out of danger.

Against an Army eleven, led by Chris "Red" Cagle, everybody's All-American, the Bullets trailed 33-0 late in their 1929 meeting. Earl McMillen then took a pass from Bill Anglemoyer to tally a touchdown, whereupon, said the *Gettysburgian*, "the entire cadet corps cheered as loudly as if an Army back had scored." Against Dickinson, McMillen raced 50 yards through Biddle Field's quagmire for the only score, but it was the F. & M. game that brought the greatest measure of satisfaction. Injuries had severely weakened the team, and the almost indispensable McMillen was hospitalized with influenza. Determined to "win one for Earl," the Bullets confounded prognosticators with a decisive 25-0 win over the heavily favored Diplomats, insuring for themselves a fourth E.C.A.C. championship.³⁶

The 1930 campaign began with four successive shutout wins which included a 3-0 defeat of Villanova on Larry Morris' 37-yard field goal. Parke Davis, the official NCAA statistician, called it the longest in the East that year. Homecoming fans saw Merrit "Jakie" McCoy confound Dickinson's Red Devils with his ball carrying and the Bullets won 33-0 with little trouble.³⁷ But on Thanksgiving Day a 6-0 F. & M. victory, the first Diplomat conquest of the Bullets in six years, cost Gettysburg a chance for another conference championship.

Gettysburg's football story of the 1920s would be incomplete without reference to a group essential to creating winning teams. Both Coaches Wood and Bream succeeded in rounding up talented athletes

³⁶During the lifetime of the E.C.A.C. (1925-1942), Gettysburg won clear title to championship honors in 1925, 1927, 1928, 1929, and 1939. They shared the title in 1932, 1934, and 1941 and were always in contention. In three seasons (1927-1929) they did not lose a conference game.

³⁷The author of this chronicle, a Dickinson freshman in 1930, sat in the press box at this game and served as a "spotter" for the press. A week before he had made his first visit to the Gettysburg campus as a member of a Dickinson freshman team that took a 12-9 defeat from the Little Bullet eleven.

each year and molding strong teams with them. Whatever their talents, football players in those days, as earlier, were counted on for sixty minutes of play each game. Not only were they expected to run, block, and catch passes effectively, but also be able to ward off enemy blockers and tackle enemy ball carriers. Many a begrimed Gettysburg footballer dragged his weary body off the gridiron at game's end, no doubt taking comfort in the thought that his opponent was equally spent. Hen Bream thinks that while today's gridgers may be bigger, stronger, and perhaps more skilled, they cannot match those of the 1920s in endurance.

Gettysburg football squads had no monopoly on talented athletes or winning seasons during the 1920s. Basketball teams which triumphed 121 times against 86 defeats brought their share of athletic glory to the campus,³⁸ although the sport inherited some handicaps from the pre-war years. First of all, the growing inadequacy of the college gymnasium put the teams at a disadvantage on the more spacious floors elsewhere. Secondly, the problem of obtaining able and impartial officials for games was one of long standing.³⁹ Coach Doyle Leathers had to take the whistle for the Gettysburg-Mt. St. Mary's game in 1920 and Leathers' team won by a 54-11 score. The following year with a neutral referee Gettysburg's edge was much narrower (31-17), but in reporting the game the *Gettysburgian* noted that "Referee Saul," who had helped write the rules "and quite naturally knows them," was jeered because he kept the game in hand and slowed the play. The game against Dickinson on Gettysburg's floor in 1925 found Earl Killinger, brother of Dickinson's coach, Glenn Killinger, handling the game. According to the *Gettysburgian*, "the result was a series of exceptionally close decisions that forced an unusual number of substitutions by coaches due to personals."

Among other problems in the early 1920s were the recurring scarlet fever scares.

Both the 1920 and the 1923 schedules were shortened by this interruption. This 1923 quintet not only won 10 of 13 contests, but also averaged 40 points a game which in those days entitled it to be called a "scoring machine." Leathers' lads did not neglect defense that year, and in the 37-10 win over Lebanon Valley the Annville five failed to score a single field goal.

Home floor advantage continued to count a great deal. In 1924, Gettysburg defeated Dickinson 32-15 on the Linnaean Hall gym floor, but in a return meeting at Carlisle the Dickinsonians won handily 32-22. The *Gettysburgian* explained that the Red and White team was "thoroughly at home, throwing them in from all angles," and that "out of bounds under the basket hindered the Orange and Blue for they are used to taking many balls from the walls." One highlight of the 1924 season was the meeting between Rogers Gerhardt, the Gettysburg center, and his brother who wore the Penn State colors. The Penn State Gerhardt outscored the Gettysburg Gerhardt eight points to two, more than Penn State's margin of victory, 23-19.⁴⁰

Use of the more spacious Hotel Gettysburg Annex for home games helped accustom the 1926 team to the larger floors elsewhere. On successive nights, Captain Carl "Spug" Peduzzi and his teammates downed Bucknell at Lewisburg 29-26 and Penn State at State College 38-32. Yet, the Annex floor did not prevent a visiting Dickinson player from hitting a long shot at the final whistle, and Gettysburg went down to defeat by a 43-42 score.

The 1928 team, the first to play under Hen Bream as head coach and also the first to have available the new Eddie Plank Gymnasium won 11 of 18 games. The following year the 1929 aggregation won 12 of 18 games and earned the distinction of being "the most outstanding team" in the 23-team Middle Atlantic Conference. While the *Gettysburgian* reported receipt of this honor in its January 9, 1930 issue, it failed to spell out the criteria employed in making Gettysburg the recipient. Although the 1931 varsity began its season by invading Princeton's gymnasium and gaining a startling 26-24 victory, ere the season ended it had lost 14 of 19 games. The future seemed brighter, however, when the 1931 freshmen won eight of ten contests; and in 1932 the varsity five, loaded with sophomores, won 12 of 18 games. It appeared that the series of losing seasons in Gettys-

burg basketball had ended. Not only winning seasons but also the style of play of Bream's teams made basketball even more popular at Gettysburg.⁴¹

Intercollegiate baseball at Gettysburg during the 1930s was, by any standard competitive. Coach Ira Plank was blessed with a number of talented players, one of whom had a brief career in the major leagues. Byron Yarrison of the 1920 team performed for both the Philadelphia Phillies and the Brooklyn Robins (later named the Dodgers).⁴² Alfred "Alf" Jones pitched for Harrisburg in the old New York-Pennsylvania League in 1928 and Eddie Gulian of the Class of 1930 played with the same club until his career was cut short in 1932 by a broken leg.

In the twelve baseball seasons (1920-1931), Plank's teams played 169 games against college nines and occasionally against teams of the Blue Ridge League.⁴³ The Plankmen won 102 of these games for a .603 percentage. A number of these contests remained long in the memory of those who participated and those who witnessed them. The highlight of the 1921 season was Richard "Crabby" Wise's four hit shutout 7-0 win over Navy at Annapolis. Undoubtedly one of the most interesting affairs was the Alumni Day game in 1923. Eddie Plank tuned up his 48-year-old left arm and hurled an Alumni nine to an 8-1 victory, allowing the varsity lads but one hit in nine innings. One of the college players found reason for some satisfaction even though his team lost. Bill Stevens scored the varsity's only run, and he always cherished the memory that he was the last baseball player ever to score against the fabulous Eddie Plank.

The 1930 season began with a 7-6 victory over a touring Dartmouth College nine in what the *Gettysburgian* described as "typical football weather." As temperatures warmed that spring so did Bullet batters and pitchers, and they swept through their next ten games without defeat, recording the longest winning streak in the College's baseball history.

Going into the final two games of the 1931 season, the Plankmen had won

³⁸Football players continued to receive preferential treatment. An April 8, 1925, the *Gettysburgian* reported that gold footballs had been awarded to members of the football team while the basketball and baseball players had to be content with the traditional "G" monogram. It did report that Lee Fisher and Carl Peduzzi, captains respectively of baseball and basketball, had received sweaters.

³⁹In 1930, Dr. Albert Billheimer, Professor Emeritus of Greek, recalled that in the old days he and other members of the faculty "who knew something about the game" were drafted to referee home games. On one occasion he refused to exhibit the expected partiality to Gettysburg, and Bucknell defeated the Orange and Blue by a big margin. According to Dr. Billheimer, his services as a referee were thereafter discontinued. See the *Gettysburgian*, March 13, 1930.

⁴⁰Rogers Gerhardt led Gettysburg scoring in 1924 with 145 points. Rule changes in effect that year required each player to take his own foul shots, and this resulted in more even distribution of the scoring.

⁴¹"As earlier," reports Slosson (p. 280), "basketball was the favorite indoor sport of schools and colleges."

⁴²In four seasons of major league baseball beginning in 1920, Yarrison pitched in 18 games for the Phillies and three for the Dodgers. His major league record was one win and six losses. See Hy Turkin and S. G. Thompson, eds., *The Official Encyclopedia of Baseball* (New York, 1956), p. 363.

⁴³The Blue Ridge League, near the bottom of the professional baseball classification, included teams from such nearby towns as Hanover, Chambersburg, Waynesboro, Frederick, Hagerstown, and Martinsburg. For two years Gettysburg was represented in this league.

seven of ten games. As had become the practice, the season ended with a Gettysburg-Dickinson doubleheader on Alumni Day which fell on the same date at both schools. The first game was played in the morning on one campus with activities transferred to the other for an afternoon contest. Gettysburg's Arthur "Lefty" Haas, star pitcher, was undefeated that year and the Dickinson ace, Joe Shomock, had lost but one game, a close contest to Penn State. The two coaches, Plank and Richard "Mac" McAndrews, decided to reserve their star hurlers for their respective home games rather than send them against each other. In the morning game on Nixon Field, the Dickinsonians pounded Haas for a 7-5 victory. In the afternoon affair on Biddle Field the Bullets reciprocated by shelling Shomock on their way to a 6-3 triumph.

During the 1920s, Gettysburgians had no reason to be ashamed of the showing made by their track representatives. With Doyle Leathers coaching (1919-1927), Orange and Blue track teams took eleven of twenty-one dual meets and tied one. Horace "Piney" Bender's two squads (1928-1929) won three and lost three. But in the two seasons (1930-1931) under Captain Wilbur McReynolds of the R.O.T.C. staff, Bullet tracksters achieved a 6-1-1 record in dual competition.⁴⁴ Against their closest rivals—Bucknell, Dickinson, F. & M., and Muhlenberg—Gettysburg teams compiled an impressive 20-9-1 record in dual meets. Beginning in 1921, these five colleges competed in the Class A Division of the Central Pennsylvania Track Conference. In twelve annual conference meets Dickinson won four titles, Gettysburg and Bucknell three each, Muhlenberg one, and the best F. & M. could do was share the title with Dickinson at the 1932 meet.

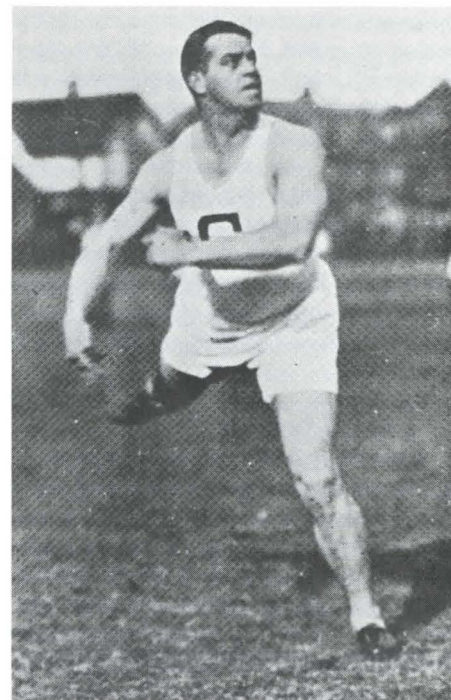
More than is true in other sports, the success of a track team depends in large measure on the level of individual performance. While victory in dual competition and conference meets was important, such triumphs featured and were dependent on the success of the individual runners, jumpers, and throwers who wore the Orange and Blue. Almost every spring saw new college records set for particular events only to be bettered in some subsequent year.

Each season had its highlights. The Gettysburg-Muhlenberg encounter on Nixon Field in 1921 found the Reinartz

brothers in fraternal rivalry. Herbert, representing Muhlenberg, finished first in both the 100 and 220-yard dashes with Gettysburg's Frederick (better known as "Fritz") second in both events. Fritz then won the 440-yard run and tied for first in the high jump. Back came Brother Herbert to take both the pole vault and the broad jump before he called it a day with his team winning the meet by a 55-49 score.

The success of the 1925 squad led the *Gettysburgian* to predict that "track this year promises to cross the line of minor sports and become one of Gettysburg's major sports." In dual meets Bucknell was tied 63-63, and the 64-62 win over Dickinson marked the first Gettysburg team success over their Carlisle rivals in six years. At the Penn Relays that year the mile relay team—Francis Semanske, Horace Ports, Robert Althouse, and Russell Tuckey—ran the distance in 3:33.2, breaking the college record, but with the competition so stiff they could finish no better than fifth. Horace "Piney" Bender won the 120-yard high hurdles at the 1926 Central Pennsylvania Meet, breaking both the conference and college records with a time of 15.8 seconds. The following year, Captain Walter "Cy" Jones took third place in the 100-yard dash at the Penn Relays, a feat recognized by the *Gettysburgian* as "the first time a Gettysburg man has placed in this event since 1912 when Coach Leathers finished third." At the 1930 Middle Atlantics Captain Hugh Hoke won both the 120-yard and 220-yard hurdle races and Ed Hardy took the broad jump. Their combined 20 points was good enough for a third place finish for the team, the best Gettysburg showing at this prestigious meet in years.

Only four of the college individual records withstood the onslaught of Gettysburg track athletes in those thirteen seasons. Unequaled were Howard Bostock's record-setting feats in the dashes, the quarter-mile, and the broad jump. But Dick Gifford set a new standard in the pole vault (11' 7 $\frac{5}{8}$ "); Ray Beck tossed the shot for a record (42' 10 $\frac{3}{8}$ "); Piney Bender's 15.8 in the high hurdles was a new mark; Leroy Slaughter's discus throw (117' 4") presented a new challenge; and in a weight event just introduced, Austin McCarty tossed the javelin 184' 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " for his successors to match. The 3:33.2 time for the mile relay set by the quartet of Semanske-Ports-Althouse-Tuckey, remained intact through the 1920s.⁴⁵



Track Captain Leroy Slaughter—1929

The fall of 1929 saw intercollegiate cross-country introduced at Gettysburg. Gordon Gardner, Harold Rife, Raymond Wisler, and Harry Barclay made up the first squad which lost their single meet to Johns Hopkins but gained enough experience to place third in the conference meet at Lancaster. Their performance, judged the *Gettysburgian*, provided "grounds for expectation of a crack cross-country team in the future."⁴⁶ This phase of track activity lasted no longer than the following year with the 1930 team equally unsuccessful.

Intercollegiate tennis persevered at Gettysburg despite the fact that it was underfinanced, crowds never clamored to witness the matches, and jubilant students never hoisted a racquet-wielding hero to their shoulders in tribute to a victorious effort. Perhaps the unimpressive 43-113-16 record compiled by the teams hardly served to arouse student enthusiasm. On September 27, 1922, the *Gettysburgian* had to report an Athletic Committee decision that "due to a lack of funds Tennis would not be continued as an intercollegiate sport." The game's enthusiasts, however, refused to accept this as final and each spring they funded and operated a

⁴⁴Captain McReynolds was indeed a busy man in those years. He also coached the freshman football team to undefeated seasons in 1930 and 1931, organized and coached the first varsity wrestling squad, directed the rifle team, and attended to his R.O.T.C. duties.

⁴⁵The 1938 *Spectrum* credited two freshmen, John Maurath and John Robison, with setting new marks in the half-mile and two-mile events respectively, but it reports no times for either. The *Gettysburgian* is silent on the matter.

⁴⁶Neither the 1931 nor 1932 *Spectrum* mentions cross-country activity, but the 1932 *Microcosm*, the Dickinson yearbook (p. 156), reports Dickinson defeating Gettysburg 15-40 in 1930 and that at the conference meet held at Gettysburg that year the teams finished Dickinson, Ursinus, F. & M., and Gettysburg in that order.

program themselves. Without a coach, the teams struggled, but in the 1926 season Professor John G. Glenn took charge and guided the squad to four wins, four losses, and a tie. The 1928 *Spectrum*, reviewing the season, was persuaded that Coach Glenn "has added immeasurable benefit to the successful life of the sport." The availability of new tennis courts on Nixon Field helped, but the racqueteers always faced handicaps, not the least of them the securing of players talented enough to win matches.

As early as December 21, 1911, the *Gettysburgian* had recognized the inherent appeal of soccer, but it conceded that "it does not seem practical . . . to start soccer as an intercollegiate sport." It required eighteen years more for intercollegiate soccer to make an appearance on the campus. In November 1929, a soccer eleven coached by Professor William D. Hartshorne instituted the game at Gettysburg by dropping a 3-1 decision to the "Catonsville Amateurs." A few days later Hartshorne's booters repelled a visiting Bucknell team 3-0 for Gettysburg's first intercollegiate success in the sport. By the following year Bullet soccerites had learned enough to turn in a 5-1-1 season.⁴⁷

Wrestling, a sport later to loom large on the Gettysburg scene, had its beginnings in intramural activity in 1929 when Captain McReynolds supervised elimination bouts leading to a college championship. The *Gettysburgian* of March 7 praised McReynolds "for the unflinching devotion he has given to the organization and development of this new interest on our campus," and it added that he hoped to form an intercollegiate squad for the 1930 season. In January 1930, a Bullet team invaded the Waynesburg College gymnasium, and although it lost this initial meet 23-8, Austin McCarty and Don Stoner pinned their opponents. The following year on the home mats Gettysburg held the Waynesburg grapplers to an 18-18 tie with McCarty, Stoner, Francis Koontz, and William Karns winning their individual bouts.

The swimming pool housed in Weiden-sall Hall induced the *Gettysburgian* as early as January 16, 1924 to call for formation of a varsity swimming team. Not until De-

cember 1929, however, did intercollegiate swimmers splash their way back and forth in this new facility. The first venture was less than successful for the Bullets when a strong Mercersburg Academy team appeared and outswam the inexperienced Gettysburgians by a 51-15 score. On March 26, 1931, the *Gettysburgian* reported that the Bullets had helped Dickinson open that college's pool to intercollegiate swimming and had, with becoming courtesy, surrendered 48-18 to the Red and White. In four other dual meets that year Gettysburg also went down to defeat.

For some reason, lacrosse never caught the fancy of Gettysburg students in the 1920s although Bill Wood, the head football coach, had starred in the game as an undergraduate at Penn State. Brief consideration was given to boxing as an intercollegiate sport but the idea was not pursued very far. "The discolored eyes and bruised countenances which have been noticed on the campus the past few days," explained the *Gettysburgian* of January 11, 1928, "announce the fact that the boxing gloves finally arrived." Whatever attraction the boxing ring held, this is as far as the sport ever got at Gettysburg.

One additional step taken strengthened the College's athletic program. Heretofore, physical training for Gettysburg students, other than the varsity athletes, was a haphazard business. In 1919, the faculty had endeavored to take advantage of the presence of R.O.T.C. personnel by requiring physical training of all freshmen, but in 1923 the trustees decreed that such be discontinued "until proper arrangements shall be made for conducting the work."⁴⁸

The construction of Plank Gymnasium provided improved facilities, and on June 7, 1927, the trustees created a Professorship of Physical Education and elected Clayton E. Bilheimer to the post. The *Gettysburgian* of June 8 explained that Bilheimer "will directly supervise all athletic life of the college and coordinate all athletic activities," including arranging of such sport schedules "as will be worthy of Gettysburg in keeping with its athletic program." Thus, with the growing program now under one administrator, a sense of organization and cohesion was possible, greater than that which had been characteristic of Gettysburg's intercollegiate sports efforts of earlier years.

The Depression Decade, 1932-1942

The collapse of the stock market in 1929 and the economic depression which followed slowed down almost every aspect of American life. On college campuses enrollments dropped, endowments failed to provide the income they formerly had provided, building construction came to a virtual halt, and the problem became not so much achieving growth but holding on to what already existed. Interest in sports continued high, perhaps a welcome diversion in those troubled times; yet athletic programs could not remain untouched.⁴⁹

At Gettysburg the great need became not so much the recruiting of athletes but of students. It was evident that filling the seats of Glatfelter Hall classrooms throughout the year had become as important as filling the seats of Memorial Field each Saturday afternoon in the fall. Gettysburg Academy fell victim to the times, and at the close of the 1934-1935 academic year the trustees closed its doors. With its two buildings, Huber and Stevens Halls, now available, the trustees welcomed back to the campus the women students they had so cavalierly dismissed a few years earlier.

The spring sports programs were the first to feel the economic pinch. On December 8, 1931, the trustees considered a report from the Athletic Council to the effect that unless an additional \$1500 were made available it would be necessary to cancel the 1932 schedules for baseball, track, and other spring sports. The Council assured the trustees that it had slashed its current budget over \$4,000 and pledged itself "firmly resolved to avoid future deficits as far as possible." But it also advised that "it would be a mistaken policy to eliminate the spring sports so drastically during the Centennial year."

The trustees responded by authorizing the use of \$1500 "out of funds coming from athletic fees in the second semester." Despite this shot in the arm the pestiferous financial problems persisted. On December 6, 1932, the Council informed the trustees that dropping Bucknell from the 1932 football schedule had cost \$2,000 in income and that the total revenue from football was \$3,000 less than had been anticipated. "Since there is no desire . . . to exploit the members of the football team for the sole purpose of gate receipts," the Council explained, "we have not scheduled

⁴⁷As was the case with cross-country, the 1932 *Spectrum* made no mention of a soccer schedule. But the *Gettysburgian* of November 13 and December 4, 1930 reported that Gettysburg had scored successive 2-0 victories over Dickinson in each of two contests that fall. Dickinson's 1932 *Microcosm* also carried these scores.

⁴⁸Faculty minutes, January 30, 1919 and trustee minutes, June 13, 1923.

⁴⁹For the impact of the depression on intercollegiate athletics see Dixon Wecter, *The Age of the Great Depression* (New York, 1948), p. 220.

money games." At their meeting of June 6, 1933, the trustees voted a grant of \$1,100 to the Council to forestall elimination of the position of assistant football coach in the coming fall season and cancellation of the baseball program for the following spring.

Some additional revenue was realized when the trustees increased the yearly student athletic fee from \$10 to \$15 beginning in 1935-1936 and a year later fixed it at \$20 a year for each student. Financial shortages continued, however, and on June 3, 1939 the trustees adopted as a permanent policy a grant of \$2,000 a year as a means of maintaining intercollegiate athletics at the College.

The trustee grants not only insured continuance of athletic programs already in existence but permitted others to be added. By 1932, according to the *Gettysburgian* of May 18, the Athletic Council had set new rules for awarding the varsity "G" in seven sports—football, soccer, basketball, wrestling, baseball, track, and tennis. Swimming was added to the list in 1935 and two years later a varsity golf team began competition. The 1943 *Spectrum* reported fencing in its second year with Professor William Sundermeyer in charge of the swordsmen.

Also reflecting the expanding athletic program were the eleven coaches of varsity teams listed by the 1940 *Spectrum*. Hen Bream coached the football team with the help of Harold "Pete" Beeson who also coached the wrestling and track squads. Charles R. "Hips" Wolfe, assisted by Robert Sassaman, had charge of the freshman footballers while Charley Gelbert coached a junior varsity eleven and served as scout for the varsity.⁵⁰ William D. Hartshorne guided the soccer eleven; Ira Plank, dean of the coaching staff, remained at the helm of the baseball nines; John G. Glenn tutored the tennis team; George S. Warthen instructed the golfers; Musser White, an alumnus and now a seminarian, led the swimmers; and, reported the *Spectrum*, Earl E. Ziegler "now teaches the co-eds what athletics is all about."⁵¹ This was a far cry from those earlier days when one or two men coached everything—or in many cases the student athletes coached themselves.

On the whole these coaches did a commendable job. If winning teams could help

their followers forget for a while the economic difficulties of the 1930s, supporters of the Bullets had much going for them. Over the period the nine varsity teams fared as follows:

TEAM	W.	L.	T.	Pct.
Basketball	127	53	0	.705
Wrestling	40	24	0	.625
Football	50	33	5	.602
Baseball	73	56	0	.565
Soccer	40	40	8	.500
Tennis	45	55	1	.450
Golf	10	13	2	.434
Track	14	19	0	.424
Swimming	7	29	0	.194
Totals	406	322	16	.550

In each of the sports the athletes recorded at least one outstanding season. Even the swimmers splashed their way to an undefeated season in 1935, winning both of their dual meets. By all odds, however, the most impressive mark was set by the 1939 basketball team with its 17 wins in 19 contests. Both the wrestling and track teams enjoyed 6-0-0 years, the former in 1939 and the latter in 1941. The best soccer campaign came in 1940 when the team posted a 7-2-1 winning mark. Twice the baseball team won seven of nine outings, the first in 1935 and the second in 1942.⁵²

For all the stress on football, the best Hen Bream's gridders could do in any one season was to win six of eight games, a feat they accomplished in both the 1934 and 1938 seasons. Indeed, since intercollegiate football began on the campus in 1890, the Orange and Blue has never had an undefeated football eleven. One may interpret this as one wishes, but it would appear that whatever sins are laid at the door of the College's athletic program, football overemphasis is not one of them. In fact, an article appearing in the *American Mercury* in November 1936 listed Gettysburg's football team among the minority that were strictly "Amateur."⁵³

It appears also that Gettysburg athletes received grades which compared well with their non-varsity classmates. On May 23, 1935, the *Gettysburgian* published the re-

sults of a survey which reported that varsity athletes had achieved a combined academic average of 1.485, appreciably better than the student body's 1.432 record. The student weekly also noted that three varsity letter-winners had attained a 3.0 average.

"Of collegiate sports," writes a historian of the 1930s, "football in particular displayed a new sobriety."⁵⁴ Compared to the football fever raging on some campuses, a degree of sobriety had long characterized Gettysburg football and the 1930s brought no change. This does not mean that the Bullet teams failed to be competitive. As noted earlier, in the seventeen years of the E.C.A.C.⁵⁵ they won five championships outright, shared the title three times, and usually were in contention to the end of each season. Second only to Gettysburg in winning conference laurels was F. & M., followed by Ursinus, Muhlenberg, and Dickinson in that order. The Dickinsonians failed to win a single conference championship and in May 1934 threatened to withdraw unless assured by the other members that they had not violated a rule, namely, that no college have more than fifteen football players receiving scholarships exceeding \$100 each.⁵⁶

Had questions arisen as to the health of Gettysburg's athletic program, President Hanson would have been ready with reassurances. "Wide observation," he told the trustees at their meeting on June 1, 1940, "has convinced me that Gettysburg College has the soundest athletic policies of which I know." He added that "I find our policies are heartily commended throughout the country." And yet, the question raised by the unhappy Dickinsonians indicates that the issue of athletic scholarships had not been completely resolved. On the Gettysburg campus such grants contributed to the recurring annual deficits in the operations of the athletic program. At a meeting of the trustees on May 31, 1941, Harry H. Beidleman, trustee representative on the Athletic Council, recommended creation of an ad hoc committee to study the

⁵²During the 1939-1940 seasons Gettysburgians found the "grand-slam" gained over Bucknell a reason for gratification. The football eleven won 6-0; the basketball quintet won twice, 33-32 and 35-30; the baseball nine triumphed 8-4; and the tennis team broke a 16-match losing streak by conquering the Bison netmen by a 7-2 score.

⁵³John R. Tunis, "More Pay for College Football Stars," *American Mercury* (November 1936), 267-272. Tunis' criteria for an "Amateur" athletic program were: buy no athletes, employ no high powered professional coach, and do not attempt to underwrite a huge stadium. Among those colleges with which Gettysburg had athletic relations Tunis classed Bucknell as "Professional," Lafayette as "Semi-Pro," and Lehigh, Haverford, and Ursinus as "Amateurs." Neither F. & M. nor Dickinson was listed by Tunis.

⁵⁴Wecter, p. 220.

⁵⁵Unlike such athletic conferences as the Big Ten and later the Ivy League, membership in the E.C.A.C. was not the same for all sports. As the *Gettysburgian* pointed out on February 9, 1939, "the basketball and football leagues operate as separate and distinct organizations and are in no way affiliated with each other."

⁵⁶Apparently the required assurances were forthcoming, and the Red Devils continued conference competition until just prior to the 1937 season when Dickinson discontinued conference membership. From the standpoint of Dickinson followers this may have been a regrettable move since the Red and White eleven that year was one of that college's strongest and completed its season undefeated.

⁵⁰As a scout, Gelbert was if nothing, inventive. At a Dickinson home football game in 1937 he was detected taking films of the game and was promptly escorted from the field for this "unethical act." See Gobrecht, p. 218.

⁵¹Although women were readmitted as students in the fall of 1935, little or no effort was made to revive an intercollegiate sports program for them for some years.

matter. He argued that

The matter of subsidized athletics enters into the finances of the Athletic Council treasury, in fact into the financial structure of the college. The time has arrived when this matter of athletic scholarships should receive the attention of the Board of Trustees.

Members of the duly formed committee understood that athletic scholarships were but one of a number of drains on the Athletic Council treasury. At the trustees meeting of December 2, 1941, the committee reported that it had studied the programs in effect elsewhere and found that "in practically every instance, the College provides, not only for payment of all salaries of the coaches and assistants, but also for the cost of maintenance of the college property used by the Athletic Department." If a similar arrangement were instituted at Gettysburg "there would be no deficit in our Athletic Department," and the committee further asserted that "athletics as practiced at Gettysburg are a necessary part of our college program and should be recognized as such and made a Department of the College, the same as English, Biology, or any other Department." Adoption of this recommendation meant that hereafter the College would take direct charge of athletic program finances, including responsibility for liquidating the increasing debt.⁵⁷

Whatever financial troubles beset the Athletic Council they did not prevent Bullet footballers from providing many memorable moments on the gridiron. Two big plays were features of the 1932 season. Al Jones' 85-yard kickoff return opening the second half beat Ursinus by a 7-2 score. Johnny Howard's pass to Clair "Bud" Eden, covering 50 yards in all, enabled the Breamites to tie F. & M. in a 6-6 game. The following season P. W. "Red" Griffiths, Dickinson's head football coach in 1930 and 1931, assisted Hen Bream as Gettysburg's line coach. He replaced Calvin "Haps" Frank who had rejoined the Dickinson staff for the 1933 season. Their respective reactions to Howard's 26-yard field goal against Dickinson which gave the Bullets a 10-7 win are matters for conjecture.

Some indication of the sustained interest in football is seen in the fact that in the fall of 1934 eighty-nine men turned out for the varsity, junior varsity, and freshmen squads. According to the *Gettysburgian* of

October 14, the freshmen team's weight average exceeded that of the varsity. As a matter of fact, Gettysburg football players appear to have been unusually light even for those days. The heaviest man on the 1936 squad was Paul Wolfgang at 186 pounds, and Dick Walker at 178 pounds played tackle for 479 of the 480 minutes of play in the eight games that year. Hen Bream remembers this 1936 team as the grittiest he ever coached at Gettysburg.

The Bullets did very well during the 1932, 1933, and 1934 seasons with 15 wins, 7 losses, and 2 ties. In the following three campaigns, they managed but 9 victories while losing 13 games and tying 2 opponents. During these three lean years Dickinson triumphed in every contest, the first time this had happened since the 1911, 1912, and 1913 seasons. Two of the three games with F. & M. went to the Diplomats.

In 1937 the Bullets invaded State College to take on the Nittany Lions. This marked the 29th such invasion and for the 29th time victory eluded the Orange and Blue grid-ders. Penn State's 32-6 victory closed out football competition between the two institutions. But the season had its successes. One of the team's three wins was a 19-6 conquest of Lehigh, the fifth victory in five years gained by the Bullets over the Engineers. One bright spot in the otherwise drab 1936 season was the 2-0 triumph over Lafayette at Easton, the first win ever recorded by a Gettysburg eleven over the Leopards.

The 1938 and 1939 seasons saw an almost complete reversal of form with Coach Bream's charges posting 12 wins against 4 losses and a tie. For the first time in two decades Gettysburg and F. & M. did not meet on Thanksgiving Day.⁵⁸ A jubilant Homecoming Day crowd in 1938 saw their favorites score a 16-8 win over the visiting Diplomats. Dickinson replaced F. & M. as the Turkey Day attraction that season and the Bullets feasted with a 14-0 victory. The 1938 Dickinson-Gettysburg game saw also the first awarding of the "Little Brown Buckket," a trophy provided by S. Walter Stauffer and George H. Hummel, Dickinson and Gettysburg grads respectively,⁵⁹ to the victor in this annual meeting. This symbol of

victory, plus arrangements for the Thanksgiving Day encounter, persuaded the *Gettysburgian* (November 23, 1938) that the rivalry between the two colleges "now even overshadows the traditional rivalry which exists between Gettysburg and Franklin and Marshall."

During the next four football seasons Gettysburgians had much to cheer about, and only on occasion did they experience the depression which follows defeat. In the 1939 opener a blocked Bucknell punt followed by Howie Shoemaker's dive across the Bison goal line gave Gettysburg a well-earned 6-0 victory. Johnny Yovicsin blocked an F. & M. field goal try and saved a 21-21 tie with the Diplomats. Helped by Peter "Reds" Bender's 101-yard touchdown gallop, the longest in Pennsylvania that year, the Bullets closed out their season with a 49-7 win over the Dickinson Red Devils.⁶⁰

Not so pleasant was the F. & M. 24-0 victory on Memorial Field in 1940, where a Homecoming crowd, including ten surviving members of the 1890 team, squirmed as the unbeaten Diplomats scored three second-half touchdowns. Bucknell won 20-7, but at Hershey Stadium the Bullets closed out their season with a 26-7 win over Dickinson.

The 1941 team lost twice (to Lafayette and Muhlenberg), but it succeeded in conquering all three of its bitterest rivals. Joe Powers took the opening kickoff at Lancaster and returned it 92 yards for a touchdown, the most thrilling play in Gettysburg's 22-7 win over F. & M. Two long passes thrown by Jim Hardy, the first to Tony Yovicsin and the second to Albert "Moe" Murtorff, toppled Bucknell's Bisons 12-0 at Lewisburg. Against Dickinson, the Bullets scored four touchdowns in one five-minute span on their way to a 31-17 victory.

On four occasions during the 1942 season either superb running or sloppy tackling produced long runs for touchdowns. Against Bucknell, Charles "Chuck" Beaver took the second-half kickoff and handed the ball to Joe Powers who was not stopped before he crossed the Bison goal line 70 yards distant. Three plays later, Bucknell's "Red" Johnson knifed through the Bullet line and galloped 55 yards to score. A successful extra-point try gave the Bucknellians a 7-6 victory. Beaver returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown against Dickinson and seconds later Dickinson's Jim Prescott duplicated this feat against the

⁵⁸As early as October 22, 1936, the *Gettysburgian* reported that "alumni, townspeople, and the local newspaper" were urging that this game be played in alternate years on Memorial Field. It added that F. & M. officials refused to schedule away games on Thanksgiving Day. The solution reached was to stage the Bullet-Diplomat gridiron confrontations in mid-season on a home-and-home basis.

⁵⁹Messrs. Stauffer and Hummel also sponsored a pre-game luncheon in York which was, as the *Gettysburgian* of October 27 reported, "for the betterment of Gettysburg-Dickinson athletic relations."

⁶⁰Hen Bream told a *Gettysburgian* reporter (October 16, 1941) that this 1939 eleven and that of 1938 were the two strongest he had coached at Gettysburg to that time.

⁵⁷A sub-committee, headed by Judge Hiram Keller, has been assigned the task of studying and reporting on athletic scholarship policies. In subsequent meetings of the trustees Judge Keller asked for more time to study the matter and later the trustees minutes state simply, "no report at this time." The inference is that the trustees had concluded that the athletic program could not function as desired without athletic scholarships.



Fred Hamilton scoring against Franklin and Marshall in 1938

Bullets. Gettysburg proved the better offensive team that day, rolling up a 45-20 triumph.

Intercollegiate soccer was born at Gettysburg with the 1930s. After a first tentative venture in 1929, the Bullets booted their way to a 5-1-1 record in 1930. But the promise held out by this more than respectable start failed to be realized. In 1931 only two of seven games went into the winning column. The winless 1932 squad dropped all six of its contests, described by the 1934 *Spectrum* as "very close." Bill Hartshorne's coaching bore fruit during the next two seasons when his teams were successful more times than not. The yearly records support the *Gettysburgian's* observation that the 1933 season (5-2-0) was "the most successful . . . since the inauguration of the sport here several years ago." The combined record for 1933-1934 was nine wins with but four losses.

In 1935 Gettysburg competed in the newly formed Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Soccer League. Wins over both Ursinus and F. & M. and a 1-1 tie with Dickinson gave the Bullets the first league championship. A year later Hartshorne's lads gained their second league title, and Edmund Lerch's 14 goals that season made him the Eastern leader. With Louis Mizell he was named to the All-Conference team. In both 1937 and 1938 the Gettysburg soccer-men could not win for losing with a two-year record of 4-12-3. Both seasons produced, in the words of the 1940 *Spectrum*, "many heart breaking losses [which] caused Coach Bill Hartshorne no end of gray hairs."

Hartshorne's graying process was suspended for the two following years. With Fred and Howard Mizell doing most of the scoring, the Orange and Blue boosters achieved a 6-4-1 season in 1939. In 1940



"Howie" Shoemaker bedeviling the Dickinson Red Devils in 1939.

Hartshorne was absent on leave from the campus, and the coaching chores were turned over to Henry Springer. Under their new coach, Gettysburg's soccer eleven turned in a 7-2-1 season, by all odds the best to date. Bill Muhlenberg was named to the All-East team, and the Mizell brothers, Ken Spangler, and Jerry Miller got honorable mention.

The infantile paralysis scare which had delayed the opening of the 1941 football season also shortened the soccer schedule that fall. Competing in a reorganized soccer league, which included teams from Maryland, Western Maryland, Delaware, Johns Hopkins, and Gettysburg, the Bullets could win but two of seven contests. By 1942 wartime problems had arisen, but the team managed to win three games, lose but two, and tie one. Altogether, from 1931 through 1942, Bullet soccer teams had ventured forth on 105 occasions, achieved victory in 39 of them, trailed in 57, and seven encounters had ended in a deadlock.

The admirable winning record of Hen Bream's football elevens during the 1930s was more than matched by his basketball quintets. In ten of eleven seasons (1932-1942), the Bullet cagers won more games than they lost. Only in 1941 was this record broken, and even in that year the team broke even. Perhaps one secret of the teams' success was their coach's careful attention to defense. In those days, when the size of playing floors, lighting, and other environmental conditions varied so greatly, visiting teams always were handicapped. Believing that unfamiliar surroundings hampered offensive play most, Bream drilled his charges on defense. This may be as good an explanation as any for the fact that in eleven years Gettysburg's basketball teams won 127 games and tasted defeat but 53 times.

The success of the teams and their style

of basketball drew the fans. Often the 1250 seats in Eddie Plank Gymnasium were filled long before game time, and every available square foot was occupied by spectators. At times Bream had to order no more tickets sold and the doors closed because the crowds intruded on the floor and interfered with the play.

The 1932 season saw Gettysburg winning the first championship of the newly organized Eastern Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Basketball Conference. None of the other conference members—F. & M., Lebanon Valley, Albright, Drexel, Ursinus, and Muhlenberg—matched the 10-2 conference record of the high-flying Bullets. The 1933 quintet matched the conference record of the previous year and copped a second straight title. Ten conference wins and a lone setback in 1934 brought a third straight conference title. The overall 14-2 record was satisfying enough but even more so was the first double win over Dickinson since the 1912 season. By the close of the 1935 season winning conference laurels had become almost habitual. George MacMillan captained the team, and Jack Fish led the scoring as the Bullets dropped but one of their dozen conference games and won 14 of 17 overall.⁶¹ Both MacMillan and Larry Morris were named to the All-Conference first team.

Gettysburg's monopoly of league honors could not continue and in 1936 the Bullets slipped to a 9-3 conference record, relinquishing the championship to F. & M. The Diplomats won both games with Gettysburg, and their 37-32 victory on the Plank Gymnasium floor snapped the Orange and

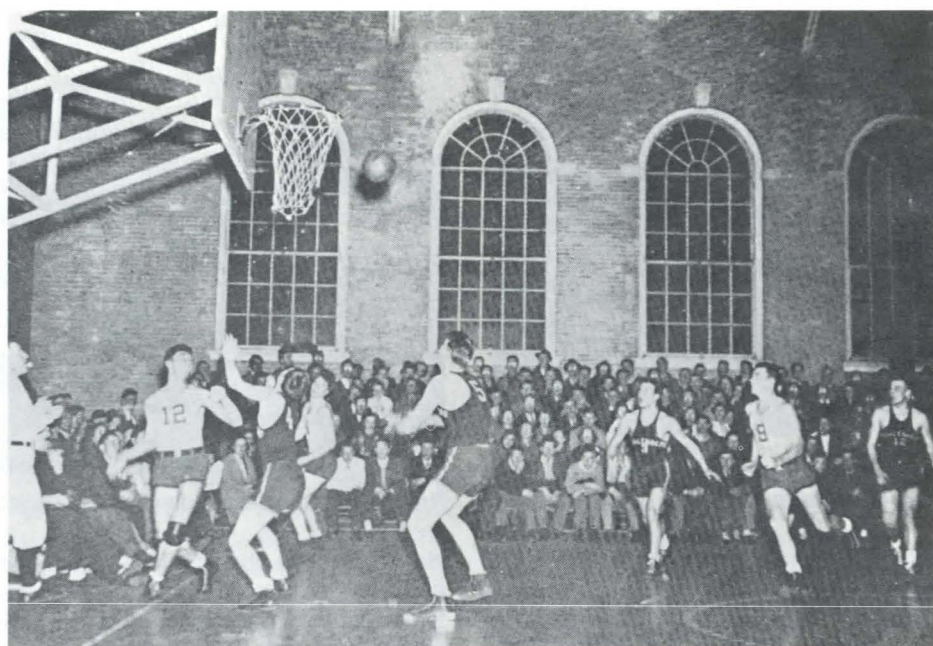
⁶¹The author can testify from personal experience as to the skill and finesse of the 1935 Bullet quintet. As a member of a better-than-ordinary Shippensburg team he and his mates absorbed a 39-31 defeat on the Plank Gymnasium floor in the opening game for both schools that year.

Blue's 35-game home court winning streak. For the second successive year Larry Morris made the All-Conference team at guard, and the overall season record was 11 wins in 17 games.

Only two of seventeen games were lost by the 1937 aggregation, but both were to conference foes, Lebanon Valley and F. & M. Although the championship had again eluded Bream's basketballers, they had the satisfaction of handing F. & M. a 35-32 defeat at Lancaster. The Diplomats had been undefeated in conference competition until that game. Two last second victories highlighted the season. At Annapolis, Tom Weems caged a field goal to beat Navy 26-24 and at Allentown, Bob Yevak tossed a shot over his shoulder as the game-ending buzzer sounded to provide the Bullets with a 32-31 triumph over Muhlenberg.

Yevak captained the 1938 team and its 10-2 record against conference foes returned the championship to Gettysburg. Thirteen games were in the victory column, and one of the five defeats came at the hands of Southern Methodist University, a 31-28 loss in a game which inaugurated basketball at the new Hershey Sports Arena. Three members of the team made the All-Conference Five—Harry O'Neill at center and Yevak and Weems at guards.⁶²

Hen Bream remembers the 1939 Gettysburg five as perhaps the best he ever coached. Harry O'Neill at 6' 2" was the tallest man, and the other starters (Johnny Yovicsin, Tom Weems, Ken "Ace" Bommer, and Fred Hamilton) averaged six feet in height. Early in the season the Bullets invaded Annapolis to hand Navy a 37-33 defeat and conquered Penn in the Palestra 47-39. Unexpected, therefore, was the upset handed them at Reading when Albright won 38-36, and the second of the season's two losses came in New York when the New York University five toppled a weary Gettysburg team 44-36.⁶³ If the *Gettysburgian* is to be believed, 2,000 fans packed Eddie Plank Gymnasium at season's end to see Gettysburg triumph over F. & M. 35-31 and win the Bullets' fifth conference championship.



Basketball action in Plank gym—1938

Bucknell competed as a member of the conference in 1940; and although the Bullets conquered the Bisons twice, they could do no better than split even in ten conference games. The six straight wins which opened the season when added to the nine successive victories at the end of the previous campaign gave the Gettysburg cagers a fifteen-game winning streak, unmatched before or since. In 1941 Gettysburg failed for the first time since 1931 to win more basketball games than were lost, although the season's record was nine wins and nine defeats. For the first time the Bullets finished lower than second in the conference, a "disastrous" season according to the 1942 *Spectrum*. But the 1941 freshman five finished its 12-game schedule undefeated. Four members of that team were starters on the 1942 team—Cal Welliver, Vince Parnell, George Dracha, and Morris Pearson. They led Gettysburg to a 15-5 won-lost record in 1942 but lost four conference games, and once more a Bream quintet had to settle for a third place.

With the completion of this last prewar season (prewar in that as yet the College had not felt the full impact of the war) the record of 127 wins and 53 losses in the eleven campaigns was impressive. Even more impressive was the overall conference record of 95 wins against 31 losses.

Gettysburg's intercollegiate baseball nines continued their winning habits during the 1930s. Under the leadership of Coach Ira Plank during the eleven seasons (1932-1942), 73 games were won, 56 lost, and there was a lone tie in 1932 against

Dickinson. Only the 1932, 1939, and 1940 seasons were losing ones, and in 1938 the team divided its 12-game schedule. The most unsuccessful campaign was that of 1939 when the Plankmen could triumph in but three of eleven contests.

Early in the decade the baseball program faced the threat posed by economic stringencies. On April 7, 1932, the *Gettysburgian* reported that "interest in baseball in colleges has waned so much that many schools have discontinued baseball as a sport." According to the paper, F. & M. was dropping intercollegiate baseball and would henceforth concentrate on intramural sports in the spring.⁶⁴ As has been noted, baseball at Gettysburg was saved by action of the trustees.

What the 1934 *Spectrum* called "distressing weakness" in hitting and pitching plagued the 1932 nine. The yearbook reported that "Coach Plank had a terrible time keeping a man on the mound," an observation supported by the performance of the mound corps in losses to Juniata (18-0), Villanova (20-6), and Penn (13-11). The 1933 season saw Gettysburg, as a member of the reorganized Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Baseball Conference, competing against Albright, F. & M., Drexel, Bucknell, Lebanon Valley, Juniata, and Ursinus. Although the Bullets had a 9-4 record for the season, they were able to win but

⁶²In the F. & M. Gettysburg freshman basketball game in 1938, the Diplomat first year men won 40-25 and were led by Bob Davies who later served as the Gettysburg basketball coach in 1956 and 1957.

⁶³Hen Bream blamed himself for the N.Y.U. loss. The night before the team had gained a hard earned win over Lehigh at Bethlehem and the next morning had caught an early train for New York. Since most of the lads had never seen the great metropolis before, Bream permitted them to spend the afternoon in sight-seeing. The game that night ended 21-21 at the half but in the second twenty minutes the Bullets simply ran out of gas.

⁶⁴Nevertheless, F. & M. was listed in 1933 as a member of a new intercollegiate baseball conference. At all events, Gettysburg and F. & M. did not meet on the baseball diamond from 1930 until the postwar season of 1946.

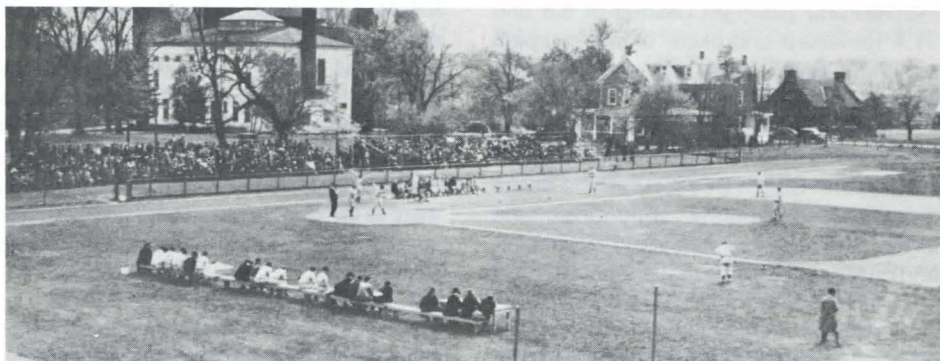
two of five conference games and finished fifth. Plank's 1934 team opened the season with four successive victories, including a 12-5 win over Navy in a game in which the Gettysburgians scored seven runs in the first inning. In conference play three games were won and three lost.

Rain cut short the 1935 season for one of Coach Plank's better teams. The Bullets conquered Navy, Penn State, and Army and won three of four conference games to end up as co-champions. Much of the success for the 7-2 winning record was credited to the pitching arm of Stewart C. "Doc" Bowers, sophomore ace. At season's end Bowers signed with the Boston Red Sox and pitched in eleven games for the major leaguers that summer.⁶⁵

The 1936 baseball season was one which Gettysburg diamond followers like to remember. Not only did the team win 11 of 16 games, but it also opened the season with an extra-inning victory over Penn State. Joe Daugherty's three-run homer in the tenth earned the Bullets a 7-4 win in that game, and it was followed by six more conquests before Dickinson stopped Gettysburg's winning streak with an 8-2 win. Against Muhlenberg Joe Deardorff realized every pitcher's dream, a no-hitter, for a 2-0 victory. Coach Plank declared at the time that this gave him "the biggest thrill he has experienced in the past twenty years." Five league wins without a defeat gave Gettysburg undisputed possession of the conference championship.

Plank's 1937 nine presented him with another conference championship, a fitting present for his twenty-fifth year as Gettysburg's baseball tutor. Penn State again was toppled and the team completed its season with eight wins and four losses. In 1938 two league losses in five games dropped the Plankmen into third place, and the team could do no better than divide its 12-game schedule. But for the fourth year in a row Bullet diamond athletes took the measure of Penn State with a 5-4 victory.

The low point in Gettysburg baseball fortunes during the 1930s was reached in 1939 when the team could win but three of eleven games. In an effort to find a winning combination, Coach Plank experimented with the lineup but to no avail. The 1940 season with four wins and nine losses and an unusually large number of rainouts was almost a carbon copy of that of 1939. Rain-



Baseball on Memorial Field—1940

outs cost the 1940 nine any chance for a conference title.

The Bullets won eight of fifteen games in 1941, and their five victories against a single setback in conference competition brought them another title. Erratic performance characterized the first part of the schedule with embarrassing losses to Penn State (21-1) and Lafayette (17-2). Then, putting it all together, the team downed Temple (11-3), Juniata (11-1), and Western Maryland (13-2). Ralph Cox pitched well enough to share the Beachem Award with Roger Smith of the football team.⁶⁶

If pitching was the fatal weakness in 1939 and 1940, it was a source of strength to the 1942 squad. Seven victories were recorded in nine games, and among the wins were Ralph Cox' 11-0 shutout of Lehigh and Russ Aungst's blanking of both Lafayette (3-0) and Dickinson (8-0).⁶⁷ Even the hitters caught the spirit on occasion as their eleven tallies against Lehigh, the 12-3 win over Muhlenberg, and the 14-3 clobbering of Swarthmore bear witness. The spring of 1942 saw Bullet baseball for the decade ending on a bright note.

Competitive as they were in the 1932-1942 period, Bullet track teams were hardly outstanding. The 1941 squad, however, won all six dual meets that spring and took first place in the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Track Conference Meet.⁶⁸ Al-

together, the eleven seasons saw Gettysburg the victor in 14 of 33 dual meets with no meets tied. In addition to the first place finish in the conference in 1941, the Bullet trackmen came in second three times (1935, 1938, 1942); third in four years (1936, 1937, 1939, 1940), fell to fourth place twice (1933, 1934), and in 1932 finished fifth and last. Against the much stronger competition of the Middle Atlantic Meets the best the Orange and Blue could do was a second-place finish in 1942. Individual trackmen entered the Penn Relays, but only the mile relay team of 1942 brought home the gold medal awarded to the first place finishers.

Midway in the 1932 track season, Captain Wilbur McReynolds' R.O.T.C. assignment took him elsewhere, and the team was left in charge of Hen Bream and Horace Bender. During the next three years Bream added track to his football and basketball coaching duties largely because finances did not permit addition to the coaching staff. But in 1936 Austin McCarty '33, who had starred in track at Gettysburg, guided the team. From 1937 through the 1942 season Harold "Pete" Beeson coached the track teams to 12 wins and 9 losses in dual meets.

Few sports place as much weight on individual performance as does track. The Gettysburg track chronicle of 1932-1942 is, therefore, largely a story of individual accomplishments. Subpar performances characterized the track record of 1932, but in 1933 Dick Gifford set a new college record for the pole vault at 12' 4 1/2", and in 1934 James Brazel leaped 5' 9 3/8" to break not only the existing conference record but also the college mark set 19 years earlier by Thomas H. Nixon. College records continued to fall in 1937 when Ray Seyler covered the half-mile in 2:01.4 and John Deardorff tossed the discus 128' 11". The following year Johnny Yovicsin cleared the bar at 5' 11" to break Brazel's two-year-old high jump record. Although Howard Bosstock's times set during the 1915 season, in

⁶⁵In 1935, Bowers won one and lost two games for the Red Sox. He also appeared briefly on the mound in ten Boston games in 1936 and 1937 but was not the pitcher of record in any of them. See Turkin and Thompson, p. 83.

⁶⁶Beginning in 1938, this award was given in the name of Charles W. Beachem '25, popular alumni secretary, who died in February 1937. It was presented to that varsity athlete who by his senior year had demonstrated superior athletic ability, Christian influence, and superior scholarship. Robert Yevak '38 was the first recipient.

⁶⁷During the 1930s, Dickinson's baseball teams handled Gettysburg nines with relative ease. In 25 meetings the Red Devils won 17 and one game in 1932 ended in a tie score. When the Bullets upset Dickinson 7-4 earlier in the 1942 season it broke a nine-game Dickinson win streak in this rivalry.

⁶⁸During the years 1932 through 1935, Gettysburg competed as a member of the Central Pennsylvania Collegiate Track Conference against Dickinson, F. & M., Ursinus, and Muhlenberg. In 1936, Albright, Drexel, and Lebanon Valley joined and the conference became known as the Eastern Pennsylvania Collegiate Track Conference. Hereafter, reference to the "conference" embraces both organizations.

the 100 and 220-yard dashes of 9.8 and 21.4 remained unbroken, a fast-stepping freshman, Bill Everhart, equalled both during the 1940 season.

The 1941 track squad was the strongest representing Gettysburg during the 1932-1942 years. Coach Beeson had the assistance of Joe Peasely, seminarian and former University of Maryland track star, and they turned out the first unbeaten Bullet team since that of 1927. The six dual meets won without a defeat, the conference championship, and a fifth place tie with Lehigh in the Middle Atlantics made for an eminently successful season. In addition, three other college records were surpassed. Fred Geiter made a javelin toss of 186' 7" and put the shot 43' 9½". Bill Muhlenberg's 10:34 in the two-mile cut one second from the previous college mark.

More college records toppled in 1942. Joe Powers, Bill Everhart, Wayne Bucher, and George Motter formed a mile relay team which won the College Mile at the Penn Relays. They ran this race in 3:23.7, faster time than any previous Bullet quartet had achieved. Wayne Bucher put his name on the record books by legging the quarter mile in 49 seconds flat at the Middle Atlantics. The only record set in 1915 by the amazing Howard Bostock which remained unbroken or untied was his 23' 3½" leap in the broad jump. Joe Eisman tied the existing record of 15.6 in the 120-yard high hurdles, and Everhart again equalled Bostock's 100-yard dash mark.⁶⁹

Cross-country's struggle for survival in the 1930s was barely successful. Bullet harriers failed to record a single triumph either in dual or conference meets. Indicative of the weakness of the program was the fact that, although in November 1933 the conference meet took place over Gettysburg's course, the *Gettysburgian* of November 2 reported that "Gettysburg . . . will not be represented since there is no Orange and Blue cross-country team." A year later Ray Seyler constituted a one-man entry in the conference meet held at Ursinus. On his arrival in Collegeville he discovered that, contrary to his understanding, the race would be run over cobblestones and hard pavement. Discarding his spiked running shoes, he began the race with borrowed shoes. These so blistered his feet that he abandoned them and

finished barefooted to place fourteenth among the twenty entrants.

The fall of 1935 saw no Bullet cross-country team organized, but in 1936 a squad was put together and fared no better than its predecessors. The two dual meets held each year in 1936, 1937, and 1938 went to the opposition, and at that point the sport was abandoned until after the Second World War.

In its infancy at Gettysburg in 1932, intercollegiate wrestling attained championship form within the following decade. Captain McReynolds, who had introduced the sport in 1929, coached the varsity squad during the 1930, 1931, and 1932 seasons, and his three teams compiled a 3-4-1 dual meet record. In 1933 a member of the German department, Ernst O. Von Schwerdtner, took charge; and under his direction during four seasons the Bullet matmen's record in dual meets was 7-12-3. But in his final season as coach his team gained second place in the 1936 Middle Atlantic Tournament. Wrestling took a great leap forward with the arrival of Pete Beeson as coach. Beginning in 1937, the Beesonites achieved over a period of six seasons an enviable 30-9-2 record in dual competition and won two Middle Atlantic titles. In the process, Beeson turned out some outstanding collegiate grapplers.

As in track competition, individual performance counts heavily in wrestling. Gettysburg's outstanding wrestler in the early 1930s was Harvey Serfass. As a freshman in 1934 he scored falls in each of his first four bouts. His only losses that year were to an F. & M. grappler, and in the National Intercollegiate Meet at Lehigh he lost on time advantage to an Oklahoma A. & M. entrant. He remained undefeated in collegiate wrestling thereafter, and in both

1936 and 1937 took the 175-pound title at the Middle Atlantics.

From nearby Fayetteville came Horace and Samuel Besecker to pose problems for Gettysburg opponents. Horace won three straight Middle Atlantic titles at 128 pounds in 1937, 1938, and 1939, and his younger

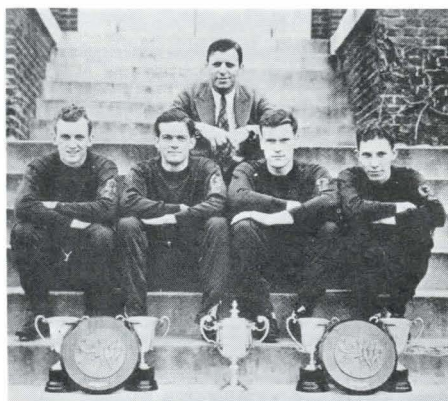


Harold "Pete" Beeson in 1942—wrestling mentor

brother, Samuel, went undefeated in 1940 and gained the 121-pound championship at the Middle Atlantics in both 1940 and 1941. Other conference champions during this period included Carl Yost and Al Sobelesky in 1936; Ellis McCracken in 1937; Charles Sacavage and Ted Norley in 1938; Bob Reiter and Irwin "Muck" Zimmerman in 1940; and Frank McLaughlin and Henry Schwartz in 1942. In the 1942 meet Schwartz was voted the outstanding wrestler of the meet.

Given the outstanding success of the Bullet grapplers, it is not hard to see why wrestling quickly gained a hold on the affections of Gettysburg students. By 1938, according to the *Gettysburgian* of October 6, the Athletic Council recognized wrestling as a major sport, and it has maintained its popularity since that time.

In the 1930s intercollegiate tennis began on a low note, hit a higher pitch midway in the decade, and fell back to a low register in the last prewar season. The 1934 *Spectrum* blamed the "very disappointing record" of the 1932 tennis squad, captained by Jim Livingood, on "the inexperience of its members in actual intercollegiate competition." But no improvement was realized in 1933 and little better performance characterized the 1934 and 1935 net squads. Coach John Glenn succeeded in putting together a winning team in 1936, and its seven victories in twelve matches proved so pleasant an experience that each of the next four Bullet net squads also won more matches than they lost. This period of prosperity did not last past the 1940 seasons, and in both 1941 and 1942 the Gettysburgians fell back upon losing



1942 mile relay team, Penn Relay champions: seated, left to right, Wayne Bucher, Bill Everhart, Joe Powers, George Motter. Seated behind, Coach Pete Beeson.

⁶⁹Everhart reportedly ran a 9.7 100-yard dash race the previous year but no mention of it was made earlier. Likely he recorded that time in a practice session. See the *Gettysburg College Bulletin* (May 1942), p. 8. Bostock's 23' 3½" in the broad jump still stands after 60 years as the college record for that event.

ways.⁷⁰ There were, however, a few outstanding players. Clinton Hendrickson, a former Long Island interscholastic tennis champion, was the most effective contestant and consistent winner.

"The newest team on the campus is swimming," proclaimed the 1937 *Spectrum*. The yearbook explained that "being organized late in the season, the team had but two meets, both with Dickinson." Led by Fred "Tug" Strong, not only the strongest swimmer but the acting coach, the 1935 squad won both times over Dickinson. Uel Dibble, instructor in biology, coached the team in 1936 to one triumph in four dual meets, and the following year Dr. Frank Wilson of the mathematics department put together a squad which divided its two contests with the Dickinson swimmers. In 1938 the Athletic Council voted resumption of swimming as a minor sport. Coached by an alumnus, Musser White, Gettysburg's mermen engaged in nine meets during the 1938 and 1939 seasons but were successful in winning only one of them.

The *Gettysburgian* of October 10, 1940 announced that John Miller, who was developing strong swimming squads at Mercersburg Academy, would also take charge of the Bullet swimmers. Miller faced the task of reviving student interest in a struggling program, and in 1941 the Athletic Council promised sweaters to team members on the basis of points earned "for attending practice, competing in meets, and [points] earned in meets." The *Spectrum* was unable to list any recipients of these sweaters. Altogether, the three squads of 1941, 1942, and 1943 were able to outswim their rivals in but two of a total of fifteen engagements.

"For the first time in the history of the college," reported the 1939 *Spectrum*, "Gettysburg had a golf team among the students and among the divot-digging professors."⁷¹ Coached by Professor George Warthen, this first varsity golf team in 1937 divided its two matches with Dickinson. In 1938 Gettysburg defeated Dickinson in one encounter and tied the other. According to the 1940 *Spectrum* a growing interest "caused action to be taken to elevate golf to a minor sport at Gettysburg," and two years

later the 1942 *Spectrum* could observe that "golf has become more and more successful as a college sport." The 1940 schedule had been expanded to include matches with Haverford and Johns Hopkins, as well as with Dickinson and Western Maryland. Against these four colleges, the Bullets over a six-year period won ten matches, lost thirteen, and tied two.

Gettysburg's athletic program in the 1930s had not only survived economic vicissitudes of the depression years but had also added a number of varsity teams, competed successfully against rivals, and retained student interest. As the 1936 *Spectrum* declared, "Gettysburg may well be proud" of the fact that although "she is not a school which desires athletic notoriety, yet she has shown up favorably among the schools of her size and is prominent in the conferences of which she is a member."

War and Reconversion, 1942-1952

Gettysburg's intercollegiate sports program had just begun to recover from the Great Depression when it was hit by the exigencies of the Second World War. An early indication of what was in store came in January 1942 when Naval Academy officials limited admission at the Plebes-Gettysburg freshman basketball game to players, coaches, managers, and referees. But it was anticipated transportation difficulties, rather than national security considerations, that led the Athletic Council in February to cancel the spring baseball schedule, a decision it later modified. The clearest indication of the war's impact is seen in columns of two separate issues of the *Gettysburgian*. On May 14, 1942, the paper reported seasonal records for nine varsity teams—football, soccer, basketball, wrestling, swimming, baseball, track, tennis, and golf. The following spring the issue of March 21, 1943 listed but four seasonal records—football, basketball, soccer, and wrestling. Of these, only basketball continued through the war years and it did so on a limited basis.

A faculty decision to end the school year early in the spring of 1943 curtailed the year's sports schedules.⁷² According to the

Gettysburgian of February 26, this also meant cancellation of spring football drills. On the following December 1, Harry H. Beidleman, trustee representative on the Athletic Council, told the trustees that transportation difficulties forced a reduction in the College's sports program. Overnight trips were ruled out by the Council, and contests away from home would be arranged only with those colleges "which can be reached with least amount of effort." He added that the Council had suspended all spring sports for the duration, but he assured the trustees that "the Athletic Council has also decided to carry on our athletic program as war conditions and finances permit."

Gettysburg's relatively rural setting placed a greater burden on the conduct of intercollegiate athletics than that faced by schools in more urban areas. No campus, however, remained unaffected. In March 1942, officials of the Eastern Pennsylvania Basketball Conference decided to suspend conference competition for the duration, and football conference officials, in permitting football competition for the following fall, opened varsity games to freshmen players.

For the first time since 1890 Gettysburg College in 1943 did not have a football team. In this the College joined 350 other institutions that suspended intercollegiate football "for the duration." The less expensive demands for basketball, however, and the less need for manpower allowed that activity to continue. With two former Hazelton High School stars, Vince Parnell and Cal Welliver, still available, the 1943 Bullet quintet won nine of seventeen games. Among the college fives met were those of Muhlenberg, Lebanon Valley, F. & M., Villanova, Western Maryland, Dickinson, St. Joseph's and Bucknell. The Gettysburg record against collegiate foes was seven wins and six losses. In addition to the basketball campaign, an abbreviated wrestling schedule saw Coach Pete Beeson's matmen defeat Haverford and lose to Temple and Lafayette. At season's end the wrestlers managed to gain a third place in the Middle Atlantic tournament.

A feeble effort to revive track in the spring of 1943 came to naught. The *Gettysburgian* of April 8 reported that Gettysburg had turned down an invitation to compete in a triangular meet with Lehigh and Albright "because of lack of interest on the part of students." The October 1943 issue of the *Gettysburg College Bulletin*, reviewing the intercollegiate athletic picture on the campus, concluded that

Although there seems to be little hope of maintaining any large intercollegiate sports

⁷⁰Because of ill-health Coach Glenn gave up tennis coaching just prior to the 1941 season. He was succeeded by Robert H. Fischer '39 for the 1941 and 1942 seasons.

⁷¹For several years a "divot-digging" faculty golf team turned out with the students to compete against faculty teams from Dickinson and Western Maryland. The Gettysburg faculty linksmen included Dean Wilbur Tilberg and Professors George Warthen, John Glenn, Hen Bream, and William Hartshorne.

⁷²On February 4, 1943 the faculty voted to terminate classroom work by April 22 with the Baccalaureate and Commencement services taking place on April 25 and 26 respectively. Beginning with February 8, each class session was increased from 50 to 60 minutes.

program at Gettysburg this year [1943-1944], the Athletic Council is now studying the situation closely and will announce its policy in the near future, C. E. Bilheimer has announced.

Pointing to the fact that there are less than one hundred civilian men in school this year, Bilheimer indicated that it would be extremely difficult to find material for a creditable team in any sport.

Many of the schools . . . such as Franklin and Marshall and Muhlenberg, have Navy V-12 programs and are able to use service men on their teams. Since Army Air Cadets [at Gettysburg] cannot compete in intercollegiate activities, Gettysburg would not be able to meet these schools on an even basis.

Bilheimer noted that other schools also had army programs—Dickinson, Lafayette, and Albright, for example—but that at present “most of the efforts of the Athletic Department at Gettysburg are being directed toward putting the air cadets in top physical condition.”

One by-product of this policy at Gettysburg was a degree of student dissatisfaction. College life without intercollegiate sports diversions seemed drab to many. Commented a student columnist in the November 2, 1943 *Gettysburgian*, “The students of Gettysburg College pay an athletic fee of five dollars per semester. And what are they getting for it?” He noted that “there may be a few home basketball games to see this winter, if and when a team is organized.” In partial recognition of the justice of this complaint, the trustees voted on December 7, 1943 to drop the second semester five-dollar athletic fee except for those students entering College the following spring.

The Athletic Council also acted. The *Gettysburgian* of November 4 reported possibilities for a basketball team in the 1944 season, and two weeks later it happily announced that a 10-game schedule had been arranged. Vince Parnell, along with Don Roberts, a hold-over from the reserve team of the previous year, were expected to lead the team. Two additional upper-classmen and twelve freshmen had reported for practice, but the *Gettysburgian* added that “most of the freshmen are without even high school court records, and to complicate matters, the best of these are subject to call in the armed forces during the winter months.”

From the material on hand (the tallest man was George Shepherd at 5' 11½") Coach Hen Bream produced a combination that won six of its nine games. As expected, Parnell and Roberts were the mainstays of the team. In the following spring, Roberts continued his athletic endeavors, traveling to the Middle Atlantic track meet as Gettysburg's one-man entry. He succeeded in

earning five points in field events for the Orange and Blue.

Meanwhile, students with athletic interests turned their attention to intramural competition. Men participated in touch football, basketball, and softball while the coeds were active in archery, softball, swimming, field hockey, and basketball.⁷³ In the past intramural leagues had been made up of fraternities and sororities; but since Greek-letter organizations had been suspended for the duration, the leagues formed included no teams representing living groups. The men's softball league arranged for competition between the Dodgers, Cardinals, Phillies, Red Sox, and Yankees. The six-man teams competing in touch football were the Bears, Eagles, Steelers, Yankees, Tigers, and one sextet calling itself simply “The Cats.”

Basketball continued as the only intercollegiate sport for men in the war years. On December 5, 1944, Clyde E. Gerberich, newly appointed trustee representative on the Athletic Council, informed the trustees that a 12-game basketball schedule had been arranged for the 1945 season. This had been done, he explained, since students deserved something “for their very meager athletic fee.” According to the *Gettysburgian* of November 30, twenty-five candidates for varsity berths had turned out for the first practice session.

As the 1946 *Spectrum* observed, Coach Bream “molded a fighting team from a group of young, inexperienced men and built his offense around Bobby March, freshman star.” For some reason the team had more difficulty winning games in Eddie Plank Gymnasium than on foreign floors. In its first nine games the Bullets defeated Western Maryland, Lehigh, Carlisle Barracks, and F. & M. on their courts and bowed to these same teams in the more friendly home environs. Columnist Harry Rowland commented plaintively in the *Gettysburgian* of February 21, 1945 that “the 64 dollar question is why can't the Bullet squad win a game on its home court.” Not until the tenth contest, when a hapless Western Maryland five absorbed a 73-36 lacing in Plank Gymnasium, did the students get something “for their very meager athletic fee.” A few days later Gettysburg overwhelmed Dickinson 41-20 for the only other home court victory that year. The final count for that season was seven wins and five losses.

In the spring of 1945, with the war's days

obviously numbered, an attempt was made to reestablish a spring sports program of modest proportions. On April 19, the *Gettysburgian* observed that while “draft boards throughout the country have been nabbing men who left their war plant jobs to take up diamond duties, here at G-burg . . . it is an encouraging note to have the national pastime reinstated on the campus and in intercollegiate circles.” A Bullet nine managed to play a four-game baseball schedule that spring, dividing two games with F. & M. and defeating Dickinson twice. In May, Dickinson and Gettysburg held two “Field Days,” the first at Carlisle on May 12 and the second at Gettysburg on May 19. On each of these days, teams in baseball, tennis, and track competed. Because of the shortage of personnel, each track meet had but six events and Gettysburg won both of them by 28-14 and 31-12 scores. The Orange and Blue triumphed over the Red and White in both baseball games, 16-2 and 15-1, but could do no better than divide the two tennis matches, winning the first 4-1 and dropping the second by a 5-0 score.⁷⁴

The end of the war in August 1945 left no time to organize a football program for that fall. Nevertheless, plans got underway to reinstitute the game on an intercollegiate basis for the following year. Athletic Council member Clyde Gerberich informed the trustees on December 4 that some difficulty was being experienced in arranging games, but at the same meeting the trustees' athletic committee made suggestions for enlarging and improving the athletic program for the future, both intercollegiate and intramural.

Understandably, it required time to reconvert the wartime athletic program into something resembling a normal peacetime operation. The 1947 *Spectrum* reported that while only soccer and basketball operated in 1945-1946, “this spring we look forward to track and baseball as the main events though complete plans for competition are still lacking.” It noted also that spring football practice would start up again in April. Summing up the situation, the *Spectrum* expressed hope for early resumption of a full sports program:

With about four years of restricted, under-par, and touch-and-go athletic competition at Gettysburg now a thing for the memory, sports enthusiasts are preparing themselves, spiritually and materially, for a post war boom in all sports

⁷⁴Gettysburg lost more than a few athletic contests that spring. The *Gettysburgian* of May 3 announced that Romeo “Rome” Capozzi was departing the campus because of “a steadily decreasing sports program which is feeling the pinch of war-time restrictions.” Fortunately for Gettysburgians, Capozzi's absence proved but temporary and he returned in time for the resumption of intercollegiate football in 1946.

⁷³Women did compete during the war years with teams from nearby colleges in basketball and hockey. See pp. 34-38.

at G-burg. . . . Now that young men with capable bodies and eager minds are once again spilling all over the campus, we can be sure that the dust of unuse that has covered Gettysburg's intercollegiate and intramural athletics will be quickly swept away.⁷⁵

Young men "with capable bodies and eager minds" had a trait not often possessed by their prewar predecessors. Gettysburg teams from 1946 through the early 1950s were sprinkled with war veterans. Hen Bream and his staff discovered the need for a different psychology in handling them. Because of their greater maturity they were less likely to be inconsistent in their play from game to game, but they also were less responsive to emotional appeals. While they wanted to excel, they were less prepared to sacrifice classroom work for athletic success. Bream remembers also that while these men were generally bigger, stronger, and quicker, they were not necessarily more physically fit. Less accustomed to depending on "shanks mare" in getting about, they had more difficulty rounding into shape, and the veteran coach thinks that may account for the greater frequency of disabling injuries. Finally, the prewar training tables were not reintroduced, and with less supervision of diet by the coaches, in too many instances meat and vegetables gave way to starches and pastry, not the most suitable viands for athletes.⁷⁶

A general sentiment that war veterans should be afforded every chance to further their education led colleges all over the nation, including Gettysburg, to lower admission standards. At some institutions this served to draw young men of doubtful scholarship but possessed of superior athletic skills. In the early 1950s a series of scandals involving the altering of high school transcripts struck the nation's college athletic programs, but such aspersions never muddied the waters at Gettysburg. Bream recalls that while admission standards were eased at Gettysburg for all, athletes yet had to meet those that existed. The athletic program on the campus was an effect of rather than a cause for lowering academic bars.

Anticipating a return of capacity crowds for Memorial Field football games, the *Gettysburgian* of October 16, 1947 noted that even with the addition of new stands seating 1,100, the Gettysburg facility compared unfavorably with those of that year's oppo-

nents.⁷⁷ The previous January 10 the student weekly also had viewed Plank Gymnasium as "no longer the mammoth sports arena that it might have been back in 1927" and it suggested that "the campus's faithful servant can no longer accommodate the throngs that wish to see the games."⁷⁸

Whatever the inadequacies of Gettysburg's gridiron and gymnasium, they failed to dampen sports enthusiasm on the campus. The *Gettysburgian* of May 29, 1947, reported that during 1946-1947 a total of 427 men had turned out for the eight varsity teams. Football had attracted 143, basketball 43, baseball 35, track 66, wrestling 51, tennis 25, soccer 44, and golf 27. Letter winners in football, basketball, soccer, and wrestling totaled 121 men.

Hen Bream began his seventeenth year as Gettysburg's head football coach in 1946 with the assistance of Clyde Cole, LeRoy Bloomingdale, and Jack Shainline. Cole, an All-Eastern tackle at Penn State in 1933, had coached at his alma mater and at several high schools. A standout wrestler (later chosen on Penn State's all-time wrestling team), he also tutored the matmen. Bloomingdale, a Juniata graduate, had charge of the J.V. football team with the help of Shainline, a senior, whose football injury prevented him from playing.⁷⁹ The two J.V. coaches led their "scrubs" to an undefeated season but the varsity had rougher going. Jim Lewis, Joe Cervino, and Bill Hartman were the lone returning letter-winners and, as the 1948 *Spectrum* explained, after their military service many candidates "were slow in working around to their best form."

This first postwar team got off to a good start by dumping Lehigh 19-14 in its first game but then stumbled and ended the season with a 4-5-0 record. Although as early as May 25, 1946 the *Gettysburgian* reported a "Triple Alliance" in sports signed by Gettysburg, Dickinson, and F. & M., the three teams did not meet on the gridiron

until the 1948 season.⁸⁰ The 1947 Bullets suffered another losing season with a 3-4-1 record but Gene Hummel, star guard and linebacker, was named to the 1947 All-State second team.

The 1948 Bullet eleven was the college's first postwar winner (5-3-1), despite the fact that Muhlenberg spoiled Gettysburg's Homecoming Day with a 32-20 victory. The Mules could not prevent Dwight Speaker from racing 89 yards for one touchdown and scoring two others on passes from Ross Sachs. On Thanksgiving Day the Bullets invaded Lancaster and clobbered F. & M. 39-6.⁸¹ Aware of the importance of this triumph, the Gettysburg team carried Coach Bream from the field on their shoulders. For the second successive year Gene Hummel made the All-State second team and on invitation joined the Collegiate All-Star Squad in New York which was to battle the New York Giants in the New York *Herald Tribune* Charity Game.

The 1949 eleven proved to be one of the best in the College's history, closing out its season with a 7-1-1 record. Only undefeated Lehigh was able to stop the Bullets, and the long-remembered Homecoming Day triumph over Bucknell matched the memorable 14-12 victory of 1928 in thrilling moments. The Bisons jumped out to a 13-0 first quarter lead before Gettysburg scored and at the end of the first half the two teams were deadlocked 20-20. In the third period they traded touchdowns and with but one minute left in the final quarter Bucknell scored to go ahead 33-27. Two plays following the kickoff, with the clock ticking off the final seconds, Gettysburg had the ball on the Bucknell 35-yard line. Ross Sachs faded back, evaded onrushing enemy tacklers, and hurled a desperation pass which bounced off a tangle of players into the hands of Lee Snook. Snook raced untouched across the enemy goal line and, with time run out, Ron Fitzkee calmly booted the extra point for a 34-33 Bullet win. Hen Bream remembers Sach's heave and Snook's run as the biggest thrill he experienced in all his years of coaching at Gettysburg.⁸² Sachs' field generalship and

⁷⁵Until 1952, the *Spectrum* reported on those spring sports which had operated two years previously. Thus, the 1947 *Spectrum* was commenting on the Gettysburg sports scene for 1945-1946.

⁷⁶Interviews with Henry T. Bream, February 14 and March 4, 1975.

⁷⁷The *Gettysburgian* listed them as follows: Bucknell, 18,000; Lafayette, 16,000; Lehigh, 15,000; Delaware, 15,000; Albright, 9,000; Muhlenberg, 6,800; St. Lawrence, 6,500, and Western Maryland, 3,500. It stated that Memorial Field now seated no more than 4,030.

⁷⁸The writer thought that after a new field house had been built for indoor sports Plank Gymnasium could be turned over to the coeds and that "it will serve all their athletic purposes." A *Gettysburgian* headline on October 11, 1951 announced, "College Plans a Second Gym." This may have been a device for stimulating discussion or merely a product of wishful thinking for no follow-up story appeared.

⁷⁹For two years during the war Bream had kept his hand in coaching by directing the Biglerville High School team, and in this endeavor had had the assistance of Shainline.

⁸⁰Although Gettysburg and Dickinson did not meet in 1946, the "Little Brown Bucket," the Gettysburg-Dickinson Football trophy which had disappeared mysteriously from Gettysburg's trophy case the previous June, turned up just as mysteriously at the Dickinson Homecoming Dance that fall. *Gettysburgian*, November 21, 1946.

⁸¹A pact signed in February 1947 arranged for resumption of this annual game to be played in Lancaster each Thanksgiving Day. It provided that the two colleges would alternate as the "home team." This meant merely that "home team students" would not be required to purchase admission tickets.

⁸²According to the *Gettysburgian* of November 10, 1949, speculation arose on campus as to a post-season bowl bid should the Bullets defeat Albright and F. & M. in their remaining two games. The 13-13 tie with Albright a week after the Bucknell game put an end to such speculation.

passing all season earned him an All-State second team berth, and Dwight Speaker's artful running got him an honorable mention. Tony Cervino, another speedster in the backfield, played in the 1949 Blue-Gray classic at Montgomery, Alabama. But it was left to a lineman, Marty Pavelic to make the All-State first team. Pavelic had played at tackle in 33 straight games for the Bullets, and following the 1949 season was signed by the New York Giants.

If often fashionable to explain losing seasons in terms of crippling injuries to key personnel, there is no other way to sum up Gettysburg's 3-6-0 record for the 1950 campaign. Pre-season injuries eliminated both Speaker and Snook, and before the team made it to the final game Gene Coder, Bill Ewing, Ron Fitzkee, and Tommy Faulkner had been disabled. Of the first eight backs, only Don Young was healthy enough to play against F. & M. in the Thanksgiving Day finale. Young and his cohorts struggled mightily and managed to score three touchdowns, but the undefeated and untied Diplomats poured it on. When the dust cleared the scoreboard told the sad story: F. & M. 59, Gettysburg 20.

On October 11, 1951 the *Gettysburgian* reported that several colleges had been forced to suspend football and other major sports because of the Korean conflict. It added, however, that "Gettysburg has been able to stand up under the strains of war, emergency, and draft pretty well." Since the NCAA had ruled freshmen now eligible for varsity competition, at Gettysburg the first-year men were added to the varsity squads.⁸³

The 1951 season, Bream's 22nd and last as head football coach, turned out successfully as his warriors won six of their nine games. One defeat came at the hands of an underrated Western Maryland eleven which invaded Memorial Field and spoiled "Hen Bream Day" with a 13-6 victory. But on Thanksgiving Day it was the Bullets turn to gain revenge for the previous year's indignity, and with little trouble they gave their coach a fitting farewell present, a decisive 40-20 conquest of F. & M.

Speculation as to Bream's successor as head coach ended with the announcement in January 1952 that Johnny Yovicsin, his chief assistant, would take over for the following season. The wisdom of this choice was subsequently attested by the fact that in his five years as tutor of Bullet teams they

won 32 and lost but eleven games. Few of them probably were more satisfying to him than the first. At Delaware in the opening game of the 1952 season, the Gettysburgians rallied after trailing by two touchdowns to score twice in the final quarter and defeat the heavily favored Blue Hens 14-13 on Bill Pratt's successful extra point kick. Seldom has a football team come back to win after spotting its opponents a 25-0 first quarter lead, but the 1952 Bullets turned the trick against Lebanon Valley, delighting a Memorial Field crowd with a 34-25 triumph. The 1952 season saw many Gettysburg football heroes, the most outstanding of whom was Bill Ewing, 177-pound guard, who for the second straight year was named to the All-State offensive eleven.

Soccer, the other major fall sport, required more time to achieve a winning season in the postwar years than did the football teams. The Athletic Council in a burst of optimism elevated the sport to major status in May 1946, and the team responded the following fall with three wins, four losses, and a tie, yet still good enough for Bill Hartshorne's lads to win the MAC Southern Division championship. Four soccermen—Chuck Meschter, Sam Schmitthener, Roy Musselman, and Howie Hippensteel—won all conference honors.

Handicapped by injuries, the 1947 booters slipped back to a 2-4-2 record, but the 1948 season was a total disaster as Gettysburg failed to win any of the nine scheduled games. Improvement began the following year with a 3-5-1 season, and in 1950 the team managed to split even in ten matches. The long overdue winning season arrived with the 1951 squad. Captain Gerry Royals and George Heacox led them to a 5-2-1 record; and Royals and Heacox, the leading scorer in the conference, made the All-Conference team. Although Gary Greth and Roger Bray also won All-Division honors in 1952, they and their mates could do no better than win but three of nine games. Altogether, the eight Gettysburg soccer elevens in this reconversion period triumphed but 21 times, swallowed defeat on 38 occasions, and managed to tie the opposition in six contests.

Always a minor sport, cross-country resumed in the fall of 1947 and with Leroy Bloomingdale as coach did surprisingly well despite a disappointingly small turnout of aspirants. Bloomingdale's runners outran those from Albright, Mt. St. Mary's, Muhlenberg, and Lehigh while finishing behind Swarthmore's. Since most of the Gettysburg harriers were freshmen, the

freshman eligibility rule prevented participation in the MAC cross-country meet that year. The teams in each of the following five years had difficulty winning despite sterling performances on the part of such runners as Warren Watson, Ed "Snuffy" Smith, Harry Hamer, Don Griesel and a few others. Because of the Korean War emergency, Gettysburg was not represented in cross-country in 1951, but in the fall of 1952 with Lieutenant Jim Eisman, a former Bullet track luminary on campus and member of the ROTC staff as the coach, cross-country runners had another try at intercollegiate competition. It was not wholly successful as all five dual meets were lost. During the six years of intercollegiate competition in these postwar years, the Bullet runners won six dual meets, trailed their opponents in nineteen, and in four triangular contests finished second, third, second, and second in that order.

Basketball continued as the most popular spectator sport during the winter months, and the quintets turned out by Coach Bream proved that he had retained his winning touch. Pre-season practice for the 1947 season took place in the high school gymnasium since Plank Gym was serving temporarily as a dormitory for the overflow of men students. The completion of the barracks-type shelters located on the site presently occupied by the College Union freed the gymnasium in time for the opening game. Injuries to key personnel both in 1947 and in 1948 forced Bream to juggle his lineup and neither season was a winning one.

The 26-game schedule in 1949, which found the Bullets victorious in 16 contests, began with an invasion of the Ivy League; and Gettysburg pushed both Cornell and Princeton to the limit before bowing 43-40 and 51-48 respectively. Despite the fact that he measured but 5 feet 10 inches in height, Walter "Bucky" Harris scored 368 points for a 16.8 game average, and this, plus his leadership, were factors in his selection to the All-State first team at season's end.

Although the 12-12 record of the 1950 team appears undistinguished, that aggregation produced some memorable moments. Ross Sachs sank a foul with three seconds remaining to force a visiting Penn State five into overtime, and in the extra five minutes the Bullets scored enough for a 66-65 victory. Few in Eddie Plank Gym who saw it will forget Hank Belber's shot a fraction of a second before the halftime buzzer in the Bucknell game. Standing on his own foul line, Belber launched it high and true and it split the cords after time had elapsed.

⁸³Although the *Gettysburgian* also reported that cross-country and swimming were being eliminated on the campus, one of the more experienced swimmers, Bob Dellabough, coached a 1952 swimming squad. But no cross-country schedule was arranged for the 1951 season.

For the second straight year, Harris not only led the Gettysburg scoring but again made the All-State first team.

Belber and Bob O'Brien were the scoring leaders in 1951 with Sophomore Bob "Piz" Pizolato a close third. But it is the 1952 team that Hen Bream remembers as the scrappiest, if not the most talented, that he coached. Pizolato, Warren "Stretch" Watson, George Hare, Gene Coder, John Clark, Tom Ketterman, and Milan Resanovich combined to record a 14-8 season. In addition, each of them achieved a classroom average of 3.0 or better that year. It seems appropriate that this doughty and academically able squad should bring to a close the seven-season postwar re-conversion period in basketball. The seven campaigns saw 84 games won and but 67 lost.

Wrestling came nearest to rivalling basketball in winning the respect and loyalty of Gettysburgians during the winter months. The four-year wartime lapse in this sport ended in 1947 when Clyde Cole became the wrestling coach. Unlike the easygoing if successful Pete Beeson, Cole brought a greater sense of discipline which heretofore had been lacking. The new coach had been an outstanding wrestler on the always nationally-ranked Penn State squads, and he was able to demonstrate holds and escapes and ways of anticipating opponents' moves. Under his instruction, Bullet "grunt and groan" athletes won 28 dual meets, lost 14, and recorded one tie. In both 1949 and 1950, Cole's wrestlers were Middle Atlantic champions and shared the title in 1951 with Lafayette. Called back into the military service during the Korean crisis, Cole was succeeded by Jack Shainline whose first squad, that of 1952, continued the winning habit and captured Gettysburg's fourth successive MAC championship.

In dual competition, Bullet grapplers lost to the likes of Navy, Princeton, and F. & M., but took the measure of Penn and Pitt and usually more than held their own with Temple, Lafayette, Muhlenberg, Delaware, and others. The five years of Cole's tenure also saw the development of outstanding wrestlers. Russ Riegel at 155 pounds won more than 50 matches and was crowned champion in his weight at three straight Middle Atlantic tournaments. In both 1947 and 1949 he was voted the outstanding wrestler in these meets. Ted Lenker won two conference titles in each of the 1947 and 1948 seasons, but an injury sidelined him in 1949. Another two-time title winner was John Loose at 121 pounds, his successes coming in 1949 and 1951. Other

MAC champions coached by Cole included Charles Reider, Graham McCutcheon, and Jim Woods. Under Shainline, four Gettysburg men gained championship laurels—Don Woods, Earl Yost, Al Hershberger, and Jim Spangler. Spangler was voted the best wrestler in the 1952 tournament.

Intercollegiate swimmers at Gettysburg were least successful in posting winning seasons. No record exists for a postwar varsity swimming team until 1949⁸⁴ when Jack Shainline undertook to coach a team. Apparently interest in the sport as an intercollegiate activity still lagged, for a headline in the *Gettysburgian* of December 9, 1948 proclaimed, "Coach Shainline Needs Candidates Desperately." One of the college's most versatile coaches—he had coached football, tennis and wrestling—Shainline must have found his experience as a swimming tutor frustrating. The unimpressive prewar achievements of the Bullet natators discouraged many, and the undersized pool in Weidensall Hall was a handicap. Victories proved hard to come by, and in his three years of coaching them the swimmers won but three of twenty dual meets. Most losses were one-sided and in the Little Three Meets with Dickinson and F. & M. the Orange and Blue usually finished a very distant third. His best performers in the period included Dick Carothers, Emile Georgett, Bob Dellabough, Bryant Heston, and Al Muhlbach.

Despite an announcement in the October 11, 1951 issue of the *Gettysburgian* that because of the Korean War intercollegiate swimming was being suspended, Bob Dellabough organized a squad for the 1952 season and served both as coach and competitor. Although the lone dual meet was lost to Dickinson, Dellabough and his mates edged the Dickinsonians for second place in the Little Three meet. With the Korean emergency ended in 1953, Jim Lentz coached the swimmers to a 1-5-0 record and another third place finish in the Little Three meet. Although the five postwar seasons showed but four dual meets won and 22 lost, the picture was not entirely dark. Bryant Heston had won points as a diver and Chet McLaughlin, whose six victories in 1953 did not count since he was a first-

year transfer student, would be returning for the 1954 season.

In the spring of 1951, the American Colleges Baseball Association presented Ira Plank, Gettysburg's veteran coach, with a plaque in recognition of his distinguished services to intercollegiate baseball. It was a well-deserved honor for Plank who with few exceptions had coached winning baseball teams and whose death on September 14, 1951 ended his coaching career after 36 years. The three-year wartime gap in intercollegiate baseball activity had interrupted but briefly his string of successes, and his six postwar nines had won 52 games against but 33 defeats for an overall .611 percentage.

Much of Plank's success is explained by the fact that his lineups usually included heavy hitters. During the 1946-1951 season Gettysburg suffered but three shutouts. The 1948 team, which captured eleven of thirteen games, pounded some opposing pitchers without mercy. Included in their victories were those gained over Johns Hopkins (11-1), Mt. St. Mary's (21-9), Western Maryland (13-9), and F. & M. (12-5). The 1950 outfit beat Johns Hopkins (18-6), Delaware (12-11), F. & M. (19-0), and Dickinson twice (15-4 and 10-4). The two most embarrassing defeats were administered in 1950 by Lafayette (17-2) and F. & M. (16-3) after Gettysburg had shut out the Diplomats 13-0 earlier that season.

Helping the Bullet nines during Plank's last six seasons were such hurlers as Russ Aungst, Bill Brown, and Ron Fitzkee. Fitzkee also was a leading hitter as was Honey Wileman and the two Cervino brothers, Tony and Joe. Bud Ecker, described by the 1949 *Spectrum* as "one of the best catchers in collegiate ball," was a strong support.

In 1952 Hen Bream added baseball to his coaching responsibilities. With George Hare his most consistent winner on the mound and Jack Keller, Ray Reider, and Leroy Bixby doing the hitting, Bream's first varsity nine turned in a very respectable 7-4-0 record.⁸⁵

Intercollegiate track continued to confront difficulties at Gettysburg, and among them was the lack of publicity. The 1948 *Spectrum* makes no mention of a 1946 team, but the *Gettysburgian* of May 25, 1946 reported a track squad, coached by

⁸⁴The *Gettysburgian* of November 21, 1946, reported that Philip M. Jones, a Gettysburg resident and F. & M. graduate, had signed to coach a team for the 1947 season. Although neither *Gettysburgians* nor *Spectrums* carry any record of a varsity swimming team that year, Mr. Jones has assured the writer that he coached two teams at Gettysburg, those of 1946 and 1947.

⁸⁵In the summer of 1952, a new baseball field was constructed just north of West Broadway Extended. The expenditure for equipment and labor came to nearly \$4,000. Named The Ira Plank Memorial Field, the facility was the site of Gettysburg baseball games beginning in the spring of 1953 and continuing through the 1964 season.

Fred Geiter '42, finishing behind Bucknell, Lehigh, and Muhlenberg in a quadrangular meet. It also reported that Charlie Rambo had won one point for Gettysburg by placing in the pole vault at the MAC Meet.

Leroy Bloomingdale, who had been a member of Juniata's 1934 champion relay team at the Penn Relays that year, coached the 1947 Gettysburg thin-clads. Increasingly popular, because convenient, were triangular meets which replaced many of the dual contests held formerly. That year Gettysburg participated in four of them, placing first against Bucknell and Juniata, finishing behind Johns Hopkins but ahead of Haverford in another, and trailing the field in the other two. One of the third place finishes came in the Little Three Meet where both the Gettysburg and Dickinson teams lost to F. & M.⁸⁶ Nevertheless, the season saw Bob Snodgrass set a new college discus mark of 136' 1" and Jim Eisman tied the 15.6 time for the high hurdles. On one occasion that year Eisman was clocked at 15.3 for this event, but because he was aided by a strong tail wind the time was not considered a record-breaker.

Inadequate practice facilities before the season began handicapped Bloomingdale's 1948 squad since that spring began the process of moving the running track from Nixon to Memorial Field. The following season, the new track was dedicated at ceremonies preceding the start of the Middle Atlantic Meet held that year at Gettysburg. Jack Schellhase in the quarter mile, Gene Utech in the high jump, and Bob Snodgrass with the discus won enough points in this championship meet to earn Bullets 14th place in the 19-team affair.

Johnny Yovicsin coached the 1950 team, and in three triangulars his charges won one first, one second, and in the Little Three meet permitted Dickinson to nose them out by one point for second place. At the Penn Relays that year the mile relay team of Jack Schellhase, Tom Ketterman, Don Sterner, and Warren Watson covered the distance in 3:30.3, fast enough for second place in their race. Yovicsin's 1951 team won dual meets by decisive scores over Johns Hopkins and Lebanon Valley but could not keep up with Haverford in a third dual contest. As usual, F. & M. was too strong in the Little Three contest, but Gettysburg reversed the standing of the previous year by nosing out Dickinson by one point for second place.

While for the second straight year the injury jinx plagued the Bullets, the 1952

season saw Les Eckman better the high jump record with a leap of 6' 3" to help the team place behind Bucknell and ahead of Juniata in their triangular encounter. Once again the Bullets and Red Devils fought it out to see who would finish directly behind the Diplomats, and the Carlisle squad squeezed out a half point more than did the Gettysburgians.

As the record reveals, Gettysburg's 1946-1952 track squads had to struggle to be competitive. In 22 triangular meets they won but three first place triumphs, ended up second on ten occasions, and trailed the field in nine meets. In dual competition they were no more successful, with but two victories in eight outings. The chief individual accomplishments were the new marks set by Eckman in the high jump, Snodgrass in the discus, and the second-place finish of the mile relay team at the 1950 Penn Relays.

Bullet tennis teams had little to cheer about in any of the seven postwar campaigns. In none of them were they able to win more matches than they lost. In both 1946 and 1948 they failed to score a single match victory and the nearest they came to success was the three wins and four defeats recorded in 1950. Statistics rarely present a clear and complete picture, but in respect to the Orange and Blue tennis record they are revealing. Over the seven-year period, Gettysburg racqueteers won but eight of 53 matches, and the Bullet netmen could take but 132 of the 472 sets played. Both Jack Shainline, who coached the 1947, 1948, and 1949 teams, and Dick Schubart, who took over in 1951, had the unenviable task of guiding teams made up, for the most part, of willing but often inept players whose enthusiasm exceeded their ability.

Of the minor sports squads each spring, the golf teams were the most successful in winning victories. In charge of Professor Joseph Wolfinger, Bullet linksmen over a span of six years turned in a record of 38 wins against 32 defeats. Against Little Three opposition, the Gettysburg contingent had less trouble with Dickinson linksmen, triumphing in nine of ten meetings. They were able to top F. & M. golfers on but three of eleven occasions. The 1949 squad was Coach Wolfinger's strongest with its ten successful efforts in thirteen tries. Milt Plantz was undefeated that year and Dick Dodd shot a very respectable 66 on the Caledonia course for the best card of the year. Other outstanding golfers representing Gettysburg included Fred Shearer, George Knapp, and Otto Raphael, members of the 1951 and 1952 teams.

The Hen Bream Era 1953-1969

On September 17, 1953, the *Gettysburgian* reported the appointment of Henry T. Bream as Athletic Director at Gettysburg College to succeed the retiring Clayton E. Bilheimer. Fifteen years later, on October 25, 1968, the paper announced that at the end of that academic year Bream would retire to be succeeded by Eugene M. Haas. Bream, the *Gettysburgian* noted, would upon retirement have completed forty-seven years "of service to his Alma Mater as player, coach, and Athletic Director."

Broadly speaking, the Hen Bream Era at Gettysburg began in 1918 when this Adams County native enrolled as a freshman. His years as a student athlete and later as an active coach ended with the close of the 1957 baseball season. But during his fifteen years as Athletic Director he administered the College's intercollegiate programs in football, soccer, cross-country, basketball, wrestling, swimming, track, baseball, lacrosse, golf, and tennis as well as coed programs in field hockey, basketball, tennis, and swimming.⁸⁷ In the process, Bream put his own stamp on the program. Whatever success the various sports activities attained was due in large part to the influence of the Bream athletic philosophy.

Bream takes pride in the fact that Gettysburg has never run afoul of N.C.A.A. regulations. In the first place, the refusal to go "big time" relieved the College of the pressures which have brought some more prominent schools to grief. Secondly, the selective admission standards prevailing at Gettysburg and the practice of holding athletes to stricter eligibility standards than those required by the N.C.A.A. saved the College from experiencing embarrassing investigations such as damaged the image of some other institutions. Lack of finances and the absence of an all-pervading ambition for national athletic prominence proved a blessing. It may well be that the 1962 *Spectrum* drew the correct picture. Noting that a frenetic scramble for athletic glory at all cost was missing at Gettysburg, it voiced pride that the College, "instituted primarily for academic enrichment and pursuit of knowl-

⁸⁶In this 1947 Little Three contest, the F. & M. Diplomats began a six-year dominance that saw them win all six meets. In the battle for second place in each encounter, the Dickinsonians succeeded on four occasions and Gettysburg took second place two years.

⁸⁷Beginning in 1962 Gettysburg had an intercollegiate bowling team administered not by the Athletic Department but under the auspices of the Student Union staff. Rifle teams began intercollegiate competition as early as 1922 and continued through the period but under the direct supervision of members of the R.O.T.C. detachment. Neither of these activities plays a part in this chronicle.

edge, also provides for its students a well-rounded athletic program."

As Athletic Director, Bream had the responsibility for selecting and supervising the coaching staffs. He sought those who believed, as he did, in the importance of establishing good rapport with their charges. He sought coaches that not only knew the game and had demonstrated leadership, but who also recognized that athletic success might be achieved at too great a price. He is proud that during his own coaching days neither he nor "Rome" Capozzi ever administered pain-killing drugs which would enable a man to play when such might result in permanent injury.

Among the tasks of any college Athletic Director is that of arranging schedules sufficiently challenging and attractive without subjecting the teams to impossible odds. Bream's feeling that victory was important did not deter him from scheduling opponents who would extend Gettysburg athletes to the utmost. Such offered them an opportunity which, when successfully met, gave reason for a healthy self-respect. As a consequence, Gettysburg became a charter member of the MAC University Division conferences when they were formed—Basketball (1954), Track (1957), Football (1958), and Baseball (1962). This meant that Gettysburg opponents each season included the likes of Bucknell, Lehigh, Lafayette, Delaware, and Temple. Regretfully, 1953 saw the suspension of the Gettysburg-Dickinson football rivalry, and 1958 the start of a lapse in gridiron relations with F. & M.⁸⁸ One continuing opponent was Albright and the pesky Lions on more than one occasion spoiled Gettysburg victory expectations. In basketball the Bullet cagers also faced Penn State, Navy, LaSalle, St. Josephs, Rutgers, Pitt, and Virginia in addition to their traditional opponents. In other sports no limits were drawn as to the caliber of the collegiate opposition.

Fielding competitive teams at Gettysburg has required inducing capable athletes to contribute their talents to sustaining the College's athletic fortunes. In view of the limited financial resources available to them, Gettysburg coaches have always confronted stiff competition in the recruiting process. Gettysburg's practice of granting athletic scholarships only on the basis of need has created some problems, but in

general Bream and the coaching staff met them successfully. The principal factor working in Gettysburg's favor, so Bream suggests, has been the College's sound athletic program, its winning traditions, and the generally congenial attitude taken by students, faculty, and administration. When Joe Paterno, Penn State's successful football coach, questioned use of the term "amateur" for some college athletes,⁸⁹ he was not referring to representatives of the Orange and Blue.

By the late 1960s students' interest in and support of a strong athletic program showed signs of waning as their concern turned more and more to other considerations. And the faculty, Bream feels, often failed to understand his problems in the allocation of staff teaching-coaching duties and time demanded for recruiting efforts. Until the days of the Second World War, he recalls, the trustees evinced considerable interest in maintaining a strong intercollegiate athletic program at the College. Afterwards, fewer trustees had this interest and by the 1950s half of them, if not hostile to the program, were at least indifferent.

In contrast to the lukewarm attitude of many students, some faculty, and a few trustees, both Presidents Walter C. Langsam and Willard S. Paul warmly supported the effort to insure winning teams at Gettysburg. Dr. Langsam, Bream remembers, was probably the more "gung-ho" on the subject and often urged Bream to "get us a 200-pound fullback." General Paul gave the Athletic Director a free hand in most matters but on one occasion was adamant in rejecting a Bream request. When Bream sought to have Jack Shainline appointed head football coach the General flatly refused, declaring that "I need him in administration more than you need him in football." Dr. C. Arnold Hanson, who became President of the College in 1961, appeared to Bream to be less interested in the athletic program than had been either of his two immediate predecessors. In all cases, however, presidential attitudes and style were largely conditioned by a persistent need to allocate the limited financial resources.⁹⁰

During the 1950s and 1960s the Gettysburg Athletic Director not only had to ad-

minister a growing number of varsity sports programs, but also plan for an expanded physical plant intended to accommodate a more comprehensive physical education curriculum. Eddie Plank Gym could no longer house adequately the many indoor sports which now included basketball for both men and women, wrestling, and expanded intramural activity.

In the spring of 1959, General Paul inquired of Bream what he thought was required in a new facility. When Bream replied that he had a number of plans in his head, the General in effect told him to spell them out on paper. For the next several weeks Bream traveled up and down the East Coast examining gymnasiums in use at other campuses. After consultation with J. Alfred Hamme '18, a professional architect, Bream placed plans for a gymnasium and field house before General Paul. As almost the last act of his presidency, the General presented them to the trustees and recommended that construction should proceed. The estimated total cost of \$1,250,000 appeared to exceed the College's resources, so the trustees decided to limit construction for the time being to a gymnasium with its training facilities. By January 1962, the new \$850,000 edifice was ready for use. For basketball games and wrestling matches the appropriately named Henry T. Bream Physical Education Building could seat 3,000, and on more than one occasion during the sixties it was crowded to capacity.

Eddie Plank Gymnasium now became available for women's varsity and intramural sports and instruction in physical education. In addition, the new Student Union Building, completed in 1960, included an Olympic-size swimming pool, a boon to varsity swimming teams, and it offered greatly improved facilities to the student body as a whole.

On a rainy December morning in 1963, as Bream remembers it, Mr. John A. Hauser, representing the Musselman Foundation, appeared in Bream's office and without preliminaries announced that the Foundation wanted to build a new football stadium for the College. Despite the fact that many in the college community felt that a greater need existed for facilities of a more academic nature, the \$300,000 Musselman Stadium was dedicated on September 25, 1965 with ex-President Dwight D. Eisenhower on hand to throw out the ball to start the Gettysburg-Bucknell football game. The new gymnasium and football stadium have provided the College with an

⁸⁸In his history of Dickinson football, Wilbur J. Gobrecht explains (p. 272) that "divergent policies of the two schools concerning athletic scholarships and aid to prospective athletes" brought a severing of football relations. The two colleges continued to compete with each other in all other sports and their football confrontations, once the highlight of the Gettysburg fall schedules, are to be resumed in 1978. Gettysburg and F. & M. reinstituted their football encounters during the 1976 season.

⁸⁹"I don't see how you can say they are amateurs," Paterno declared, "if you bring 'em and give 'em grant-in-aid that is not based on anything but their athletic ability." See *The New York Times*, February 21, 1975.

⁹⁰The Bream philosophy as to the athletics, the selection of coaches, his recollection of the success of the program under his direction, and his judgment as to trustee, faculty, student, and administration attitudes he expressed in a series of personal interviews on January 30, February 14 and 21, and March 5, 1975.

athletic plant which compares favorably with those of her sister institutions.⁹¹ Laid out adjacent to the stadium and built at the same time, the new baseball diamond became available for the 1966 season. The same year saw the readying of new tennis courts at the foot of West Lincoln Avenue and the rebuilding of the new soccer field north of West Broadway.

Winning football teams were the good fortune (and product of hard work) of each of the three head coaches and their players during the 1953-1969 period. Johnny Yovicsin's five teams, beginning in 1952, compiled an overall 32-11-0 winning record, a tribute to his knowledge of the game, intense application of his energies, and careful attention to details. After his departure in 1957 to coach at Harvard, Yovicsin was succeeded by Gene Haas who led the Bullet gridders through the next dozen campaigns and his teams recorded 57 victories against 48 defeats and three ties. In 1969 Howard Shoemaker became head football coach, and his first Orange and Blue eleven defeated seven of the nine opponents it faced.

Yovicsin's 1953 squad won eight of nine games and thus compiled the best record achieved by any Gettysburg team in the 85-year history of the sport on the campus.⁹² Joe Ujobai's 107 points scored and Ron Miller's outstanding line play earned them first team berths on the All-State eleven at season's end. Frank Gagliardi's 18 touchdown passes that year topped the East, and he and Walt Hemberger were named to the All-State second team at quarterback and end respectively. The 1954 team dropped crucial games to Bucknell, Lehigh and Lafayette, but led by Bill Ward's outstanding defensive play at end upset Delaware 14-13 on Memorial Field.

In the fall of 1955, Frank Capitani began his sterling three-year varsity football career by scoring three touchdowns against Bucknell in his first game. Gagliardi and Sheldon Yingst were All-State first team picks at quarterback and center and Capitani won honorable mention. The 1956 campaign, Yovicsin's final one at Gettysburg, found the Bullets losing only to Lehigh and Bucknell and upsetting previously undefeated Lafayette 12-6 at Easton. One

highlight was Don Hailey's 97-yard kickoff return to gain the Bullets a 13-7 win over Temple. Capitani made the All-State first team with Bill Ward receiving honorable mention.

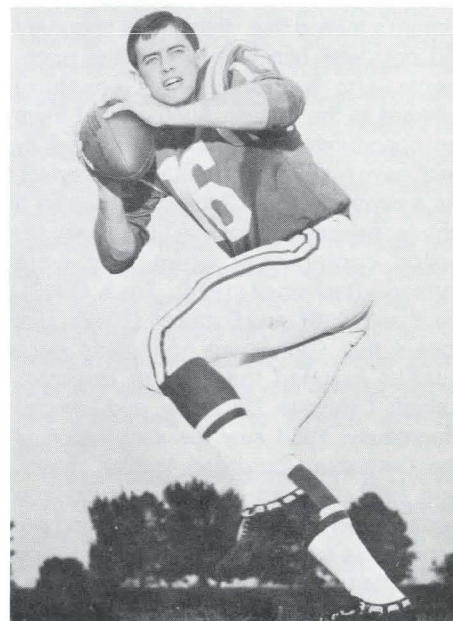
Gene Haas' initial season as head coach in 1957 began auspiciously. In the opening game the Bullets exploded for three last quarter scores to defeat Bucknell 19-0 in the Hershey Stadium. On Homecoming Day, Capitani raced 64 yards to score on the first play from scrimmage and the Lafayette Leopards never recovered, finishing on the short end of a 46-20 score. Lehigh turned back the Bullets 20-7, and a fired-up F. & M. eleven held the heavily favored Haasmen to a 6-6 tie in the season finale. Capitani again landed a first team All-State berth and tackle Alan Kempton made honorable mention.

The 1958 squad matched the 7-1-1 record of the previous year. A Lehigh last period rally tied the Bullets 14-14, and Lafayette's last minute touchdown spoiled their bid for an undefeated season. George Greiner ran 10 yards for the only score in the Gettysburg-Bucknell contest. Handicapped by injuries, the 1959 squad was yet able to win five of its nine games. Earl Little's 17-yard field goal with but seconds left beat Lafayette 16-13 and sent Homecoming Day old grads away filled with elation.

Haas' three winning seasons (1957-1958-1959) were followed by three losing ones (1960-1961-1962). Again beset by injuries, the 1960 team triumphed in but three of nine games. Perhaps that season's most memorable moment came in the Juniata game when Tom Schreiner, Gettysburg's 250-pound tackle, grabbed a punted ball not yet blown dead and lumbered 66 yards for a touchdown, one of his contributions to the Bullets' 26-0 victory. Five straight setbacks began the 1961 season. Desperate measures adopted by Coach Haas and his staff did not bear fruit until the sixth game, a 22-8 conquest of Muhlenberg. On Homecoming Day, however, Phil "Snuffy" Parsons scampered 22 yards for the game's only score to beat Lafayette. A third straight losing season in 1962 could be attributed to inexperience and lack of depth, despite the herculean efforts of Parsons and linemen Schreiner, Bob Duncan, and Bill Samuel.

Although the 1963 edition dropped three of its first four games, including a 64-18 pasting at the hands of Delaware, the Bullets snapped out of it and posted a 5-4-0 record. Juniata, Lehigh, Albright, Muhlenberg, and Lafayette fell before the Orange and Blue. In the final game, Wittenberg and Gettysburg took turns marching to touchdowns in an offensive display won 48-36 by the Ohioans.

Impressive wins over Hofstra, (27-7), Bucknell (12-7), and Delaware (22-19) opened the 1964 campaign, and visions of an undefeated season danced in the heads of Gettysburg supporters. In the fourth game at Reading, however, an Albright eleven, unimpressed by the Bullets' record, won 19-15 in a game ruefully summed up by Coach Haas as "they wanted it worse than we did." This unexpected setback failed to derail the Bullets and, picking up momentum, they won decisive victories over Lehigh (39-7), Muhlenberg (51-20), Lafayette (21-3), and Juniata (41-17). Although bowing to Temple 32-20 at Philadelphia, the four conference wins gained Gettysburg the MAC University Division title. Jim Ward's strong passing, Ken Snyder's clutch pass receptions, and Ron



Quarterback Jim Ward—1965

Brenzel's stubborn line play earned all three All-State first team berths.⁹³

An injury to Jim Ward in the first half of the opening game of 1965 against Hofstra dampened expectations for another championship. With their quarterback sidelined for the next two crucial games against Bucknell and Delaware, the Bullets suffered their third straight defeat. Especially bitter was the 19-10 loss to Bucknell in the game which inaugurated use of the new

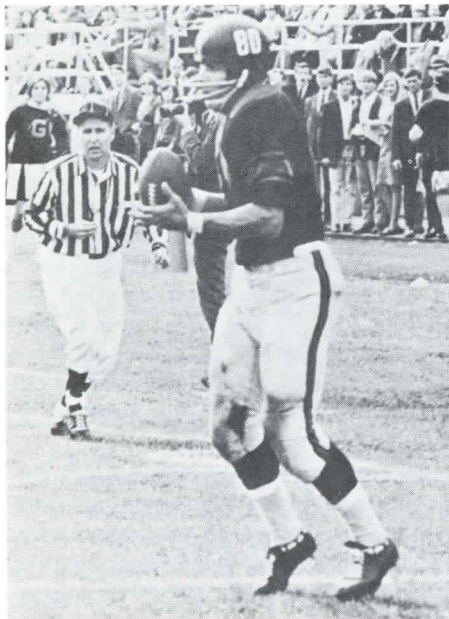
⁹¹Jim Ward, whose experience as a member of National Football League professional teams has given him an opportunity to see and make use of many training facilities, rates those at Gettysburg among the best he has seen.

⁹²Coach Bill Wood's 1923 team had won eight games but had suffered two defeats. Only the 1923 and 1953 aggregations won as many as eight games in one season.

⁹³Although he made no honorary teams in 1964, Charles "Rick" Taylor, sturdy halfback, learned enough to launch himself on a successful coaching career. After serving as an assistant at Lehigh, Hofstra, Montclair, and Drexel, he was named as head football coach at Boston University for the 1977 season. *New York Times*, December 22, 1976.

Musselman Stadium.⁹⁴ Ward then returned to action to lead the team to five successive triumphs, but another injury late in the first half put him out of action against Temple and the Owls rallied for a 22-21 victory. Again individual Bullets were showered with post-season honors. Ward and Center Ray Frick were All-State first team selections, and Joe Egresitz earned one of the end spots on the second eleven.

Ward began his professional football career with the Baltimore Colts in 1966, leaving a big hole which was filled admirably by Dick Shirk who led the team to a 7-2-0 record and possession of the coveted Lambert Cup, emblematic of Eastern small college football supremacy. On a muddy Musselman Stadium field Delaware edged the Bullets 3-0, but had not the officials

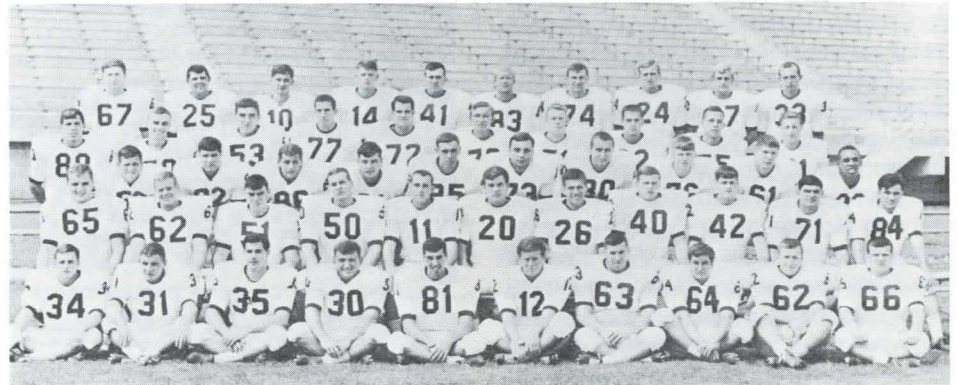


All-American Joe Egresitz—1966

detected an infraction on the play Egresitz' end-around touchdown gallop would have made the season record even better.⁹⁵ Later at Lafayette the officials missed seeing Craig Markel step out of bounds during the 95-yard punt return for the win-

ning touchdown and Gettysburg triumphed by a 19-18 score.⁹⁶

For the first time in the College's football history a Gettysburg player received All-American first team honors. So impressive was Joe Egresitz at end that he was named to the 1966 Little All-American team, the All-State team, and the coaches of the conference not only placed him on both the offensive and defensive teams but named him the conference's most valuable player. Joining him on the All-State first team was Bob Kinsey at tackle. Others who gained post-season honorary team selections included Craig Markel, Steve Brandt, Rod Albright, Bill Brooks, Bob Nye, Brian Tierney, and Bill Brewer. No Bullet squad before or since has had so many individuals who won so many honors.



The 1966 football team, Lambert Cup Winner—7 wins, 2 losses, 1 tie

The record of the 1966 team made it a hard act to follow, and a series of crippling injuries made it impossible. Although the 1967 squad downed both Lehigh and Lafayette, the low point came when an underrated Albright team invaded Musselman Stadium and embarrassed the Bullets with a 33-0 win.⁹⁷ Bob Everly was picked for both the All-State and All-Lutheran squads and Ray Doviak at tackle received All-Conference honorable mention.

If the 1967 season record of 4-5-0 was disappointing, that of 1968 was little other than devastating. The lone victory against eight defeats made it the worst since the disastrous 1903 season. Another epidemic of injuries forced Coach Haas to juggle his

lineup and often it was manned by the walking-wounded. The one win came in a gritty performance by a badly crippled squad against Bucknell in Musselman Stadium.⁹⁸ Nevertheless, Chris Skaar, Dan Hely, and Tom Brewer made the All-Conference team and Don Beekman received honorable mention.

As the 1969 season began, Gene Haas relinquished his coaching position to his assistant, Howard Shoemaker. The Bullets that year lost only to Delaware and Bucknell, and especially memorable was their last quarter rally which upset Lehigh at Bethlehem. With but five minutes left in the game the Engineers sat on a comfortable 24-6 lead. Quarterback Herb Ruby then began slinging passes, most of them grabbed by Bill McGowan. Ere the smoke

cleared, Ruby, McGowan and Company incredibly had scored three touchdowns. Gettysburg's 26-24 triumph sent 10,000 Lehigh Parents' Day partisans from Taylor Stadium talking to themselves. Don Beekman's two punt returns for touchdowns against Temple in the finale gave Gettysburg a 16-14 victory and earned him a place on the All-Conference first team. Ruby broke three of Jim Ward's passing records, and his seasonal performance led to his being signed by the Washington Redskins.

Gettysburg varsity soccer elevens never competed successfully with those of football for student interest. In part this was due to tradition, but the Orange and Blue booters also had trouble winning games. In the 1953-1969 period they won but 66 contests while losing 115 and tying 15. In addition, there was a frequent change in coaches.

⁹⁴This game saw the awarding for the first time of the Dr. Charles H. Huber trophy, given each year to the winner of the Gettysburg-Bucknell game.

⁹⁵Delaware supporters were not reconciled to seeing Gettysburg awarded the Lambert Cup. During a visit by the Delaware wrestlers the following February, the cup disappeared from the trophy case and in its place was a note reading, "We feel that this is ours—we're borrowing it for a few days." The note was signed, "The Blue Hens." A few days later the trophy was found in Weidensall Hall and was welcomed back with no questions asked.

⁹⁶Not only the officials missed Markel's misstep but the press made no mention of it. Yet, players on the Bullet team assured this writer at the time that it happened just this way.

⁹⁷This game featured the effective passing of Bill Longenecker, a Gettysburg High School product, who led the Lions. His feat compensated Albright supporters who were still mumbling over Rod Albright's disrespect for the name of their college the year before. Albright had ripped the Albright forward wall almost at will as Gettysburg overwhelmed the Albright eleven 34-7 in the Albright Stadium.

⁹⁸The 12-7 win over the Bisons occurred despite the fact that the Bucknell lineup included Tom Mitchell, Little All-American end, and Sam Havrilak at quarterback, both of whom subsequently starred as members of the Baltimore Colts National Football League champions.

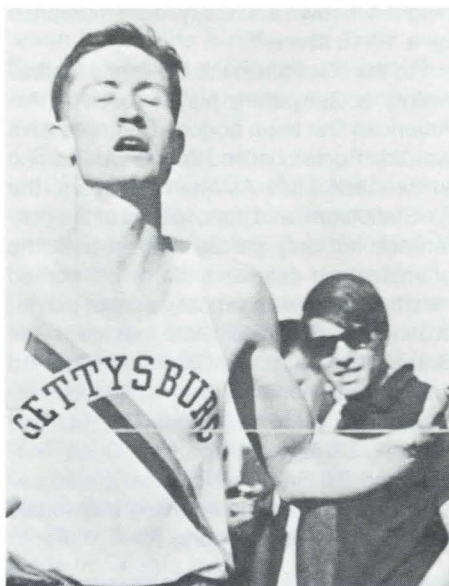
Bill Hartshorne (1953-1954), Bob Davies (1955-1956), Bill Barriga (1957-1958), Lou Hammann (1959-1962 and 1965-1967) and Bob Smith (1968-1969) tried their hands at tutoring the soccermen. Only Barriga and Hammann succeeded in placing winning combinations on the field. Barriga accomplished it in 1957 and Hammann's 1961 squad finished its season a winner.

Barriga brought to his coaching an extensive background in the sport which he had gained in his native Colombia as a member of that nation's Olympic Soccer Team. The 9-1-2 record turned in by his 1957 squad remains the best ever achieved by a Gettysburg soccer team. Don Emich led the scoring during the season. Lou Hammann's 1961 team, which won eight of its eleven contests, was led by Rich Burchell in scoring, and he was joined by Charlie Crosson and Steve Cox as members of the All-Conference eleven that year. Other Orange and Blue booters who deserved a better fate than the frustration of losing seasons included Bill Schinnerer, Bill McEwan, John Colestock, Bob Ehrhart, Bob Senft, John Henschen, Paul Trojak, and Bob McKee.

It is not easy to fix upon clear reasons why Gettysburg soccer teams ran into so many lean seasons. Student publications overworked the term "rebuilding," but the 1967 *Spectrum* perhaps accurately characterized the problem when it referred to the "lack of skills in fundamentals [which] proved impossible for Coach Hammann to overcome." It should be remembered that the soccer coaches had no athletic scholarships to grant, and those students who participated in soccer did so only from love of the game.

After a lapse of two decades, cross-country returned to the campus in 1958 as a fall activity. Some time was required, however, for the Bullet harriers to shift into high gear. The 1958 campaign, with John Carpenter as coach, was winless, but matters improved in 1959 when the runners posted a 4-4-0 record, equalled also by the 1960 team. Dick Martin, Jim Garman, and Dick Bowen were the mainstays of these three squads.

In 1960 Harold Glad took charge, and under his tutelage Gettysburg's hill-and-dale runners gained five straight winning seasons. Glad was fortunate in having Ed Salmon and Jim Lombardi on hand, and this duo took turns breaking course records at home and abroad. Glad's 1963 squad achieved an undefeated season in dual competition, outrunning all eleven of their opponents. With Ned Brownley as coach, the 1965 aggregation had a 5-8-0 record,



Tom Ratliffe breaking the tape in 1968

but Bob Meares and Tom Ratliffe helped the 1966 runners win 13 of 17 contests. Later Jeff Fister did his bit to help Gettysburg runners. Over the dozen years the Bullet long-distance men won 66 dual meets, trailed in 46 encounters, and tied one.

Basketball continued its popularity at Gettysburg both because of the natural appeal of the game and because the Bullet cagers kept pace with the gridgers in bringing athletic honors to the campus. The seventeen seasons from 1953 through 1969 included eleven winning ones, five sub-par campaigns, and in 1960 the team's victories equalled its defeats.

Gettysburg's 1953 quintet was a scoring machine, averaging slightly fewer than 80 points per game. Twice the Bullets bettered the century mark in one game, and in the 104-97 loss to Muhlenberg the two teams set a one-game scoring mark total which still stands highest in Gettysburg basketball annals. Bob Pizolato ended the season with a three-year total of 1,114 points. None of them were more timely than his last two. With the Bullets trailing 77-78 at F. & M. in the final game with but eight seconds to go, Pizolato's desperation shot bounded around the rim of the basket before falling through to give Gettysburg the victory and Pizolato his 28th point in the game. The team finished the season with a 13-9 record.

John Habeeb, Joe Lang, and Bill "Bones" Snyder did most of the scoring and Dick Hockenbury and Jack Keller the rebounding for the 1954 five which won 14 of its 22 games. Regrettably, a mid-court fist fight brought an end to the traditional basketball rivalry with Mt. St. Mary's. The sec-

ond scheduled game between the teams that year was cancelled; and although since then the squads frequently have engaged in pre-season practice sessions, they have not met in official competition.

The 1955 team won but nine of 23 games, but one of the victories came at Navy when Jim Sevebeck hit a last second basket for a 74-72 triumph. Ironically, Sevebeck had transferred to Gettysburg from the Naval Academy the previous year. At Lancaster the Bullets trailed F. & M. 52-57 with only 20 seconds left. In an incredible performance, Bill Snyder scored five points to tie the game and scored two baskets in the overtime period for a 76-72 Gettysburg win. Snyder's 530 points that year, his last, gave him a total of 1,150 for his three years of varsity competition.

The 1955 basketball season was Hen Bream's last as coach, and he was succeeded by Bob Davies, a Seton Hall All-American and All-Pro forward with the Rochester Royals. It required time for the college boys to adapt to his professionally oriented system. Not until late in the 1956 season were they able to win with any consistency. The 1956 squad lacked height, but this does not explain the inferior record of the 1957 team which included Tim Cousins at 6' 8", Del Warfel at 6' 6", and Frank Gryzelecki at 6' 5". Davies sacrificed speed for height, a move that failed to pay off, and the team won but seven of its twenty-five contests.

For a number of years Bob Hulton's York Junior College fives had regularly taken the measure of Gettysburg freshmen teams, and this contributed to his appointment as Davies' successor for the 1958 season. Hulton's early task was to reinstitute morale, and not until late in the season did his team become truly competitive. Its 9-15 record was hardly impressive, but in 1959 his efforts began to bear fruit as the Bullets divided evenly in their 26-game schedule. Del Warfel joined the 1,000-point club ere the season ended with a three-year total of 1,068 points, and he teamed with Gryzelecki to lead the rebounding department.

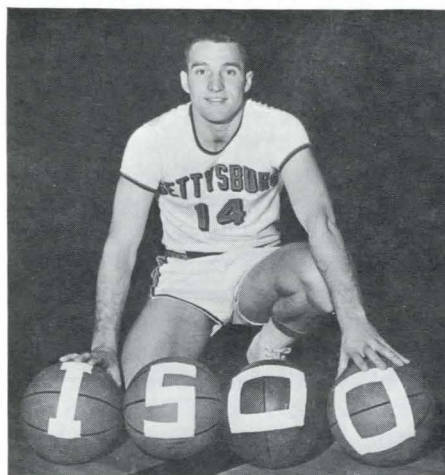
In 1960 began the Warner-Parker era in Gettysburg basketball. An All-State interscholastic player, Ron Warner teamed up with Bob "Wheaties" Parker for the next three years to lead the Bullets to 52 victories in 77 games. Only 5' 10" in height, Warner combined speed and hustle with an excellent shooting eye. Parker was the play-maker with an uncanny eye for the open man. Warner's three-year total of 1,880 points stands as the best ever for a Gettysburg player, and Parker pierced enemy defenses for 1,193 points. Compet-

ing against consistently taller opponents, Bill Fitzkee, George "Rocky" Burnett, and Bruce Simpson did the rebounding. At critical moments substitutes came off the bench. One of them, Bill Hemsing, made good on a brace of fouls in the final seconds in the 1960 game against Temple to defeat the always formidable Owls 76-74.

Seemingly as indispensable as were Warner and Parker,⁹⁹ Hulton's 1963 team without them rolled to a 16-9 season. Sophomore George Strouse, a "walk-on" who came to Gettysburg unheralded, teamed up in the backcourt with his classmate, Don Szegda. Helped by Roger Gaeckler, Doug Kepner, and Captain Ted Koerner, this five helped Bullet fans become partly reconciled to the departure of Warner and Parker. Strouse continued as the chief offensive threat in 1964 for a team which won 15 of 24 games and featured defensive play. In one game Gettysburg held Lehigh's team to 22 points. Scoring 99 points in his final three games in 1965, Strouse totaled 1,152 points for his varsity career.

After six straight seasons of winning basketball, the 1966 quintet posted a 9-15 losing season. Yet, Dave Yates' 43 points against Muhlenberg set a new individual one-game scoring record, a mark which lasted until Jeff Clark hit 45 against Messiah in 1974. The Bullets returned to their winning ways even if barely in 1967 with 12 of 22 games won. Three sophomores broke into the starting lineup and each of them—Tom Houser, John Stott, and Paul Trojak—was to make things uncomfortable for opponents during the next three seasons. Rich "Spider" Falk in the backcourt was the play-maker with Ross Krumm assisting Trojak in the rebounding.

If in nothing else the 1968 Bullets were superb marksmen. Four times that year they topped the 100-point mark for a game; and four of them averaged double figures in scoring, with Houser's 18.1 leading the way followed by Stott (15.9), Falk (11.9), and Trojak (11.4). The 1969 quintet won 14 of 25 games, including an overtime conquest of Navy at Annapolis and a record-setting 112-78 win over Dickinson. Against Lehigh, Houser's two foul shots after time had elapsed gave Gettysburg a 78-76 win, and he finished his third year of competition with a total of 1,130 points. Yet, it was Greg Gettle, a junior forward, whose 376 points for the year topped the team in scoring.

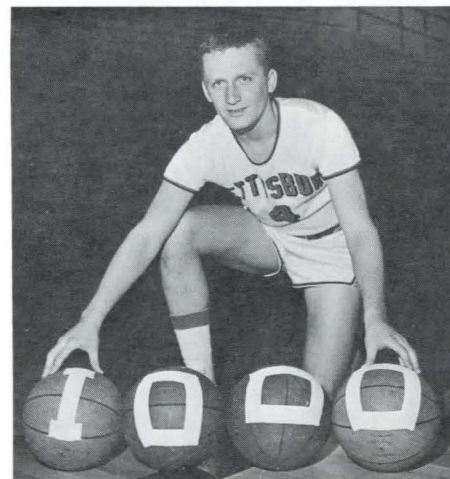


Ron Warner—1962

Wrestling continued to vie with basketball for student interest during the winter months from 1953 through 1969, despite the fact the overall 86-91-1 record in dual meets could not match that of the basketball teams. Competing in the smaller Middle Atlantic Conference meets in the first four years of this period, the Bullet grapplers took three championships and finished second once. In 1957, however, the conference meets were expanded to include as many as fifteen teams, and the days of Gettysburg MAC titles ended for some years.

Coach Jack Shainline's 1953 squad, one of the stronger ones, produced three conference champions—Al Hershberger, Jim Spangler, and Jim Howard. The following year three more Bullets gained conference titles—Bill Sells, Sam Evangelista, and Ron Miller. Under Gene Haas, who succeeded Shainline as coach, the 1955 squad again won the conference championship with Bob Walmsley and Jerry Harrell as individual titlists. In 1956, Gettysburg failed to emerge from the conference tournament as champions for the first time in seven years. Although Walmsley won his second successive title and Sells took second in his weight class, the Bullets had to settle for second place. Haas' third and final year as wrestling coach saw five of eight dual meets won, but in the enlarged MAC tournament eighth place was the best the Gettysburg wrestlers could do. Their best performer was Jerry Harrell who reached the finals before being defeated.

The five seasons 1958-1962 marked the low point in Gettysburg wrestling fortunes. Only the 1959 campaign was a winning one, and overall in dual competition the record was a most unimpressive 12-40-1. Nevertheless, Coach Jack Ridinger succeeded in turning out some outstanding individual performers. Barry Kunkel was



Bob "Wheaties" Parker—1962

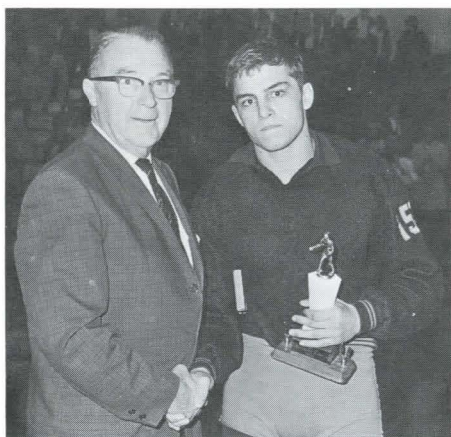
1958's top winner, and in 1959 Mike Pacilio began a three-year career that entitles him to be classed among the college's best. In his sophomore year he took the conference crown, and only a nagging shoulder injury prevented him from accomplishing it again. Hayes Kline and Tom Schreiner were the 1962 team's leading wrestlers.

Frank "Sprig" Gardner, recently retired after an eminently successful career in coaching interscholastic teams on Long Island, instructed Bullet wrestlers in 1963 and 1964. His two squads registered an impressive combined record of 17-7-1 and his 1964 team was the first at Gettysburg to turn back F. & M. in dual competition. Gardner helped both Joe Bavaro and Hayes Kline to 12-1 and 10-1 seasons respectively; and in the MAC Meet, which now had twenty teams competing, the Bullets finished in eighth place.

Illness prevented Gardner's return for the 1965 season and Ray Reider, his assistant, took charge.¹⁰⁰ Reider's five teams (1965-1969) compiled an overall record of 32-29-3, but the individual feats of Joe Bavaro and Scott Higgins were among the most outstanding in the history of the sport at Gettysburg. In 1965, Bavaro not only scored ten straight falls, a school record, but completed the season undefeated, won the MAC title in his weight, took the 157-pound championship in the National Small College Meet, and reached the finals in the NCAA University Division matches at Laramie, Wyoming. Bavaro, joined by Higgins, again won national honors in 1966. Both copped MAC titles as well as the championship bouts in the National Small College Meet. Both entered the University

⁹⁹Hen Bream, who has seen Gettysburg basketball teams since 1918, rates this pair as among the best ever to play for Gettysburg. In his judgment, they could have played on any Bullet quintet for the past 60 years.

¹⁰⁰Gardner's contributions to Gettysburg's wrestling program were recognized beginning in 1965, in the awarding of the Frank "Sprig" Gardner Award, to the senior member of the wrestling squad who had contributed most to the success and morale of the team.



Athletic Director "Hen" Bream and Joe Bavaro, 1966 NCAA finalist

Division Meet at Ames, Iowa, and while an injury eliminated Higgins early, Bavaro again reached the finals before meeting defeat.

In 1967, a mid-season shoulder injury ended Higgins' intercollegiate wrestling career. The 1968 and 1969 teams dropped more dual meets than they won, but Roy Emenheiser's 11-1-0 winning record in dual competition and his second place in the MAC Meet relieved an otherwise disappointing 1968 season.

Successful intercollegiate swimming teams, much less outstanding ones, never became a habit at Gettysburg up to 1969. Progress seemingly was being made in 1953 when Jim Lentz began his five year stint as swimming coach, and over that period his squads won 20 of 36 dual meets. Much of their success was due to the individual efforts of Bryant Heston and Chet McLaughlin, two young men who not only won points in dual competition but from time to time set new pool records in their respective events.

Primarily a football coach, Lentz departed in the fall of 1957 to assist Johnny Yovicsin at Harvard. The task of molding competitive teams was handed to Gene Hummel, another assistant football coach. Hummel's three teams were winners in 13 of 34 dual meets, and what success they had was due largely to individual swimmers such as Jules Prevost, John Applegate, Doug Seely, John Northrop, and Bob Smith, all of whom shattered existing pool records from time to time. It was during Hummel's reign that the new Olympic-size pool in the Student Union became available, but this failed to help much in terms of team victories.

The new pool and in 1961 a new coach, Curt Coull, brought little improvement in terms of dual meet victories. Pool records continued to fall, however, but they were

neither good nor timely enough to insure winning seasons. The leading point-winners for the Bullet natators included Scott Asman, Rudy Socey, Bob Nix, Avery Gentle, Craig Van Tatenhove, and Norm Tinanoff.

By the time Bob Smith took over the coaching reins in 1966, losing dual meets had become almost habitual. Although individuals such as Dan Hely, George Carlson, and John Fleming proved themselves able, they got insufficient help from teammates. One problem was that there were so few teammates. Dwindling morale led to few aspirants for the teams. For example, Smith completed the 1968 schedule with but eight men available.¹⁰¹ It is hard to know whether lowered morale weakened the Gettysburg teams or whether weak Gettysburg teams depressed morale. At any rate, in the seventeen seasons from 1953 through 1969, Gettysburg swimmers won but 66 dual meets, lost 109, and never achieved better than a mediocre showing in the Middle Atlantic meets.

The winning tradition in baseball continued throughout the 1953-1969 years. Hen Bream coached the Bullet nines to a 46-28-3 record (1953-1957); Bob Hulton's four teams (1958-1961) achieved a 40-26-0 record; and in eight spring campaigns Gene Hummel's nines went 75-51-0 (1962-1969). Thirteen of these teams enjoyed winning seasons, only three lost more than they won, and the 1960 aggregation split its 18-game schedule. Gettysburg's baseball domination of its Little Three rivals approached totality. Against Dickinson the Bullets won 23 of 27 games, and against F. & M. the record was 21 victories and but two defeats.

Of all sports, baseball is probably the most unpredictable as to the outcome of games.¹⁰² Unless the caliber of the contestants is greatly different, on a given day either one might win. To illustrate, in 1953 Penn State humiliated the Bullet nine 23-0, but the following year Gettysburg's Joe Bierly pitched a two-hit shutout to defeat the Nittany Lions 1-0. Indeed, Bierly ranks with Gettysburg's all-time hurlers. In 1956 he shut out both F. & M. and Dickinson, striking out 15 batters in the latter contest, and

pitched the entire 14 innings in a 9-6 win over Navy.

At times Bullet batters stunned opposing pitchers with their stickwork. The 1957 team scored successive 16-5 and 16-3 wins over F. & M. and Susquehanna, and the 32 runs in eighteen innings must have set some sort of collegiate record. Heavy hitters filled the 1959 lineup as attested by Gettysburg wins over Navy 11-10, Johns Hopkins 14-1, Georgetown 17-5, Dickinson 12-5, and F. & M. 13-1. The ultimate in bat-wielding was the 1959 victory over F. & M., a no-contest 26-0 "laugher."

The best winning percentage of any team was that coached by Hen Bream in 1956 with its 12 victories in 17 games. Bob Hulton's 1958 nine traveled to Springfield, Massachusetts for the NCAA College Division regionals. In its first encounter Dick Hawkins twirled a no-hit 2-0 shutout over St. Lawrence, but the Bullets bowed to Springfield in the title game by the same score. The 1962 team, coached by Gene Hummel, also entered the playoffs at Penn State. Ted Koerner's pitching and a timely homerun by King Gore set back favored St. Johns 7-5, but a tough Ithaca College club defeated Bob Hinds and his Bullet teammates 7-4 in the regional title game.

In addition to Bierly, Hawkins, and Hinds, other effective pitchers were Jack McCracken, Barry "Bucky" Walters, Mel Jacobs, By Crammer, Steve Satir, Dave Pierson, and Bill Forrester. The leading hitters included Ken Fruchter, Dick Taylor, Frank Capitani, Frank Wolfgang, Dick Stuart, Joe Records, Mike Darr, Jim Ward, and Ken Snyder. George Bowers, another strong hitter, was an adept base stealer.

A review of Gettysburg track seasons of 1953-1969 reveals that the Bullet trackmen more than held their own. They recorded 106 victories, trailed the opposition 66 times, and the 1959 squad battled Juniata to a 63-63 tie, the only one recorded during the seventeen seasons.¹⁰³ In the seventeen Little Three Meets, Gettysburg finished first on ten occasions, finished second in four contests, and trailed both opponents in but three encounters.

As was to be expected, individual accomplishments highlighted the teams' performance. Les Eckman was the 1953 squad's most consistent winner, and he set a new high jump record of 6' 4" which lasted until 1961 when Jack Russell cleared 6'

¹⁰¹It is possible that a similar situation prevailed at both of Gettysburg's Little Three rivals. In any case, beginning in 1969 an effort to spur interest in the Little Three swimming meets was made by awarding the winner each year the J. Shober Barr-Henry T. Bream trophy.

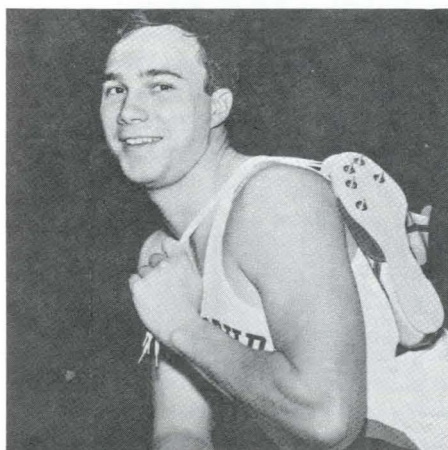
¹⁰²Always there is the weather factor. Some doubt arose about the start of the 1953 baseball season since, as the *Gettysburgian* of March 19 reported, heavy spring rains had "drowned" the newly rebuilt Ira Plank Memorial Field diamond.

¹⁰³Increasingly the practice was to hold triangular meets. In 53 of them Gettysburg faced two opponents, and the 67 dual meets scheduled meant that the Bullets tested their mettle against rivals 173 times.

5½", a record which still stands. The 1962 season saw three individual marks bettered. Roger Malehorn covered the half mile in 2:00.1; Ed Salmon was timed at 4:32.4 in the mile; and Phil Wargo cleared the 120-yard high hurdles in 15.3.

Individual performances underscored the 10-1-0 record of Coach Hal Glad's 1963 team. No less than five existing college records were swept aside. Jim Lombardi did it twice, running a 4:26.5 mile and 9:54.9 two-mile race. Bob Linders recorded an amazing 1:52.3 in the half mile, a mark he bettered the following year by nine tenths of a second, and Dick Clower tossed the javelin 197' 7". The mile relay team of Linders, Pete Harslow, Jerry Staub, and Chris Hayden was clocked at 3:21.6. In addition to Linders' half mile record of 1:51.4, one which still stands, Harry Buzzard ran the 120-yard hurdles in 15.1 and Jim Lombardi finished a two-mile race with a time of 9:39.6.

The 1965 track season saw the arrival of Don Ardinger, the most talented track performer to wear the Orange and Blue colors since the legendary Howard Bostock wore them in the 1915 season. Ardinger broke both of Bostock's fifty-year-old dash records with a 9.4 in the 100 and 20.9 in the 220-yard dashes. He also joined Bruce Wilson, Chris Hayden, and Jerry Staub in stepping off the mile relay at 3:16.1 in the MAC Meet. Ardinger went on to win both dash events at the NCAA Regionals and take a fourth place in the prestigious IC4A Meet. He kept it up a year later, bettering Wayne Bucher's quarter-mile record with a time of 48.6. Others in 1966 not intimidated by predecessors' achievements included Charlie Pape, who sent the shot 47' 11"; Jack Costner, who spun the discus 139' 11"; Joe Egresitz, who tossed the javelin 198' 5"; and Scott Shoupe, who broke two



Don Ardinger, track record setter in mid-sixties

records—the pole vault at 13' 11" and the 120-yard high hurdles at 15 seconds flat.

In 1967, Jim Shippen's 56.2 in the 440-yard hurdles set a new standard for this recently introduced event. The 1968 track season was a winless one and is best forgotten save for Tom Ratliffe's record-breaking efforts in the mile in 4:20.3 and the two-mile in 9:11.6.

In view of the record of Gettysburg tennis teams it must have required considerable love for and loyalty to the sport for students to compete on an intercollegiate level and for coaches to undertake to instruct them. While intercollegiate tennis at Gettysburg had never enjoyed sufficient encouragement, either financially or in general student interest, with but few exceptions the teams' performance hardly warranted much. The five successive coaches (1953-1969) must have experienced a large measure of frustration. Only Dick Schubart once and Bob Hulton three times were able to produce winning teams. The overall seventeen-year record of 50 victories, 120 defeats, and two ties reflected a well-established losing tradition. Nevertheless, some individuals who competed did so with reasonable success. They included Harry Hamer, Charlie Moyer, Bob Rice, Coy Yingst, Rick Savage, Doug Pincock, Jim Walker, Jay Bortner, Richard "Spider" Falk, and Al Strunk.

Gettysburg's varsity golf teams did better over the period in question than did the tennis squads, barely missing as many victories as defeats. On 81 occasions the Bullet linksmen circled the course with scores lower than that of their rivals, a performance they were unequal to on 94 other outings. Six winning seasons, nine losing ones, an even split in 1966 made up the sixteen year record.¹⁰⁴ Until 1962, when Rod Monday took over coaching responsibilities, Gettysburg golfers found victory an elusive thing. Joe Wolfinger's two squads, Bob Davies' three teams, and Dick Sleichter's three aggregations won but 25 of 81 matches. But Monday, and later Don Stough, led their charges to 56 wins in 94 matches during the 1962-1969 seasons. Sleichter, Monday, and Stough took time from their regular duties as the Gettysburg Country Club pros to tutor the college golfers.

Bob Stine's 12 wins in 15 matches led the 1968 team to a 11-4-0 record. Other win-

ners included Gordon Spillinger, John Rogers, Bob Brush, Roy Fairman, and Charlie Voss.

As early as April 22, 1949, the *Gettysburgian* was urging that lacrosse be introduced on the campus as a varsity sport. Noting that sixty Eastern colleges had adopted lacrosse on an intercollegiate basis, the paper saw it as providing opportunities for men who possessed "the ability of the basketball player but not the height . . . the ruggedness of the football player, but perhaps not the weight, and the assets of a hockey player but not the ice." On the following October 27, the *Gettysburgian* reported a petition circulating which urged the Athletic Council to give "a green light" to lacrosse, that twenty men already were holding informal practice sessions open to all interested students, and it observed that all that now was needed was a coach.

Whatever interest this reflected, not for seven years did lacrosse become an intercollegiate activity at Gettysburg. In 1956, Jim Lentz was induced to coach a "lacrosse club" in an informal schedule which resulted in two wins over F. & M. and one over Johns Hopkins. Jim Alexander of the faculty coached the 1958 club, Captain Daniel Beirne of the R.O.T.C. staff took over in 1959 and 1960, and Curt Coull directed the lacrosse-men in 1961. Under these four men the stickmen won 14 contests while absorbing 26 defeats.

Apparently interest declined afterwards, and not until the spring of 1967 did another call go out for lacrosse players. Fred Froelicher, a local high school teacher, coached the two clubs of 1967 and 1968 to five victories in eight contests. On April 4, 1969, the *Gettysburgian* reported a nine-game slate arranged with Froelicher back to lead the team. Eight years had passed, the *Gettysburgian* declared, since the College had fielded a lacrosse team and it spoke of "the sport . . . reinstituted Saturday afternoon as the Bullet stickmen dropped a 10-2 decision to Villanova." This makes for some confusion since the *Gettysburgian* had reported intercollegiate competition both in 1967 and 1968; and the 1969 *Spectrum*, reviewing the 1968 lacrosse record, referred to "the second year of competition." What had occurred was that lacrosse did not become an officially recognized member of Gettysburg's varsity sports family until 1969. At all events, Froelicher's three teams, official and unofficial, won seven and lost seven decisions. But lacrosse had become established as an intercollegiate athletic activity on the campus.

¹⁰⁴Neither the *Gettysburgian* nor the 1959 *Spectrum* reported varsity golf competition for 1958.

Women As Emerging Competitors

Although coeducation had become a part of the process at Gettysburg College in 1891, for the next thirty years women undergraduates derived whatever educational benefit existed in intercollegiate athletics as spectators only. No doubt they warmly supported their male classmates who sought athletic honors and no doubt in many instances they were sources of inspiration to them.

The 1920s brought a measure of liberation to American womankind, and in the sports world the names of Gertrude Ederle, Glenna Collett, and Helen Wills Moody became familiar. Team sports for women, however, remained generally confined to school and college programs. The most popular of them was basketball, and the first manifestation of the enlarging role for coeds at Gettysburg appeared in a story in the November 9, 1921 *Gettysburgian*:

The latest activity among the co-eds is a basketball team. It seems inconceivable that any of our sedate maidens should so far forget themselves as to participate in such a common sport. It is not without the bounds of reason that we shall next find them on the football field or perhaps putting shot at our next track meet. There might be found excellent material . . . among the co-ed ranks.

Refusing to be deterred by comment obviously more patronizing than witty, the women proceeded to recruit Richard "Crabby" Wise, a member of the men's varsity squad, as their coach. Doyle Leathers, the varsity basketball coach, was persuaded to permit use of the gymnasium for practice and, as the 1923 *Spectrum* marveled, "it is found that girls can be good sports and clean players as well as boys." According to the *Gettysburgian* of February 15, 1922, the coeds' first venture at outside competition proved successful. In a game against the Biglerville High School girls, won by 5-3 for Coach Wise's charges, Ruth Stallsmith's three points made her "easily the star for Gettysburg."

Although this first try at basketball hardly shook the campus to its foundations, it did mean that the male student body had to accept women emerging as competitors in intercollegiate sports. The 1923 *Spectrum* found room for a photograph of the 1922 coed basketball squad, thirteen girls clad in white middle blouses and bloomers, with Coach Wise in their midst looking sheepishly proud. In the nine seasons (1922-1930) the Gettysburg sextette competed more or less regularly with those representing Dickinson, Western Maryland,



First women's intercollegiate basketball team in 1922

Juniata, Moravian, Lebanon Valley, Albright, Shippensburg, East Stroudsburg, and Millersville. They filled the remainder of their yearly schedules with YWCA teams from York and Waynesboro and that of the Thompson Business College at York.

In one respect the women continued to accept a degree of male dominance. Each year the coach was drafted from the ranks of male athletes. Beginning with Wise in 1922, the fortunes of the Orange and Blue lasses depended in part on the coaching ability of Hen Bream (1923-1924), Rogers Gerhardt (1925), Gerhardt and Norman Asbury (1926), Charlie Hall (1927-1929), and Charles Spangler (1930). Whether they would have enjoyed greater success with an experienced woman at the helm is problematical. The fact is that too often the *Gettysburgian* and the *Spectrum* had to offer mild apologies for the season's record.¹⁰⁵ For example, in 1923 the girls played out their eight-game schedule without a win. "Gettysburg lacked material," observed the *Gettysburgian* on March 10, 1923, but it noted that "the material that was available at Gettysburg practiced faithfully." The 1925 *Spectrum* commended the 1924 team for its four wins, one loss, and a tie and declared that "no small amount of the credit for the fine showing is due to their coach, 'Hen' Bream." One can admire the

restraint exhibited by the student journalists who refrained from reference to " 'Hen's' Chickens."

The 1925 *Bullettes* undertook an ambitious sixteen-game schedule and with Rogers Gerhardt as coach and Mary Stauffer as captain won seven contests. Enough players were on hand for a second team which played three games and lost them all. Although the 1927 *Spectrum* carried a photograph of the 1926 squad with its two coaches, Gerhardt and Asbury, it limited its notice of the program to a brief editorial commentary:

Our fair basket-ballers sailed through their third season with flying colors. With a more pretentious schedule, and a larger squad to draw from, much more successful results rewarded their efforts.

Co-ed sports, wherever undertaken, have as a whole been so successful that their loss will leave a large void in our curriculum of athletics. . . .

Not too much can be said for the kindly interest of the coaches in the team.

The *Gettysburgian* was less sanguine. Referring on March 10, 1926 to a lone victory gained in nine games, it observed that "next year there will still be some line of athletics at Gettysburg for girls," and although probably it will be basketball, "the activity will not be carried on as extensively as it was the season just closed."¹⁰⁶

Women's intercollegiate basketball activ-

¹⁰⁵Uncovering scores and details of coed athletic contests in the 1920s and afterwards is often a difficult business. The male staffers of the two student publications were not as diligent as they might have been in reporting game results, and the records are thus generally incomplete.

¹⁰⁶Doubts as to the future of women's athletics at Gettysburg arose when it became known that by the trustees' decision coeducation was to be phased out at the College.

ity continued for each of the next four years. In terms of victories the teams enjoyed but modest success. The 1927 girl cagers were able to capture but three wins in seven games despite the efforts of Coach Charlie Hall and Captain Betty Richard. The 1928 team elected a sophomore, Marian Fischer, as captain. Indicative of its problems was the 1929 *Spectrum* choice of the season's highlight, a 21-24 loss "at the hands of the fast Dickinson sextette on a foreign floor." For some reason the 1930 *Spectrum* carried no report of the eleven-game 1929 schedule, and the *Gettysburgian* found room to cover but three contests, all of which ended in Orange and Blue victories.

The 1930 coed basketball team, with Annabelle Greenaway as captain and Charley Spangler as coach, won six of its ten encounters. As promising as was this improved record, that season marked the termination of women's intercollegiate basketball at Gettysburg for the next fifteen years. The trustees' decision to terminate coeducation on the campus had discouraged women from enrolling at the College, and this reduced the number of players available. Mrs. Lester O. Johnson (Mildred Dimmerling '33), a member of the 1930 squad, remembers that for 1931 "there simply was not enough woman-power on campus to muster a team." Not until 1945, when girls were once more on hand in force, was Gettysburg again represented by a women's basketball team.

Basketball was not the sole sports activity open to women at Gettysburg during the 1920s. According to the *Gettysburgian* of May 6, 1925, efforts got under way that spring to organize a coed tennis team. It listed as potential participants Mary Stauffer, Betty Richard, Jessica Weaver, Ruth Sachs, and Sarah Moyer. No further mention of coed racquet-wielders was made, the reasons for which are lost in the mists of the past. The year 1926 saw the introduction of a women's rifle team, and for a number of years coed marksmen (Markspersons?) competed with some success against teams from Penn State, Drexel, Delaware, Western Maryland, Carnegie Tech, and a number of western and midwestern schools.

The lapse in coeducation at Gettysburg did not last long. The decline in male student enrollment during the depression years of the mid-1930s persuaded the trustees to open the College's doors once more to women. At the meeting of the trustees on December 10, 1935, President Henry W. A. Hanson reported that in the previous September 68 women students had been enrolled. As welcome as they were, no im-

mediate effort was made to reinstate an intercollegiate sports program for women. Dr. Charles H. Huber, former Academy Headmaster now placed in charge of the "Women's Division," outlined an extensive intramural program to be supervised by Earl E. Ziegler of the college faculty. According to Dr. Huber, field hockey, tennis, archery and, when the turf had been sufficiently rolled, "the English game of bowls" would be introduced. Certain days were to be set aside for the women's use of the swimming pool in Weidensall Hall and for the gymnasium floor to be used for basketball. Pocket billiards, table tennis, shuffle board, and other indoor sports would fill out the program. All these sports, the *Gettysburgian* of September 19, 1935 stated, "will be of an intramural nature" since inter-campus transportation, for reasons the paper did not explain, would be too risky.

The 1937 *Spectrum* reported that Professor Ziegler had inaugurated a three-day-a-week schedule "that kept the newcomers busy." It published photographs of a women's hockey team as well as of teams in archery, swimming, tennis, and rifle. The feature photograph was of the Beta Lambda basketball sextette which had won the sorority championship by defeating the girls of Gamma Phi. Only the women's rifle team was allowed to compete against off-campus foes.

For perhaps understandable reasons the girls of Gettysburg College found the intramural athletic activity insufficient. The *Gettysburgian* of October 13, 1938 recognized that the women students had set their eyes on a future program of intercollegiate competition, and the 1941 *Spectrum* remarked that "it is hoped that within the near

future if enough interest is aroused, that regular intercollegiate competition between neighboring girl's [sic] institutions will be started." The Gettysburg sportswoman, observed the 1942 *Spectrum*, "still looks forward to the day of the full-time instructor and real training in her favorite sport." The five cheer leaders, whose photographs appeared in the 1937 *Spectrum*, included two coeds—Natalie Sims and Jane Wood. This was not much but it was something.

Among the effects of World War II on the campus was a decline in men's varsity sports activity. With the student body now overwhelmingly female, the girls were prepared to break the mold and embark once more on intercollegiate sports competition. On January 16, 1945 the *Gettysburgian* reported a coed basketball schedule arranged and that the women, under the direction of Mrs. Peggy L. Zarfes, were working out on the Hotel Gettysburg Annex floor. With Nancy Irle and Mary Tittle as the scoring leaders, a new edition of the Gettysburg's women's basketball varsity defeated teams representing Dickinson, Lock Haven, and Kensington, Maryland. They divided their two games with Hood and bowed in a single encounter to Lebanon Valley.

Mrs. Zarfes also organized Gettysburg's first field hockey team in 1945, and the girls won all three of their games, triumphing over Shippensburg, Penn Hall, and Dickinson. In 1943 a women's swimming team was formed, but it limited its activities to an aquacade at which certain fortunate members of the male faculty selected "The Bathing Beauty of Gettysburg College." By 1945, however, three coeds—Geraldine Marks, Marjorie Hughes, and Katherine



Last of the women's basketball teams for a span of 15 years was the 1930 squad which posted a record of six wins and four losses.

Hendrickson—competed in a swimming meet at Temple University. The *Gettysburgian* on May 25 reported that Hughes had won the butterfly breast stroke event and that Hendrickson and Marks had placed second in the front crawl and diving events respectively.

In 1946, Miss Grace Brewster succeeded Mrs. Zarfos as Women's Athletic Director and faculty sponsor of the Women's Athletic Association. The following September, Marcia Maguire, a graduate of the previous spring, remained on campus to take charge for the 1947-1948 year. But the real fillip for a woman's athletic program occurred with the arrival in September 1948 of Miss Grace Kenney. A graduate of New York University with a master's degree from Columbia Teachers College, Miss Kenney brought both skill as a player and experience as a hockey coach to Gettysburg. She found on the campus an eager group of young women making do in rather primitive surroundings. "When we started," she told a *Gettysburgian* reporter in October 1974, "the women's program was centered at an old ROTC building which was built during the war. It had no locker room facilities and we had no space available to us in Plank Gym."

Having relished the experience of intercollegiate athletic competition, the women students were not likely to be content with intramural sports. Even some male students took cognizance of the new postwar spirit. Declared the 1947 *Spectrum*:

It is thought in many quarters that now that the boys are again ready to resume their former top positions in athletic activities on the campus, women's sports will once again be relegated to an insignificant post. . . . An extensive and well executed athletic program is just as necessary and just as desired for the girls on this campus as it is for the boys. May the coeducational front of sports competition be as well represented as is the men's!

Despite these brave words, in the years immediately following the war Gettysburg women took a back seat in sports. Like their sisters on other campuses, they had to struggle with inadequate financial support, using those facilities designed specifically for male athletes, and content themselves with often second-rate equipment. Although some improvement in these matters has been realized since then, equal treatment with the men remains yet to be achieved—even to be accepted in principle. As late as September 1973 a *Gettysburgian* columnist deplored the "long haul" faced by the coeds who, he wrote, were relegated to an "archaic back seat role." Moreover, he added,

All-Americans



Ann Shockey (1961) and Carol Johnson (1962)

At present we are immersed in a culture as well as a collegiate community which still believes that men play the sports and women do the cheer leading. . . . Gettysburg, with an unequal admissions system and high cost still attracts a great many conservative, middle-class students who are content with the present outlook.

The writer quoted Miss Kenney to the effect that so long as the women's sports teams received inadequate publicity and funds were not allocated either for athletic scholarships or recruiting, women were not receiving equal treatment. "Many men believe women's sports don't have the pressures that men's do," she continued, and added that "I think they tend to create their own pressures." In her judgment sports provide an educational experience for all students so long as they do not become the controlling interest. She concluded that "I certainly wouldn't want to have anything to do with all the ruckus and stuff that goes on in the men's department."¹⁰⁷

In 1948 Gettysburg women could choose to participate in one or both of two varsity sports—field hockey and basketball. By 1975, however, their options had increased to five—hockey, basketball, swimming, tennis, and lacrosse. Although the *Gettysburgian* on March 27, 1947 made reference to fencing "as a minor sport in the Women's phys. ed. department," neither it nor the *Spectrum* reported it as an intercollegiate activity. In 1959, a coed softball team defeated Penn Hall twice and dropped a single encounter to Ursinus; but no further mention of this sport was made until 1971 when, as the *Gettysburgian* of May 14 declared, "one of Gettysburg's best kept secrets has been revealed—there is a girl's intercollegiate softball team." The paper reported that the team had defeated Messiah and had lost to Wilson and Penn State. The story concluded with the statement that



Helen "Timmie" Marter (1969 and 1970)

"plans are already being made for next year's season." Nevertheless, coed softball on a varsity level appears to have been discontinued after this try.

After a few tentative efforts during the war years, field hockey became a full-fledged varsity enterprise in 1946 with Grace Brewster organizing and coaching a team which lost its two contests to Penn Hall and Millersville. In 1947, with Marcia Maguire as the coach, the hockey squad won its first game, a 1-0 triumph over Susquehanna. Two other games that year brought defeat and the 1948 team could win but one of its six games. Victory still proved elusive in 1949, but the 1950 aggregation achieved a 4-2-1 record for the Gettysburg girls' first winning season. In 1951 the team did even better with only a tie in ten meetings to mar their winning record. The 1953 team completed its nine-game schedule undefeated and untied. Despite the fact that the 1974 hockey squad lost two and tied one game, its eleven victories, the highest total ever recorded by a Gettysburg team, were good enough to bring the Bullettes the first championship of the newly organized Penn-Mar Conference. All in all, Miss Kenney's twenty-eight hockey teams enjoyed sixteen winning seasons, split with their opponents in four, and suffered losing campaigns seven times.

This admirable record would not have been possible without the presence of some outstanding players. Three of them were named to the All-American squads—Ann Shockey (1961), Carole Johnson (1962), and Helen "Timmie" Marter in both 1969 and 1970. Others who dis-

¹⁰⁷*Gettysburgian*, September 28, 1973.



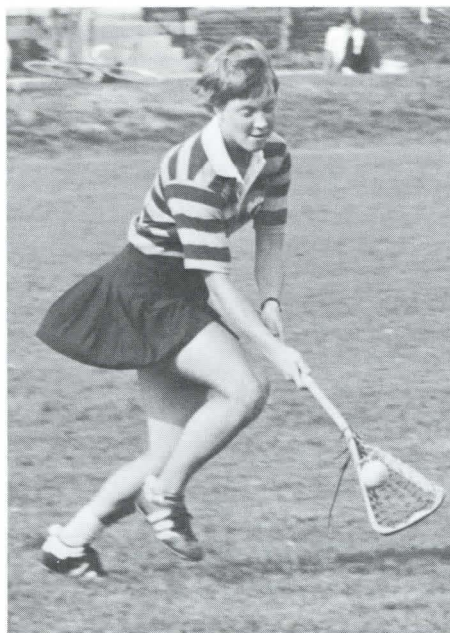
Sue King (1974 and 1975)



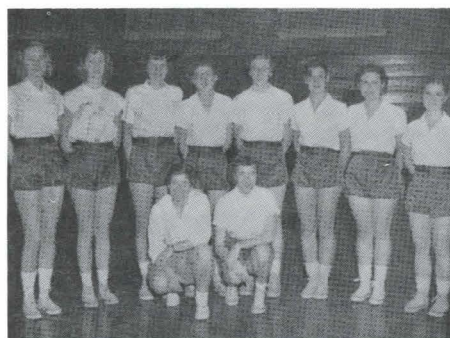
The 1953 field hockey team—perfect 9-0 record

tinguished themselves on the hockey field included Edith Matlack '49, Sue Hunsberger '52, Faye Luckenbill '54, Alice Davis '55, Barbara Aierstock '53, Judy Slotterbeck '58, Diane Fenstermacher '61, Lynn Brown '61, Kathy Smith '64, Sharon Plowman '65, Bonnie Heilig '67, Ellen Potteiger '68, Ruth "Tg" Costner '68, Ann Fisher '69, Kate Potteiger '70, Sue Niblette, Lois Davis and Pat Henry, all '71, Bev Davis and Sue King '75, and Lynn Jewel '76.

Women's intercollegiate basketball records at Gettysburg are incomplete, but those available indicate that the Orange and Blue girls generally have been competitive in the sport.¹⁰⁸ While no team enjoyed an undefeated season, the 1954 sextette coached by Miss Kenney, and that of



Sue Dunton (1976)



The 1954 women's basketball team—6 wins, 0 losses, 1 tie

1960 with Nancy Kelly as coach, each won nine of ten games. Miss Kenney's 1955 squad had a 7-1-0 season as did Shirley O'Day's 1962 team. The records for 1945-1975 show that the Gettysburg lasses won at least 130 games against 96 losses and six ties and that sixteen winning seasons were recorded with six losing and four even in wins and losses. Until 1969, women's basketball rules provided for six players on a team. Beginning with the 1970 season, as the 1970 *Spectrum* reported, "girls now play under practically the same rules as boys." The sextettes now became quintettes, and under the new regulations Gettysburg's women had two winning, two losing, and two tie seasons with victories gained in 31 of their 63 games.

Until January 1962 the women had to share the use of Eddie Plank Gym with the men's varsity and freshmen basketball teams, the varsity wrestling squad, and the intramural sports program. In that month the opening of the new Henry T. Bream

Physical Education Building gave the women the exclusive use of the older facility. They also have use of the indoor facilities available in the John A. Hauser Field House and the swimming pool in the College Union Building.

In addition to Misses Kenney, Kelly, and O'Day, others who have served as coaches for the women's basketball teams included Ruby Steele, Patricia Flaughter, Mrs. Lois Bowers, and Coco Hirstel. Among the outstanding members of the various playing squads were Virginia "Ginny" Decker '51, Anne Creutzburg '50, Sue Hunsberger '50, Carol Fuhro '52, Diane Fenstermacher '61, Audry Thomas '61, Ginny Havens '63, Miriam Bowers '63, Kathy Smith '64, Fran Heinrich '64, Sharon Plowman '65, Dottie Croall '73, Deb Frantz '74, Jean Zimmerman '74, and three members of the 1975 squad: Jane Buckingham, Chris Cockill, and Carol Yuch.

In the spring of 1962 women's varsity tennis arrived at Gettysburg. A team coached by Nancy Mitchell met six intercollegiate foes and managed to turn back two of them. Incomplete seasonal records, however, show that the coed racket-wielders have won a majority of their matches. For the most part women members of the Physical Education staff have coached the teams, but in 1972 John Seidenstricker of the men's staff guided the girls to a 4-4-0 record.¹⁰⁹ In addition to Miss Mitchell and Seidenstricker, others who led the women racketeers included Mistresses Virginia Huffman, Jan Wickerham, Judy Sauve, and Lois Bowers.

The two most outstanding performers for the women tennis squads were Jane Hartman (1965-1967) and Sadie Cantone (1966-1968). Miss Hartman copped the Middle Atlantic Conference championship in 1965, and Miss Cantone was a consistent winner during her three years on the squad. Four others who proved mainstays for their respective teams were Lynn Snyder (1969), Wendy Rose (1971), Diane Flower (1973), and Jean Zimmerman (1974).

The first mention of an intercollegiate swimming team for women dates back to 1945 and refers to the girls who staged an aquacade that year but engaged in no reported meets with teams from other colleges. The following year, however, the

¹⁰⁸Regrettably, both the *Gettysburgian* and *Spectrum* sports editors continued to pass over reports on women's varsity contests. Nor are records of them on file in the College's Sports Information Office.

¹⁰⁹According to the 1972 *Spectrum*, "Liberation has finally hit G-burg's female branch of the tennis team . . . in the form of a male . . . Most of the women, playing for the first time under a male coach, thoroughly enjoyed working (and they did work) for Coach John Seidenstricker. And the feeling was mutual. . . ."



Grace Kenney, 30-year coach

Gettysburgian of March 27, 1947 reported a team representing the College competing in a five-school meet at Wilson. Against women from Wilson, Shippensburg, Penn Hall, and Lebanon Valley, the Gettysburg girls placed fourth.

With Nancy Mitchell as coach, Gettysburg women participated in three intercollegiate swim meets in 1960. Although they failed to gain a victory, they had first-place finishers in Judi Boothroyd, Deni Depugh, and Sandra Dempcy.

Not until 1974 did a coed swimming team again represent Gettysburg in intercollegiate competition. The 1974 *Spectrum* published no team records, but it referred to "a very successful year" which it attributed to "the talented and dynamic coaching of Lois Bowers" with the girls' enthusiasm "the team's biggest asset." Unfortunately, the year was marred by a hassle with the men varsity swimmers over arrangements for competing in the Little Three Meet.

In their second year of intercollegiate competition Mrs. Bowers' 1975 squad enjoyed a high level of success. Gettysburg mermaids won seven of eight dual meets and captured the Little Three Meet championship with relative ease. Jean Shaw proved to be the star performer for the team, winning two first places in the Middle Atlantic Meet at Bryn Mawr and establishing a new school record in the butterfly. Other outstanding women swimmers included Liz Bates, Carol Connors, and Carol Golden.

"After many years of trying," declared the 1971 *Spectrum*, "the Gettysburg women were finally granted the lacrosse team they

had worked so hard for." The yearbook reported that this first squad, with but one senior, Barbara Belletti, made up a "young team," which boded well for the future. Coached by Grace Kenney, the 1971, 1972, and 1973 teams managed to split even in each of those seasons. The 1974 outfit posted a 6-2-0 record and in 1975 but one tie in seven contests prevented achievement of a perfect season. Over the three seasons, 1973-1975, Jean Walsh led the teams in scoring in their thirteen victories and four losses.

Gettysburg College can boast of two All-Americans in lacrosse. Sue King won the honors in 1974 and 1975 and Sue Duntton made the coveted squad in 1976. Other lacrosse standouts were Ann Fisher '69 and Lynn Jewell '76.

Although she no doubt shudders at the phrase, "You've come a long way, Baby," Miss Kenney agrees that in the twenty-nine years since she arrived at Gettysburg to take charge of the women's athletic program considerable progress has been realized. She states, however, that there is yet much to be done before the battle is won.

Recent government regulations rule out the separate and unequal treatment accorded to women in intercollegiate athletic programs. While Miss Kenney does not advocate integration of men and women on athletic squads, she holds that greater financial support and more publicity for the women's program would go far to end a long-standing injustice.¹¹⁰

¹¹⁰Interview on April 23, 1977.

At the Crossroads, 1970-1975

By no standard were the 1970-1975 years among the more glorious in Gettysburg College's athletic history. For most varsity teams the winning habits of previous years came to an end. Despite the addition of the John A. Hauser Field House to the physical plant,¹¹¹ Bullet squads appeared increasingly unable to compete on an even basis with their MAC University Division rivals. In football, basketball, and baseball contests during this period Gettysburg won 25 and lost 89 at this level of competition.¹¹² One explanation for this losing record was that other MAC Division schools were able and willing to invest more money in their athletic programs. With the exception of Bucknell, they all were located in larger population areas and thus had larger gates for their home games.

More serious were the disruptive internal dissensions which plagued the Athletic Department and brought to an end the relative calm and prosperity of the Hen Bream Era. Student unrest caused by the Vietnam War turned many undergraduates to other concerns. Such "jock pursuits" as varsity sports seemed unimportant, and the "old college spirit" of earlier days diminished noticeably. Some alumni thought that President Hanson was unsympathetic with an athletic program on the level they thought desirable for the College. Ere he retired as Athletic Director in 1969, Hen Bream was already trying to explain and defend the athletic policy to many who questioned the new emphasis on academic concerns, a development they could not understand was a part of the changing times.¹¹³

Success for a varsity team hinges on many things, not the least of which is an effective recruiting program. Success in recruiting usually depends on two factors—a winning record for the team and the level of financial aid offered to prospective athletes. In 1970-1975, neither factor worked in Gettysburg's favor. Because members of the athletic staff were regular members of the faculty with classroom obligations, they had

¹¹¹The *Gettysburgian* of September 22, 1972 quoted President C. A. Hanson as describing this structure as "a very fine gift to the college," as indeed it is. It accommodates four tennis courts, has room for three basketball courts, a tenth of a mile running track for indoor meets, and room for a permanent area for baseball and golf cages. In inclement weather it can be used for practice sessions in football, soccer, and lacrosse. Dedication ceremonies for the Field House were held at the 1973 Homecoming.

¹¹²These figures might be compared to those of the previous decade. Against the same opponents Bullet football, basketball, and baseball teams had registered a 123-119-1 record.

¹¹³Henry T. Bream interview, March 5, 1975.

less time for recruiting. Moreover, the policy of granting financial aid only on the basis of need reduced the number of able high school athletes attracted to the College. Time and again, the staff members reported, young men of academic and athletic promise lured away by more attractive offers from Gettysburg's rivals. On April 19 and 26, 1974, the *Gettysburgian* published two articles describing the recruiting procedures by the athletic staff who, as the paper put it, had to work "without dames or dollars." Athletically able young men not only had to accommodate themselves to limited financial aid but also meet the selective admission standards required of all students.

A number of capable athletes did enroll but there were not enough of them. The lack of sufficient depth was evident when injuries took their toll of first-line players and presented problems difficult to overcome. A review of the five football seasons discloses that a number of close games were lost because key members of the team were disabled.

Invariably the question of more lucrative athletic scholarships arose. In the spring of 1970, Dean Basil L. Crapster named an ad hoc committee of the faculty to review the existing policy and make recommendations. Headed by Dr. Robert D. Barnes, and including Athletic Director Eugene M. Haas and Dr. Edward J. Baskerville, this committee, "following semester long investigations," concluded that "at the present time, the practice of awarding Athletic Grants continues to be of benefit to the College." Haas observed that "the almost impossible record of seventeen consecutive homecoming football victories could not have been realized without athletic aid." Any funds saved by eliminating athletic grants, stated Baskerville, "would be more than offset by resulting loss from alumni gifts," but he added that steps should be taken "to convince our alumni that the health and worth of the College are not to be measured in terms of our football schedule."¹¹⁴ Chairman Barnes hoped that "alumni attitudes will shift as the alumni constituency changes," and he urged strengthening the total physical education program of the College.

With the principle of athletic scholarships thus endorsed, the trustees on November 5, 1971 moved to institute athletic grants up to \$600 above need and earmarked

\$15,000 of the \$115,000 allocated for athletic awards to this purpose. The action evoked immediate opposition from the Faculty Committee on Financial Aid and the Student Senate also protested. The *Gettysburgian* voiced its opposition in its November 19 issue:

The trustees have seriously misread the needs—the mood—of this campus Big time athletics is not what Gettysburg College is about. We have far too many other more pressing needs Just what are our priorities as a college? What is our reason for being? The athletic program is a necessary aspect of the liberal arts college; it must continue to be so. But athletics and athletes must under no circumstances be given more preferential treatment than they already receive.

Few on the campus raised their voices in support of the trustees' action. Some opponents of the larger athletic grants recommended shifting the athletic program from the University to the College Division level. To this Gene Haas objected. "We advocate excellence here," he said, "and those types of programs don't have it." Dr. Frank B. Williams, Dean of Students, regretted a return "to an era in which students were bid for," but since the trustees had adopted their course over strong student protests he saw little to be gained by continued debate on the matter.¹¹⁵

But the matter was not yet closed. In July 1972, President Hanson asked Dr. Richard T. Mara to head a committee to investigate the athletic programs in effect at representative colleges on the Gettysburg sports schedules. This committee, made up of Mara, Haas, Dean Williams, and Dean James D. Pickering, visited three University Division schools (Bucknell, Lehigh, and Lafayette) and five members of the College Division (Albright, Susquehanna, Dickinson, F. & M., and Muhlenberg). At each they asked questions regarding financial aid to athletes, recruitment procedures, status of coaching staffs, factors entering into scheduling, the financial budget, and general athletic policy. On January 23, 1973, the committee reported the findings to President Hanson.

The so-called Mara Report began with an assessment of the Gettysburg situation:

The Administration and Faculty here genuinely support an intercollegiate athletic program as vigorous and competitive as is

commensurate with our size and resources Gettysburg has a long and commendable history of being open about its practices in intercollegiate athletics. We found no institution that matches Gettysburg in this regard.

The Committee reported that the sharpest contrast with Gettysburg's policy was that in effect at the University Division institutions. At these schools the financial aid budget for coach-recommended athletes averaged about \$230,000 a year with \$11,000 set aside for recruiting expenses. The comparable figures for Gettysburg were \$88,000 and \$2,500. Coaches of major sports at University Division campuses normally were employed on a contract basis and chose their assistants. Only the Athletic Director had tenure, and tenure for the head coach and assistants was at the pleasure of the institution. In contrast, at Gettysburg members of the coaching staffs generally were "in the same process as are other faculty members."¹¹⁶ The Mara Committee also discovered that scholarships often were awarded without strict regard to financial need and "a surprisingly large fraction of these scholarships can be and are awarded to athletes."

The practices in effect in the College Division schools, especially those at the MAC Southern Division, appeared more comparable to Gettysburg's. Officials at F. & M., Dickinson, and Muhlenberg claimed that athletic grants were awarded only on the basis of need, and the Committee was "inclined to believe that they do adhere to this policy rather strictly." The number and status of the coaches and the total athletic budgets were more like those at Gettysburg. In short, the Committee saw their policies and practices more in line with those in effect at Gettysburg and at a level which Gettysburg could better afford. To continue to compete at the University Division level, concluded the Committee, Gettysburg would have to more than double its athletic budget. In contrast, competition in the College Division would entail relatively little added cost.

Clearly implied was the idea that successful competition required a shift to the College Division level. This, the Committee stated, would "provide the optimum benefit to the individual student, both athlete and spectator-supporter; to the interested

¹¹⁴The Barnes Committee had discovered all MAC University Division rivals had larger athletic budgets than that at Gettysburg. The Barnes Committee Report is summarized in the *Gettysburgian* of September 18, 1970.

¹¹⁵*Gettysburgian*, December 10, 1971. A general impression that the trustees had bowed to alumni pressure was strengthened by Haas' statement that "the alumni are concerned about the athletic program and they want to make it more competitive." The clear inference was that the College's intercollegiate sports program was to be governed less by student needs and wishes than by those of other segments of the college community.

¹¹⁶At Gettysburg coaching and teaching responsibilities were considered interrelated. Hen Bream thought that separating the Athletic Directorship from the chairmanship of the Physical Education Department might benefit the athletic program but such would raise problems. Staff members would end by having two bosses. Moreover, faculty status for coaches would serve the financial health of the program and contribute to stability and continuity, both desirable elements, in the athletic program. Henry T. Bream Interviews, February 14, and March 5, 1975.

alumni; and to the College as a whole." It cited Gene Haas' conclusion that "the most important purpose of inter-collegiate athletics is to provide the opportunity for the above average athlete to compete versus athletes with similar ability from other schools." Therefore, the Committee recommended that the College petition the NCAA for reclassification and that it apply to the MAC Executive Committee for transfer to the College Division "as soon as possible." Despite the temporary difficulties in scheduling which this move would entail, in the long run it would give Gettysburg a chance for championships "in fact as well as in theory." In addition, the Committee recommended discontinuance of the controversial \$600 athletic grants above need.¹¹⁷ In a concluding paragraph the Committee assured President Hanson that "not only is this report supported unanimously, but no recommendation in it is the result of a compromise between different positions."

The Mara Committee Report was next reviewed by a special "Joint Committee" including three trustees, two members of the Board of Fellows, two of the faculty, and two students. Noting that the NCAA was moving to restructure the various classifications of intercollegiate competition, the Joint Committee advised waiting to see at which level were placed the majority of schools on the Gettysburg schedule. It did, however, accept the Mara Committee recommendations for terminating the \$600 grants and proposed reestablishment of the previous practice of awarding an honorary grant to any student, athlete or non-athlete, "with special talents, not in excess of \$200.00 each."

On November 2, 1973 the *Gettysburgian* reported that the College had been continued in the University Division. In February 1974, however, the other twelve MAC University Division schools withdrew to form the "East Coast Conference," and in the process, as the *Gettysburgian* of March 1 put it, Gettysburg was "left stranded." Gettysburg was welcome to join the seceders but instead petitioned to be admitted to the MAC College Division. Rejected at first on the ground that Gettysburg was too strong, this application eventually was accepted, and for the 1974-1975 seasons the College was placed in the Southern Division to compete with Dickinson, F. & M., Lebanon Valley, Moravian, Muhlenberg, and Western Maryland.

Opinion was divided as to the wisdom of this move, but many Gettysburgians had been hard put to it to work up enthusiasm for the annual football thumpings at Delaware's hands and the frustrations experienced at competing in a basketball conference which included Temple, LaSalle, and St. Joseph's. The *Gettysburgian* of September 20, 1974 expressed the optimism of many. It foresaw Gettysburg in a "commanding position . . . for some time to come" in the new conference competition, a situation which "would naturally assist in recruiting [and] which would help perpetuate the success." At all events, Bullet varsity teams now would go up against those of colleges of their own level and perhaps enjoy the success they had had in earlier days when, as old grads fondly recalled, they were "competitive."

The struggle of the five Gettysburg football teams (1970-1974) to compete with University Division rivals underscored the wisdom of the transfer to the College Division. In nineteen conference games the Bullets won but twice. Against teams other than University Division rivals the record was 12-14-1. Recurring injuries beset the team with key personnel, particularly the quarterbacks, often rendered *hors de combat* by the enemy. For example, in the third play of the season's opening game with Delaware in 1972, Tom Sheets the only experienced quarterback, was hit with a bone-crushing tackle and was out for the season. Injuries to experienced linemen often removed adequate protection for Gettysburg backs. This lack of depth meant that at times the defense shone brilliantly while the offense bogged down, and on other instances an effective offense could not offset a porous defense.

Despite such tribulations, each of the seasons had certain highlights and outstanding individual performances. In 1970, Quarterback Tom Brennan broke two passing records. His 385 yards in passing against Albright bettered Ross Sach's record of 311 yards in 1949 against Bucknell, and his 103 completions for the season set a new mark. The "two bright spots" for the 1971 season, declared the 1972 *Spectrum*, were Lee Hayslip's "booming punts" and Norman Hall's "never-say-die spirit." At the 1972 Homecoming Day game against Lehigh Joe Pinkos booted a 26-yard field goal with 27 seconds remaining for an unexpected and highly gratifying 30-27 win over the surprised Engineers. Although the 1973 team lost eight of its ten games, Bob Crawford completed 106 of 207 pass attempts, Tom Groves caught 48 of them for a career total of 103, and Groves and Ed

Dietz at center made honorable mention for the All-State squad. The Bullets' best game in 1974 they reserved for the contest with Bucknell at Lewisburg. Mike Hackett's passing, Stan Gray's receiving, and Mike Ayers' running helped produce three touchdowns in five minutes and brought Gettysburg a 21-14 victory over this bitter rival. Standouts on the strong defensive platoon that year included Mark Nobile and Bryant Meckley.

Like true love, an athletic program judged solely on the basis of the ratio of victories and defeats will not always run smoothly. The 1970-1975 years brought Gettysburg football enthusiasts a generous measure of that frustration which accompanies losing seasons. Understandably, many individuals sought explanations and ended by cherishing their own notions as to where the blame lay. When, in the early spring of 1975, a regrettable controversy erupted over the position of head football coach, many found a convenient target for their criticism. Indeed, as it turned out, there were a number of targets.

At the close of the 1972 football season Howard Shoemaker stepped down from the duties of head coach. Athletic Director Eugene M. Haas agreed to take on the responsibility on a temporary basis. In the process of organizing his staff Haas learned that Jim Ward, stellar quarterback of the previous decade, had expressed interest in returning to the campus as an assistant coach. On Haas' recommendation the Administration offered the position to Ward and he accepted. He arrived in time for the preseason training sessions, and was assigned responsibility for the freshman eleven and later as defensive coordinator for the varsity. These facts are not in dispute. What later became disputed was Ward's understanding that he would succeed Haas as head coach after a few years. Apparently Ward thought he had been promised this, a promise which both Haas and the Administration subsequently denied had been made.

Rumors of difficulties arising between Haas and Ward circulated during the 1973 football season. Whatever they were, the passage of a year did not resolve them and they surfaced in an angry exchange on the sidelines during the 1974 Albright game. At the close of the 1974 season Haas announced his resignation as head coach and Ward was one of a number who applied for the vacated position. For reasons which seemed sound to him, Haas refused to recommend Ward to the Administration which had already decided to look elsewhere for a head coach. Assuming that he was next in line for the position, Ward

¹¹⁷Other Committee recommendations included a yearly allocation of \$8,000 for student jobs administered by the Athletic Director; a "rebalancing" of the grant-loan arrangement for athletic scholarship recipients who for irresponsible reasons refused to participate; and a strengthening of the intramural and recreational program for all students.

reacted to these developments with some heat and the Haas-Ward controversy, smoldering for some months, broke into the public press.

A goodly portion of the college community and alumni which had taken it for granted that Ward would succeed to the head coaching job found the scene confusing. Charges and counter-charges of insubordination and bad faith emanating from Haas and Ward did little to clarify the matter. For several weeks the campus seethed. It is safe to say that the greater number of voices raised supported Ward. Since the Administration felt unable to discuss publicly its reasons for rejecting Ward, and since it requested Haas to avoid further public comment, it was Ward's version that got earliest and widest circulation.¹¹⁸

In response to questions raised by students, alumni, and some members of the faculty, Dean James D. Pickering set forth the Administration's position in a letter published in the February 21, 1975 issue of the *Gettysburgian*. According to Dean Pickering, the College's intent was to seek a person "of sufficient college teaching experience and of successful college coaching experience." He added that the search "is still in progress." The Administration decision, he wrote, was based solely on "the interest of the program or department affected and of Gettysburg College as a whole." He concluded that in all decisions "involving tenure, promotions, and faculty assignments, regardless of department, the College refrains from public discussion, again for the protection of all parties concerned." However fair such a policy may have been, the Dean's statement failed to resolve the doubts of many concerned individuals.

On March 14, the *Gettysburgian* reported the appointment of Joseph G. Sabol as head football coach for the 1975 season.¹¹⁹ Public debate over the coaching position subsided somewhat, and Sabol was quoted as declaring that he could project himself "very easily into the image of Gettysburg College." Both Ward and his supporters on the football squad expressed satisfaction with the choice of Sabol whose qualifications for the position appeared to be excellent. He had earned All-American mention as a guard on Penn State football

teams in the 1950s, and he came highly recommended by Joe Paterno, the Penn State coach. Following graduation he had coached successfully at the high school level and prior to coming to Gettysburg had enjoyed successful coaching seasons at Norwich University. Sabol was the first non-alumnus to coach football at Gettysburg since the 1927 season when Bill Wood, also a Penn State graduate, directed the team.

It is entirely too early to assess the effect of this unhappy business on the College's varsity athletic program. There may exist grounds for raising questions regarding the respective courses taken by all those directly involved. It would appear, however, that the chief culprit was the strained personal relations between Haas and Ward. The two principals found communication difficult and misunderstanding easy, and the resulting lack of confidence gave birth to perhaps unwarranted mutual suspicion. No one involved emerged from the episode totally unscarred. Regrettably, there yet lingers a touch of bitterness which will fade only with the passage of time.

Gettysburg's soccer teams kept pace with the gridgers, winning but 19 of 60 contests with eight ties recorded. As was also true of the football teams, the Bullet booters included some outstanding players—there simply were not enough of them. Bob McKee and Brian Wright were the top scorers in 1970 and the 1971 team's captain, Bill Tucker, was named to the MAC Western Division team with Mike Shaver, the leading scorer, winning honorable mention. Goalie Keith Fisher won All-MAC honors in 1973, with Doug Merrihew's scoring leadership earning him honorable mention.

The 1973 soccer record of 4-5-3 might have been better had it not been for dissension within the squad which surfaced as the season ended. An article in the *Gettysburgian* quoted Coach Brad Cahill's tactless observation that the team lacked "maturity and leadership." It also reported that he and Assistant Coach Lou Hammann had quarreled. Players resented Cahill's public airing of his opinions; and some of them, charging him with being dictatorial, declared that they would never play under his direction again. They were saved this possibility when Cahill, who also became involved in a controversy with the swimming team, was replaced for the 1974 season by Bill Rost. "Last year," the *Gettysburgian* of September 20, 1974 remarked, "the soccer team was hampered by internal problems, but Rost believes that all that is behind them now." But a new coach did not solve the problem of successful competition, and



Varsity soccer, 1970 style

the 1974 squad could win but twice in 13 games with three of them ending in tie scores.

It is regrettable that cross-country did not own a larger following, for Bullet harriers provided the one bright spot in the fall athletic program during the 1970-1974 seasons. Altogether the five campaigns brought the long distance runners 50 dual meet triumphs against 36 defeats. Coach Ned Brownley's 1970 squad earned a 7-12-0 record with the best runner a freshman, Scott Lecrone. But Bob Lehr's four teams won 43 of their 67 meets for an impressive .641 winning percentage. Lehr also had the help of Lecrone in 1971, and in 1972 Dave Lilley, an upperclassman, and Shane Gerber, another freshman, led the team.

The 1974 *Spectrum* credited Lehr with "a fine job of recruiting" for the 1973 season which saw Gerber and Mark Roddy pacing the team to a 13-2-0 record in dual competition. One of the wins that year was at the expense of Widener College which had triumphed in 46 straight dual meets. Craig Vandergrift arrived for the 1974 season and teamed with Gerber and Roddy to register a 12-2-0 regular season record and bring Gettysburg the College's first MAC cross-country championship.

Coach Bob Hulton's basketball quintets were able to post but two winning seasons in six winter campaigns beginning in 1970 and in the process won 61 while losing 85 games. Lack of material handicapped the first three of these squads which between them gained but 23 victories and suffered 51 defeats. The low point in Hulton's 20 seasons as Gettysburg's head basketball coach was reached in 1971 when the Bullet cagers finished the season with but four wins in 25 tries. The only victories were the double defeats handed both Dickinson and F. & M., but despite the depressing record, Jay Bucher managed to score 495 points

¹¹⁸See the *Gettysburg Times*, January 13, 1975 and the *Gettysburgian*, January 17, 1975.

¹¹⁹Haas, desiring to give the Administration a completely free hand, had taken no part in the selection of his successor. The *Gettysburgian* reported that he was to be relieved of his duties as Athletic Director and Chairman of the Department and assigned the task of studying and analyzing intercollegiate athletic programs at other institutions.

for a 19.8 game average.¹²⁰

The tide began to turn in 1972 as Bucher and Bill "Wilt" Speier, a hustling sophomore, led the team to a 11-12 record. In 1973 Speier was joined by Jeff Clark, the leading scorer, Dan Thompson, John Gyulai, and Perry Clark; and not only was the string of losing seasons broken with 14 wins in 25 games, but the team made the MAC playoffs. Although the 15-10 season of 1974 was better, the 4-5 conference record kept the Bullets out of the playoffs that year. Yet the team performed well at times. During the Christmas holidays Gettysburg placed second among eight teams competing in the Lutheran Brotherhood Tournament at Minneapolis with Jeff Clark and Gyulai named to the All-Tournament Five. Clark's tip-in in the final seconds tied Navy at Annapolis, and in the overtime period the Bullets outscored the Midshipmen for a 72-68 victory. In conference play Clark led the scoring, Speier was the top rebounder, and Perry Clark's sharp eye at the foul line earned him second place in that category.

"Only Jeff Clark's standout performance highlighted the '74-'75 season," reported the 1975 *Spectrum*. The team struggled to achieve a 9-13 season's win-loss record but came alive in the final game with a 71-59 upset of Bucknell at Lewisburg. The Bisons had already defeated Gettysburg twice that season, first in the Roanoke Invitational Tournament and also in the regular season in Bream Gymnasium. Clark closed out a sparkling varsity career with 480 points, and his three-year total of 1,250 points placed him second behind Ron Warner on Gettysburg's all-time scoring list. His exploits won him a berth on the Division II Eastern All-Star team and a second team slot on the All-State team.

The 1970 wrestling season began with a new coach. James Sauve took charge, and in the six years 1970-1975 his grapplers won 53 dual meets, lost 42, and tied two. They included outstanding wrestlers who won not only MAC titles but national honors. Three of them, Roy Emenheiser, Don Cramer, and Craig Helmuth, not only won MAC titles in their respective weights, but also competed in national championship tournaments. As a freshman, Helmuth became a national champion when he defeated all opponents in the 1975 NCAA College Division Championship Meet. MAC



Jeff Clark, Division II Eastern All-Star-1975

champions included Paul Hetrick, who won the title two consecutive years and finished his varsity wrestling career with a 64-18-3 record, and Tim Gesner, whose 11-3-2 record in 1974 made him that year's top wrestler.

Intercollegiate swimming earned a place in the sun at Gettysburg when Coach Bob Smith's 1970 squad turned in a 10-4-0 record. Smith coached the swimmers for two more seasons for a combined record of 19-11-0 in 1971-1972 and then turned the responsibility over to other hands. He had the help of a number of outstanding mermen, including John Flemming, Lee High, Doug Gordon, and Lee Blazewski. His Orange and Blue natators dominated the Little Three Meets. Perhaps the best individual performance in the three seasons was High's second place finish in the 200-yard butterfly at the 1972 MAC Meet.

Brad Cahill succeeded Smith for the 1973 season. His first squad, called with some justification "the best in Gettysburg history," posted a 13-2-0 dual meet record, the best in 35 years of competition. The team achieved fourth place in the MACs and High, Gordon, and Blazewski, joined by Scott Musselman and Rich Vanderlin, broke college records with abandon.

An unfortunate controversy blemished the winning record (9-7-0) of the 1974 swim squad. On March 1, the *Gettysburgian* reported that members of the team were boycotting the annual Little Three Meet because arrangements had been made to stage the men's and women's events alternately. The men claimed that such a procedure was not covered by NCAA rules and that it would "disrupt the team's momentum." Angry coed swimmers indignantly voiced their disappointment at the subsequent cancellation of the meet in preparation for which they had worked so hard. The campus was both confused and critical. The *Gettysburgian* blasted the men's "immature and selfish act" as sully the reputation of the College, and it predicted

that "this uncalled-for act of team selfishness" would jeopardize relations with Dickinson and F. & M.

Whatever the merits of the men's case, the 1975 season saw a new swimming coach, Bill Rost, and the Little Three Meet resumed with both the men's and women's teams competing and emerging with decisive triumphs. Although in dual meet competition the men's varsity won six, lost six, and tied one, this record it achieved through the efforts of Gordon, Musselman, Bill Groves and freshman star Dave Speier. Gordon's 25 first places set an individual scoring record of 147¼ points, and Musselman's diving ability earned him 18 first places and the MAC title in that event.

In terms of victories and defeats the 1970-1975 baseball seasons were by no means the most glorious in Gettysburg's history. Only the 1970 nine with 11 wins in 20 games registered a winning season and the low point came in 1975 with a 4-12 record posted. Altogether, the teams won 43 times and lost on 72 occasions, not the sort of performance that comes close to winning championships.

The best pitching performance was turned in by Dave Smith who struck out fourteen Rider batters on his way to a 3-0 shutout in a 1970 game. Other hurlers who strove with some success to check enemy batsmen were Bill Guard, Eric Williams, and Jim Brown. Coach Gene Hummel's leading hitters included Phil Niesz, Joe Duffy, Andy Mays, Jim Selsor, and Stan Gray. It may be that the 1975 *Spectrum*, in reviewing the 1975 season, provided a description of team performance for the entire period: "Lack of pitching depth and untimely errors characterized this year's baseball season."

The Gettysburg intercollegiate track program not only had difficulty in gaining competitive success during the first four seasons of the 1970-1975 period, but it was forced to deal with a disruptive matter in 1971. Just prior to the opening of the 1971 season the *Gettysburgian* reported that Coach Ned Brownley was taking legal action against the College for its refusal to grant him tenure. Brownley charged that his "fault" had been his dissent against departmental policies which denied him adequate support for the track team and that the evaluation procedures in respect to his classroom performance were faulty.¹²¹

¹²⁰That Hulton is a superior basketball coach is attested by his career record and is recognized by those whom he coached at Gettysburg. Roger Gaeckler '64 whose 1977 Hofstra five made the 1977 NCAA University Division playoffs, says that he learned "all the fundamentals of basketball from Hulton." The Harrisburg *Sunday Patriot-News*, March 13, 1977.

¹²¹Brownley's suit, brought against the trustees, President Hanson, Dean Crapster, and Gene Haas, was supported by the Pennsylvania State Education Association which wished to make it a test case of the tenure question. The courts eventually dismissed the suit on the grounds that it lacked adequate legal basis.

It is reasonable to assume that this dispute did little to build team morale.

Although team victories more often than not eluded the Bullets, individual trackmen established new records in a number of events. Don Broome's 211' 4" javelin toss in 1970 erased the former college record, and in 1971 Tom Groves set a new standard in the triple jump at 44' 9". Nevertheless, such performances were not sufficient to help the team avoid some embarrassing defeats.¹²² It seemed obvious that drastic measures were required and in 1972 Bob Lehr was brought in as track coach. He faced a monumental task in reinstituting morale, an effort which required a couple of track seasons to bear fruit. Meantime, the 1972 season saw Groves soar 46' 3½" in the triple jump, George Vallone achieve a 13' ¾" pole vault mark, and Shane Gerber cover the mile in 4:17 and the three-mile in 15:08.7, all representing new college records.

The 1974 season brought remarkable improvement in both team and individual performance. As a team, Bullet tracksters won eight of ten contests including the Little Three Triangular. Vallone bettered his own pole vault record with a leap of 14' ½" and Paul Barbadoro spun the discus an even 143 feet for another new record. Mark Roddy set a new standard for the two-mile (9:13.5) and the three-mile (14:12.6) and Mark Nobile's 15.0 tied the existing 120-yard high hurdles record. At the Penn Relays Mark Scarbrough placed seventh in the six-mile run. For the first time, that year Gettysburg had an entrant in the decathlon at the Penn State Relays, and although Bob Gills failed to place, his participation represented real progress in track. The seniorless 1975 squad won only four of nine regular season contests, but Barbadoro heaved the discus 152' 3", and the team closed out the season by winning the MAC meet (College Division) for the first time in the College's history.

Coach Bob Hulton's six tennis squads almost broke even during the 1970-1975 seasons with 33 victories and 38 defeats. Only the 1971 team failed to be competitive with its three wins in fourteen matches. But the 1975 netmen registered a 9-1-0 record, one of the brightest tennis seasons in the history of the sport at Gettysburg. Outstanding racquet wielders included Bob Bair, Bill Damoto, and Clete Reed of the 1973 squad, and Paul Krieger who had the best

match record for the 1974 Bullets. On October 12 and 13, 1974, a MAC Fall Tourney took place on the Gettysburg courts in which the doubles team of Brian Lane and Carl Lloyd reached the finals.

Within the next five years the College will pass the midway mark in its second century of life and begin its second century of participation in intercollegiate athletics. Any tentative judgment as to "where do we go from here," both for the institution and its athletic program, requires a look at the College's past. Throughout the years Gettysburg's sports endeavors have reflected national trends while at the same time avoiding the more flagrant abuses which often accompanied them. If at times some in the college community detected a perhaps undue emphasis on sports on the campus, the fact remains that the more unsavory practices followed elsewhere have not blemished the Gettysburg record. Even in football, the king of the intercollegiate athletic world, the win-at-any-price syndrome has never surfaced at Gettysburg. The College has never had an undefeated football team, but neither has any of its teams lost every game. Someone once observed that a college's academic standing was in inverse proportion to the success of its football teams. This aphorism, whether it be true or false, has certainly not been the case at Gettysburg.

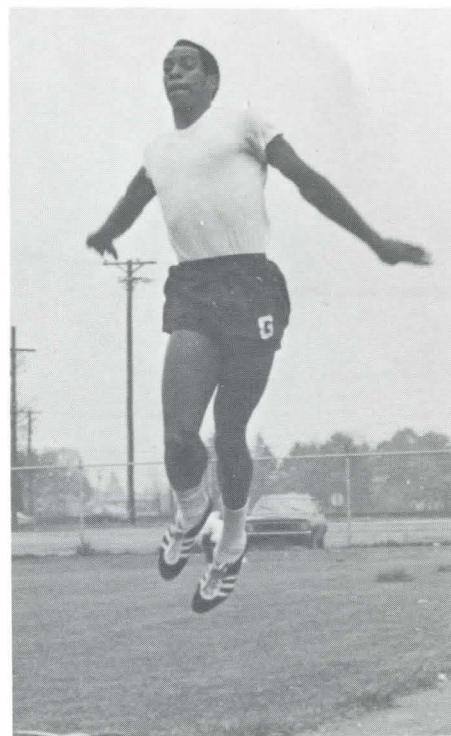
What of the future?

Some have suggested that spectator sports, those in which students watch from the stands rather than participate in directly, serve little purpose in an educational institution. They argue that varsity sports lead to commercialism and semi-professionalism; that varsity athletes are separated from the rest of the college community; that emphasis on intercollegiate athletic competition upsets the proper balance between athletics and academics; and that financial resources are diverted into programs of limited educational value. Their solution is to provide an enlarged intramural athletic program as an outlet for student energies.

Henry T. Bream, whose half-century of direct involvement with Gettysburg's athletic program gives him a perspective which deserves respect, believes that intercollegiate athletics have justified their existence at the College. His experience persuades him that they have served to boost morale and unify the college community. As the student body has grown in numbers and become more cosmopolitan in its makeup, it has been more difficult to create the kind of loyalty to the College which prevailed in earlier days. Bream thinks that a program

devoted exclusively to intramural athletics tends to divide the campus into rival segments. A successful varsity team, he contends, can promote a sense of identification with the College more than any other agency.

If the experience of the past century of intercollegiate sports endeavor at Gettysburg indicates anything, it is that it is possible to have an exciting, healthy, and successful program without trying to compete on an even basis with more athletically ambitious and affluent institutions. Varsity schedules now in being and planned for the future provide a saner level of competition, competition that is challenging and yet promises the sort of success that will instill loyalty and bring honor to the College.



Tom Groves, triple jump record holder—1971

¹²²For example, the 1971 Bullets lost to Mt. St. Mary's 38-107, to Delaware 20-125, and to Bucknell 42-108. In 1972 Delaware humiliated the Orange and Blue with a 129-10 victory.

Appendix

An essential part of any review of athletic performance must deal with statistical records. Below are those which reveal the success or lack of success of the various men's Gettysburg varsity athletic teams in intercollegiate competition for the years 1890 through 1975. Women's intercollegiate athletic records are too fragmentary to permit satisfactory compilation. These figures below are unofficial.

TOTAL CONTESTS WON, LOST, AND TIED

Sport	Total Contests	Total Won	Total Lost	Total Tied	Percentage
Baseball	1,110	623	480	7	.564
Basketball	1,348	751	597	0	.557
Football	702	363	303	36	.545
Wrestling	405	212	178	15	.543
Golf	363	190	170	3	.527
Cross-Country	265	138	127	0	.520
Track	377	187	182	8	.506
Swimming	315	133	181	1	.423
Soccer	420	156	224	40	.410
Tennis	582	213	348	21	.379
Lacrosse	125	43	79	3	.352
TOTALS	6,012	3,009	2,869	134	.511

Bibliography

Among the more invaluable sources used in preparing this continued history of intercollegiate athletics at Gettysburg College were the personal interviews kindly granted by individuals, some of whom are listed in the Acknowledgements.

The author relied heavily on the files of the *Gettysburgian* for the period January 1919 through June 1975. Unfortunately, a number of issues of this student weekly are missing. He also consulted the editions of the *Spectrum* which appeared during the period covered by this account. The *Spectrum* did not appear in 1945 and two of them bear the same date. (1952).

Trustee Minute Books provided information as to official policies and actions taken by the College respecting the intercollegiate athletic program. Faculty attitudes and reactions are set forth in the Faculty Minute Books. Both of these sources proved more useful for the 1920-1945 period. After that, the trustees were involved only in the formulation of general policy, and the faculty's direct role was much less evident, if indeed it existed at all.

Of continuing usefulness were the several sports encyclopedias which were included in the bibliographic listings for the first installment of this history published as "History Series Number 4" in December 1976. They are referred to in appropriate footnotes.

Among the general social histories of the American people which helped place the Gettysburg story in larger perspective were Frederick L. Allen's *Only Yesterday* (New York, 1931), William E. Leuchtenburg's *The Perils of Prosperity, 1914-1932* (Chicago, 1958), Preston W. Slosson's *The Great Crusade and After* (New York, 1931), and a series of essays edited by Loren Baritz under the title of *The Culture of the Twenties* (Indianapolis, 1970).

Hardly an objective work but one offering some interesting insights on the national scene is Reed Harris' *King Football: the Vulgarization of the American College* (New York, 1932). Useful for purposes of comparison was Wilbur J. Gobrecht's *The History of Football at Dickinson College 1885-1969* (Carlisle, Pa., 1971).

The *Alumni Record of Gettysburg College, 1832-1932* (Gettysburg, Pa. 1932), edited by Clyde B. Stover and Charles W. Beachem, continued to be useful in identifying certain individuals, but it has been both supplemented and superseded by the recently issued *Gettysburg College Alumni Directory*, published in 1975.

Other sources employed include articles in newspapers and magazines which are cited in footnote references scattered throughout this study.