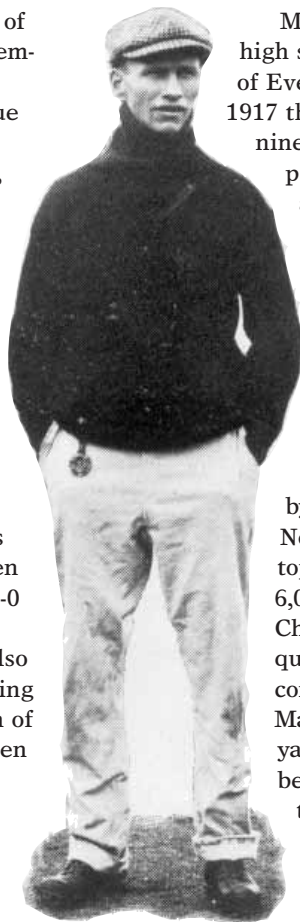


1910-21: Winners and losers

Another coaching change was in store for 1910, with Marquis "Bill" Horr, an All-America tackle from Syracuse University and 1908 Olympic medalist in the discus, becoming the ninth man to lead the Boilermakers since the turn of the century. After going 1-5 in Horr's first season and winning just one of its first five games of 1911, Purdue ended the year with back-to-back victories to finish 3-4.

The Boilermakers won just one of their first three games of the 1912 season, and Horr was dismissed as coach on Oct. 30 for "improper conduct." John "Keckie" Moll assumed control of the team, and the Boilermakers did not lose the rest of the season, winning three and tying one. Among their victories was a 91-0 demolition of Rose Poly on Nov. 17. Moll, who was expected to have his contract renewed, also had an offer to become head coach at Ohio State. But he died on Christmas morning of 1912 after a short illness stemming from typhoid fever.

From 1906 to 1914, Purdue athletics were under the directorship of Hugh Nicol, a Scottish-born Major League Baseball player and manager from 1881 to 1897. His search for a new football coach in 1913 took him to the University of Pennsylvania and Andy Smith, an All-America fullback at his alma mater. Smith coached at Pennsylvania for four years and opened many eyes when the Quakers overcame a 21-0 deficit to defeat Michigan 28-21 in 1912. Ohio State also sought his services. According to the Sept. 2, 1913, edition of the Purdue Exponent, "When Coach 'Andy' Smith, who arrives today, reaches Purdue, the general athletic situation will take on a more distinctive football aspect ... He is, without doubt, of the same



Andy Smith

calibre as Yost, of Michigan, Stagg, of Chicago, Juneau, of Wisconsin, and Williams, of Minnesota."

Smith's first victory with the Boilermakers – 26-0 over Wabash on Oct. 4, 1913 – marked the 100th in Purdue history. The Boilermakers went on to post their first-ever winning Western Conference record at 2-1-2 en route to a 4-1-2 overall mark. Moreover, Purdue had back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1904 and 1905.

The Boilermakers had another winning season in 1914, going 5-2, and then went 3-3-1 in 1915 before Smith left for the University of California, where he would lead the Golden Bears to the 1920 national championship. He later became a member of the College Football Hall of Fame's inaugural class in 1951.

Meanwhile, Purdue turned to a high school coach, Cleo O'Donnell, of Everett, Mass., but in 1916 and 1917 the Boilermakers lost eight of nine conference games while posting overall records of 2-4-1 and 3-4.

Between 1898 and 1917, Purdue managed just one tie while losing 19 times to the University of Chicago, which was coached by the renowned Amos Alonzo Stagg. Under new coach Arthur "Butch" Scanlon, a Chicago alum who was tutored by Stagg, the drought ended on Nov. 2, 1918, as the Boilermakers topped the Maroons 7-3 before 6,000 people at Stuart Field. Chicago led 3-0 in the fourth quarter when J.H. Quast completed a 20-yard pass to Bob Markley, who raced the final 25 yards while shedding four would-be tacklers for the game-winning touchdown. The Nov. 4

Lafayette Journal reported: "Markley's sensational jaunt goalward put the large crowd in an uproar. When the game was ended and Purdue had won

the coaches and players were carried off the field by the delighted fans."

That game was the only one Purdue played in the now-named Big Ten that season, but it was enough for a share of the conference championship with Illinois (4-0) and Michigan (2-0). However, the Boilermakers did not win another conference game in Scanlon's three-year reign, finishing just 7-12-1 overall.

Next up to coach Purdue was William "Lone Star" Dietz, who played at Carlisle College with the renowned Jim Thorpe for the legendary Pop Warner. Dietz coached Washington State to its only Rose Bowl victory in 1916.

But he won just one of seven games in his only season with the Boilermakers, who failed to score in five contests. The victory was a 3-0 verdict over Northwestern on Nov. 5, 1921, in what is documented as the first Homecoming game at Purdue.

During the off-season, Dietz was accused of offering money and railroad fare to high school players on the West Coast to play for him. His contract had expired on Nov. 20, but was set to be renewed when the allegations were levied against him by Leslie Ayer, chairman of the faculty committee at the University of Washington. On Jan. 19, 1922, Purdue acting president Henry Marshall announced that Dietz no longer would be employed. Ayer lauded Purdue's decision, saying it "proves that middlewestern colleges are in earnest in their efforts to keep intercollegiate athletics healthy."

Next: 1922-36



Arthur "Butch" Scanlon



William "Lone Star" Dietz