

STORIES of New Jersey

The morning of the sixth the Princeton team accompanied by a few fans arrived by train. They were greeted riotously by the whole Rutgers student body and were escorted on a tour of the town that generously included billiards and lunch while the captains convened to draw up a set of rules.

After lunch the street swarmed with students as they hurried to the field, now the site of the gymnasium, in the wake of the two teams. Bill Leggett, Rutgers' captain, led the procession with Bill Gummere, captain of the rival Princeton team. As they neared the field the crowd broke and ran for the best seats on the fence top, the rest sat on the ground. Out in the center the team stood discussing the rules.

The captains had decided that holding, tripping, and throwing or running with the ball were fouls--penalty, perpendicular throw into the air; a ball out of bounds was to be kicked in at right angles to the field by the side that drove it out: the system of gaining a free kick for a ball caught in flight or on the first bounce that Princeton had been using in their interclass games was discarded. The field was 360 feet long and 225 feet wide and the goal posts had no crosspiece to regulate the height of the kick. There were 25 men on each team and one man on each side was goatee and stayed near the posts. The first team to get six goals was to be the victor and there was to be a ten minute rest after each goal or period, and no limit to the length of the period.

Leggett devised a system that spread his team out over the field. Eleven of his players stayed within 30 yards of the posts as "fielders" while the other 12 followed the ball as "rovers" or "bulldogs." All of the Princeton men followed the ball.

The players rolled up their trousers, stripped off their coats and vests and lined up ready to start. Some of the Rutgers players wore red turbans and one player appeared in a red jersey. There was a discussion still going on about how to begin. Rutgers had been in the habit of "babying" the ball at the start but a mounted kick-off was decided upon. Princeton won the kick, the whistle blew and the game began.

There was a wild scramble for the ball. Back and forth the players went, bucking and kicking at the round ball. Rutgers managed to make a wedge around it and forced their way down the field using short dribbles straight through the goal. The crowd yelled themselves hoarse in the excitement and banged the fence with their heels. The success of this strategy so cheered the Scarlet who had been discouraged by the superior weight of the Tigers that they planned to repeat this maneuver for the six needed goals.

Gummere held consultation with "Big Mike," their best man, a big raw-boned Kentuckian with his suspenders wrapped around his middle. At a disadvantage playing under new rules, Princeton decided on new tactics. The second period began and Rutgers quickly formed their "flying wedge" but they hadn't gone five yards before Mike butted his way into it. Each time the wedge was formed the Princeton battering ram broke it wide open. Once they captured the ball, made a wedge of their own and quickly scored a goal.

Rutgers tried kicking over the Tiger's heads but the Princeton men, being taller, often captured the ball and Rutgers now settled down to stubborn short