Hofstra Heads '74 Schedule

by Bruce Maggin

With some impressive schools on the 1974 football schedule, the Hofstra State Great Danes opened training camp last week in preparation for their season opener.

Don't expect the hard-hitting game of last year as the mediocre teams have been axed from the schedule. Coach Bob Ford approaches the season as optimistic as ever. He certainly must have great confidence in his team as he has booked an away game at Hofstra University on September 21 to open the season and Alfred the following week at University Field.

These two teams should be a real challenge for the Danes as Alfred has long been an Eastern College Division football power and both schools are usually high in the voting for the Lambert Howl, last year's 7-2 squad, as they have been axed from the schedule. The Danes will host Union in a conference opener on September 21, as they have competitive rivalry.

Defensively there are many question marks. Tackle Frank Villanueva and Tom Pagano return along with last year's 19-6-1 starting lineup lead the Danes' wishbone offense. The majority of the Danes' offense should come on the ground.

An important factor in this attack will be the offensive line. All the offensive line including Three-cord, Cottan, Lee, Halick, Schulecken. Their problem could be lack of experience.

Running out of the wishbone will be tailback Mark Perry and tight end Sneddon and fullback Tony. Delphin. Perry has displayed good running skills and ability and his number is often called on the end of the wishbone. Delphin is a powerful, versatile running back, and has entered quite a bit in his two years of Albany and he is now a closer backfielder. He is unquestionably the leader of the Danes' offense.

Passing plays have increased over the last two years for Albany, indicating that the Danes could be putting the ball into the air with greater frequency this year. At the center of the plans should be split end Rob Baxter, Ford calls Robby, "The best wishbone split end in the country." Light yard is a problem with Tommy Florey and Frank Racicelli handling it our.

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The Danes have two more weeks to prepare for Hofstra, highlighted by home scrimmages at Union and Hudson Valley, Tomorrow at 1:00, the Danes will host Union in a controlled scrimmage. This will give Coach Ford a good opportunity to gauge his talent and experiment, as most of the squad will be given a chance to show off their skills.

The morale on the squad is quite high. There is a great deal of talent on the team, especially in some backup areas. Only time will tell, though, at Albany will be able to handle the better small colleges.

The Danes running corps, led by John Bertizzio (above) and some pass blocking during practice. Coach Bob Ford (below) works on the practice dummy.

Increased Funding Spurs Women's Sports

by Les Zuckerman

With the growing awareness of the American Women's Women's Sports Program being expanded by the Department of Education and Welfare, women's collegiate sports have skyrocketed across the college campus. The increase in budgetary funds has been increased to provide better quality competition on the varsity level.

In past years, the budget has been inadequate for the needs of Women's Sports. The increase in this year's budget will allow for tougher scheduling and larger team rosters. The problem in Women's Sports has been the team's strength. This year the teams hope to expand to allow for more competitive program. Louisiana Rhenish of the Physical Education Department feels that Albany has the resources for a successful women's program. She described the situation by saying: "There's a lot of talent on this campus but they aren't turning out and participating." Unlike Men's sports, the women do not offer scholarships to recruit for the various teams. Many of the women who come to college are inexperienced, therefore, the coaching must start with basics in order to prepare them for intercollegiate competition. Ms. Rhenish praised the staff for their fine work in past seasons.

At SUNYA the emphasis is on education. Most coaches, men and women, feel that academics is at a higher priority than athletics. The students' interests in athletics is more than just competitive spirt. The enjoyment aspect of sports is stressed as a form of recreation. The emphasis of sports in higher educational institutions is being changed by society. Women's sport is trying to keep up with the desires of SUNYA students.

The increase of budgetary funds will allow for expanded scheduling and larger team rosters. The Department also must combat rising prices in equipment and services. At Controller Jerry Albrecht commented on the financial picture in general with the following statement, "We have two objectives that we are trying to meet. First, to avoid increasing budgets. Second, to respond to a demand for a better Women's collegiate athletic program."