

Dike Beede—Coach Of All Formations

by Pete Sloan

Dike Beede is celebrating his twenty-fifth year of coaching football. He has coached at three colleges, Westminster, Geneva, and Youngstown. This year marks his seventeenth year at Youngstown, and to make it fitting Dike was named the small college coach of the year by the NCAA this summer for outstanding contributions to the game as well as his football record. Over all Beede coached teams have amassed 110 victories against 76 losses and 13 ties. His Youngstown mark is 82-49-7.

How did this man achieve his fine record? Dike started his playing career as a tackle at South High. In his first year in college he was chosen all-state tackle at Newberry College in South Carolina. Dike's next three years were spent closer to home at Carnegie Tech where in his junior and senior years he played fullback and captained the team. It was here that Dike, under the guidance of Coach Steffan, initiated the full-spinner with the fullback spinning and giving to the end coming around or faking and plunging into the line. Beede's first coaching job was at Westminster where he used a variation of the T formation with an end in motion. His record here was mediocre. Geneva College was his next destination and his first real successful seasons as a coach. Here Dike used the Tennessee Single-wing. In 1935, the team, with Little-All-American, Dom Rosselli, compiled an eight and one record.

Came Here in 1938

After three years, Beede finally came to Youngstown in 1938 and has been here ever since with the span covering seventeen seasons. Probably his best season was in 1941 when the team went undefeated, but once tied. Sloko Gill, now line coach of the Penguins, captained the team at center.

his players for the best name. He certainly is a stickler for condition, which means a lot of wind-sprints, and he will work days on running through plays. Beede builds team morale and desire to win during the week. He says that if a team isn't up before the game they never will be despite pep talks.

One of the outstanding contributions Dike has made to the game, besides those mentioned, was the use of flags denoting fouls that the officials carried. Back in 1941 when Youngstown met Oklahoma City, Beede asked the officials to try throwing a red flag when a foul was committed, rather than blow the horn. Dike said that the whistle or horn often caused players to halt during a play. He also thought it would lessen the blow of a penalty if the fans knew before the player made a long run and had to be called back.

Beede claims that after the war the team had a lot of depth and much ruggedness with the veterans. This leads us up to the question of how this year's 1957 version of the Penguins stacks up.

Beede exclaimed, "We have more depth at every position and this is the first year that we can start a team without freshmen. We have more deception, more speed, and more power in the backfield."

Should Shape Up

Dike figures the team should shape up to be one of the best with Little-All-American candidate, Dave Kimmel and Ray Carter in the backfield. Backing up the experienced line is another Little-All-American candidate at center, Jim Vechiarella. Dike mentioned that the schedule is tough with no one team to point for although he did say that North Texas State was probably the toughest.

Dike is a mastermind of all football formations and has used just about every formation known in modern football. He, himself, calls the present formation at Youngstown the "composite offense". The A formation, which Youngstown uses, is really not the straight A formation but a combination of T formation, Single-Wing, and Split-T.

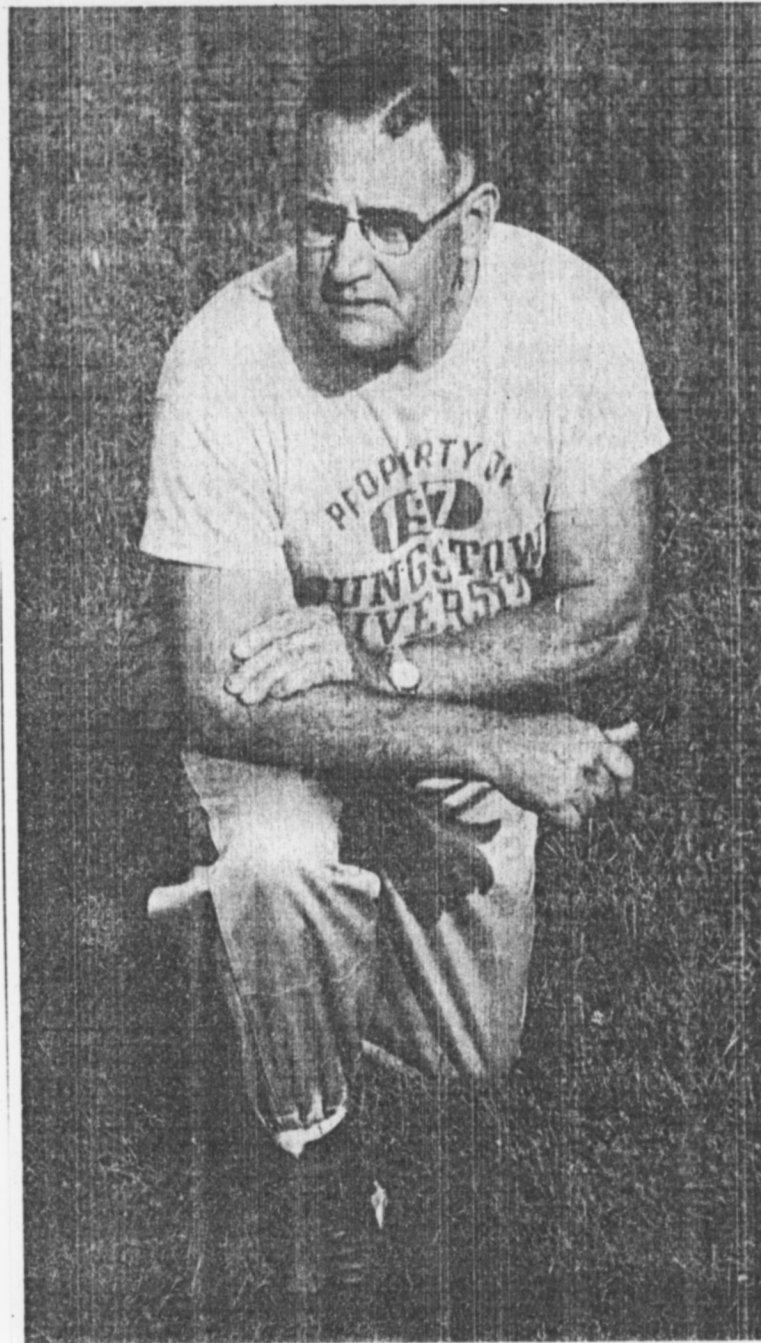
Uses New Plays

Beede is one of the smartest coaches in the game. He is always coming up with new plays to stump the opposition. In practice he will give a name to a play or consult

When Dike was asked about the best players he ever coached he mentioned two players of the present team, Kimmel and Vechiarella. Another mentioned without hesitancy was Dom Rosselli of the 1935 Geneva team.

We of Youngstown University hope that this Silver Anniversary year will be one of the best in Dike Beede's long coaching career. We think this man deserves everything that is in store for him in the coming season.

Coach



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