

HALL OF FAME

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HUGO BEZDEK

Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia on April 1, 1884, Hugo Bezdek was head coach at Penn State for 12 years (1918-29), compiling a 65-30-11 record, including undefeated seasons in 1920 and 1921. A four-year All-American at the University of Chicago, he played fullback in football and second base in baseball. Bezdek enjoyed a 24-year collegiate coaching career in which he also served as head coach at Oregon (1906, 1913-17) and Arkansas (1908-12). His 1917 Oregon squad defeated Pennsylvania, 14-0, in the Rose Bowl. He later managed the Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball Club (1917-19). Bezdek, who died in 1952, was named to the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1954 and the Helms Foundation College Hall of Fame in 1960.

JOHN CAPPELLETTI

The 1973 Heisman Trophy winner, John Cappelletti helped the Nittany Lions to a perfect 12-0 season and No. 5 national ranking in both of the major polls. A consensus All-American, Cappelletti rushed for 1,522 yards and 17 touchdowns in 1973. The Upper Darby, Pa., native put together three straight 200-yard rushing games in the final month of the season, including a high of 220 against North Carolina State. Cappelletti also received the Maxwell Trophy and was selected as Player-of-the-Year by ABC-TV, United Press International, the Philadelphia Sports Writers Association, the Walter Camp Foundation and the Washington Touchdown Club. He played in the Hula and Senior bowl games. Cappelletti's career yardage total of 2,639 still ranks him No. 9 on the Lions' all-time rushing list. His 1973 rushing total is fourth on the school season rushing list to Larry Johnson (2,087), Lydell Mitchell (1,567) and Ki-Jana Carter (1,539). Cappelletti still holds a number of Penn State ground-gaining records. A first-round draft choice of the National Football League Los Angeles Rams, Cappelletti played 10 seasons in the professional ranks, six in Los Angeles and four with the San Diego Chargers. He resides in Laguna Niguel, Cal., where he is active in sales and manufacturing activities. Cappelletti was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame on December 7, 1993.

KEITH DORNEY

Keith Dorney, a two-time All-American at tackle for the Nittany Lions in 1977 and 1978, will be inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in December. He is the 16th ex-Nittany Lion player so honored and the 20th member of the Penn State football family to earn college football's highest honor. Dorney was selected an All-American by the Football Writers in 1977 and in 1978 by the Associated Press, Football Writers, the Football Coaches, NEA, The Sporting News, United Press International, and Walter Camp. A native of Allentown, Pa., he played nine seasons with Detroit (1979-87) of the National Football League. Dorney is a high school teacher and lives in Sebastopol, Cal.

RIP ENGLE

Charles A. "Rip" Engle achieved national prominence as Penn State's 13th head coach. A native of Salisbury, Pa., he was a four-sport standout at Western Maryland College, graduating in 1930. Engle began his coaching career at Waynesboro (Pa.) High School, where he compiled an 86-17-5 mark in 11 years, including three unbeaten seasons and eight conference championships. He joined the staff at Brown in 1942 and was promoted to head coach two years later. Engle was named head coach at Penn State in 1950 and guided the Lions to a 104-48-4 record in 16 years, winning three of four bowl games and three Lambert Trophies. In 1970, Engle won the Amos Alonzo Stagg Award for his contributions to football. He was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1974. Engle died March 7, 1983, in Bellefonte, Pa. He was born March 26, 1906.

JACK HAM

An All-American in 1970, Jack Ham became the tenth Nittany Lion to be enshrined in the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame when he was inducted in 1990. Ham is the only Penn State product in both the college and professional football halls of fame. A nine-time All-Pro linebacker for the National Football League Pittsburgh Steelers, Ham was enshrined at Canton in 1988. As a senior co-captain in 1970, Ham had 91 tackles and intercepted four passes. He still shares a pair of defensive records for blocked punts: four in his career, three in his final season. He had 251 career tackles (143 solo). A second-round draft choice of the Steelers in 1971, Ham developed into one of the NFL's most outstanding linebackers. He starred on all four of the Steelers' Super Bowl championship teams and was the Defensive Player-of-the-Year in 1975. He is president of a drug testing services company and also works as a radio and television football analyst, including his role with the Penn State Sports Network. He is a Penn State Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

DICK HARLOW

A Penn State graduate, Dick Harlow served as the Nittany Lions' head coach for three seasons (1915-17), compiling a 20-8 record. A two-year letterman, he also was a member of the baseball and track teams. After leaving Penn State, Harlow was the head coach at Colgate (1922-25), Western Maryland (1926-34) and Harvard (1935-42, 45-47). At Harvard, Harlow was voted Coach-of-the-Year in 1936 and a year later was chosen as the Ivy League Coach-of-the-Year. He was named to the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1954. A native of Philadelphia, Pa., Harlow died in 1962. He was born Oct. 19, 1889.

BOB HIGGINS

Bob Higgins, a native of Corning, N.Y., came to Penn State as a student in 1914 and became one of only five players in the history of Nittany Lion football to earn five letters. An end on Walter Camp's All-America team in 1919, he served as captain as a senior. Higgins also lettered in baseball, boxing and wrestling and played two years of professional football with the Canton Bulldogs. His coaching career included stays at West Virginia Wesleyan and Washington University in St. Louis, before he returned to Penn State in 1928 as an assistant. Higgins was appointed the Lions' head coach in 1930 and compiled a 91-57-11 record in 19 seasons. His 1947 team was unbeaten in the regular-season and tied Southern Methodist, 13-13, in the 1948 Cotton Bowl. Higgins, who died in 1969, was elected to the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1954. He was born Nov. 24, 1893.

GLENN KILLINGER

Glenn Killinger was named to the 1921 Walter Camp All-America team at quarterback after leading Penn State to two straight undefeated seasons. He earned nine letters in football, basketball and baseball. He also coached at Penn State, Dickinson, Rensselaer, and Moravian and played professional football with the New York Giants. Killinger joined the faculty at West Chester (Pa.) State College in 1934 and served in various capacities, including head football and baseball coach, athletic director, and dean of men. A native of Harrisburg, Pa., Killinger died July 25, 1988 in Stanton, Del. He was born Sept. 13, 1898.

TED KWALICK

Penn State's second two-time All-American, tight end Ted Kwalick was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1989. In his three-year career (1966-68), Kwalick caught 86 passes for 1,343 yards and 10 touchdowns. After making a pair of All-America teams as a junior, Kwalick was a consensus choice as a senior, while finishing fourth in the Heisman Trophy voting. He played in the College All-Star and the Coaches All-America games and the Senior Bowl following his senior season. Kwalick was a 1969 first-round draft choice of the San Francisco 49ers and enjoyed a distinguished career with the 49ers, Oakland Raiders and, briefly, the Philadelphia Bell of the World Football League, before retiring in 1977. He was a member of the Raiders' Super Bowl XI championship team and was selected to play in three Pro Bowls. In nine NFL seasons, Kwalick averaged 15.3 yards per catch on 168 pass receptions. Now living in Santa Clara, Cal., he is president of a sportswear company.

RICH LUCAS

Rich Lucas, who was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1986, enjoyed an outstanding Penn State career as a two-way player from 1957-59. He won the Maxwell Award, was a first-team All-American at quarterback and was second in the 1959 Heisman Trophy balloting. As a senior, the Glassboro, Pa., native led Penn State to a 9-2 record and a 7-0 victory over Alabama in the first Liberty Bowl. He led the team in rushing (325 yards) and passed for 913 yards and five touchdowns, completing 58 of 117 passes. He also punted 20 times for a 34.0-yard average and returned five interceptions for 114 yards. Following a brief professional football career, he entered athletic administration at Penn State. He retired in 1998 as an assistant athletic director.

PETE MAUTHE

Pete Mauthe lettered four years (1909-12) at fullback during which time Penn State posted a 26-2-4 record. Mauthe, captain of the 1912 team, also was an outstanding punter and placekicker. As a senior, he kicked a 52-yard field goal and scored 119 points, including 11 touchdowns. Born July 8, 1890 in Turkey City, Pa., he became president of a mining company in Youngstown, Ohio. Mauthe, who died in 1967, was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1957. He was honored in 1964 as a distinguished alumnus of the University.

SHORTY MILLER

Eugene E. "Shorty" Miller, a 5-5 quarterback who was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1974, earned Walter Camp third-team All-America honors after leading Penn State to an 8-0 record in 1912. A four-year letterman, the Harrisburg, Pa., native also served as captain of the baseball team. He played several seasons of professional football with Massillon (Ohio) and later served as a highly respected college and professional football official. He died in 1966 after a career as a teacher, coach and administrator in the Harrisburg school system. Miller was born on Nov. 15, 1890.

LYDELL MITCHELL

Penn State's season and career touchdowns record-holder, Lydell Mitchell was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame on December 7, 2004. A product of Salem, N.J., Mitchell was a standout running back from 1969-71, helping the Nittany Lions to a 29-4 record. He earned first-team All-America accolades and finished fifth in Heisman Trophy balloting in 1971 after breaking three NCAA season records — most touchdowns (29), most rushing TDs (26) and points scored (174). Mitchell ran for 1,567 yards in 1971, a school season record that stood for more than 30 years. He still holds Penn State records for touchdowns in a season (29), TDs in a career (41) and rushing TDs in a career (38) and his 246 career points scored rank fourth. Mitchell played in the National Football League with Baltimore (1972-77), San Diego (1978-79) and the Los Angeles Rams (1980). He is president of the Parks Sausage Company in Baltimore, Md., and part owner of Super Bakery, Inc.

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DENNIS ONKOTZ

One of only 12 Penn State players to be named first-team All-America in consecutive years, Dennis Onkotz was a defensive mainstay of the 1968-69 undefeated teams. A native of Northampton, Pa., Onkotz amassed 287 tackles, which still ranks third on the Lions' career list. His 11 interceptions are tied for eighth in school history. His three interception returns for touchdowns are a career record (since tied by Darren Perry). A versatile athlete who also returned punts, Onkotz's 13.2-yard average on 47 punt returns is No. 8 among the Nittany Lions' best-ever in that department. Onkotz made the 1969 Academic All-America team and was selected to play in the 1970 Hula Bowl. Chosen by the New York Jets in the third round of the 1970 NFL draft, Onkotz was forced to retire from professional football because of a severely broken leg suffered in his rookie season. Now a financial planner with the Pennsylvania Financial Group, he lives in Boalsburg, Pa. Onkotz was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame on December 12, 1995.

JOE PATERNO

Joe Paterno's induction into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame will take place in December, having been postponed from 2006 due to injuries he sustained in a sideline collision during a November game at Wisconsin. Paterno was scheduled to be among three legendary coaches to become the first active players or coaches inducted into the Hall of Fame. He will join active coaches Bobby Bowden and John Gagliardi as inductees. Paterno and Bowden received the Gold Medal — the Foundation's highest and most prestigious honor — at the 2006 event via a video presentation. Paterno will become the 21st member of the Penn State football family to gain induction into the Hall of Fame. From Brooklyn, N.Y., Paterno joined the Nittany Lions' coaching staff in 1950 soon after his graduation from Brown University. He was named head coach in 1966, introducing his "Grand Experiment" and rapidly turning Penn State into one of the nation's premier programs. Paterno has been selected the American Football Coaches Association Coach-of-the-Year an unprecedented five times and has led the Nittany Lions to seven unbeaten, untied regular-seasons and two National Championships.

MIKE REID

Mike Reid, the only Penn State player to win the Outland Trophy as the "outstanding interior lineman in college football," was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1987. A bulwark of the 1968-69 teams, he was an All-American and All-East choice in 1969, when he recorded 87 tackles and returned an interception for a touchdown against Maryland. He also finished fifth in the Heisman Trophy balloting. Reid enjoyed a varied career at Penn State (1966-69), which included a lead role in the play "Guys and Dolls" and winning the 1967 Eastern heavyweight wrestling title. He starred with Cincinnati in the National Football League (1970-74), winning All-Pro honors twice, before retiring to devote full time to his music career. He has won numerous music awards, including the Grammy Award. Also a Penn State Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, he was named to the NCAA Silver Anniversary team in 1995.

GLENN RESSLER

A dominant two-way lineman from 1962-64, Glenn Ressler was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame on December 11, 2001. A native of Dornsife, Pa., Ressler won three varsity letters, excelling at center and middle guard. In his senior season of 1964, he was a consensus All-American and was the choice of Philadelphia's Maxwell Football Club as the nation's most outstanding player. Ressler played in the East-West Shrine Classic and Hula Bowl following his senior season and graduated in 1965. He played for 10 seasons with the Baltimore Colts of the National Football League after being selected in the third round of the '65 draft. He was a member of the Colts' 1969 Super Bowl team and played on Baltimore's 1971 NFL Championship squad that defeated the Dallas Cowboys in Super Bowl V. Ressler was selected second-team All-NFL in 1968 by the New York Daily News. He lives in Mechanicsburg, Pa., and volunteers his time to several community organizations.

DAVE ROBINSON

A dominant two-way end from 1960-62, Dave Robinson was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame on December 9, 1997. A product of Moorestown, N.J., Robinson was a three-year letterman playing on both sides of the ball for Coach Rip Engle. As a senior in 1962, he led Penn State to a 9-1 regular-season, made 17 receptions for 178 yards and was named a first-team All-America by the Associated Press, NEA, Football Writers (Look), Post and Time magazines. The first-team All-East choice also was named the nation's top collegiate lineman by the Philadelphia Sportswriters. Robinson was a first-round draft choice of the Green Bay Packers and became an integral member of Vince Lombardi's squad, helping the Packers to the 1965 NFL Championship and victories in Super Bowls I and II. He was named All-Pro three times, playing for Green Bay from 1963-72 and concluding his career with the Washington Redskins in 1973-74. Robinson is a district sales manager and lives in Kent, Ohio.

STEVE SUHEY

Steve Suhey, whose Penn State career was interrupted by World War II, was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1985. Born on Jan. 8, 1922 in Jamesville, N.Y., he enrolled in 1941 but left for three years of service in the Pacific with the Army Air Corps, before returning in 1946. He earned All-America honors as a member of the unbeaten 1947 team. He completed his degree while playing two years with Pittsburgh in the National Football League. He later coached at Waynesboro (Pa.) High School before becoming a salesman for the L.G. Balfour Company until his death in 1977 on his 55th birthday. Suhey married the former Virginia Higgins, daughter of his collegiate coach, Bob Higgins. They had seven children, including Larry, Paul and Matt, who were all members of the 1976 Penn State football team.

DEXTER VERY

Dexter Very, who was named to the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1976, never missed a game in his Penn State career (1909-12). An end who also returned kickoffs, he was named a second-team All-American as a senior and was part of one of college football's earliest passing combinations. Born Nov. 27, 1889 in Fairdale, Pa., he lost just two bouts in four years as a Nittany Lion wrestler. Very, who died in 1980, went on to become a collegiate football official and business executive in the Pittsburgh area.

HARRY WILSON

Harry "Light Horse" Wilson enjoyed an outstanding collegiate career and earned All-America recognition as a halfback at both Penn State (1921-23) and Army (1925-26). He led Penn State in scoring for two seasons (1922-23) and scored every touchdown for the Nittany Lions in the final six games of the 1923 season before leading Army in scoring for two consecutive years. Commissioned in 1928, he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters after flying 45 combat missions as a pilot commander in the Army Air Corps in World War II. Born Aug. 6, 1902, he retired from the military in 1956. Wilson, who died on Oct. 26, 1990 in Rochester, N.Y., was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 1973.