

Rough Riders

Red Machine Ready For First Engagement

Rival Coaches Intend Employing Big Squads in Exhibition Game—Trimble Starts Last Year's First String.

Sharply at 2.30 this afternoon Mayor Stan Lewis will kick off the ball from the 35-yard line and the 1938 gridiron season will be under way. Coach Ross Trimble and his band of Red warriors will be hosts to National's Montreal's new entry in the Ontario Rugby Football Union. Unless the fortunes of war lead to an eastern final between these clubs some time in November this will be the only time that they will clash during the Autumn.

This exhibition game will provide the first test of the year for both squads. Coach Hoddy Foster is bringing along 30 men and Ross Trimble will dress 37. By mutual agreement the use of substitutes will be unlimited and it is the plan of the two mentors to throw every one of their players into action at one stage or another.

Riders will be favorites in this struggle if for no other reason that they are longer on condition than the invaders. The Red Shirts have been training for more than a month and every one of them is in good enough physical shape to go for two periods without relief. None will have to do that, however. Trimble intends, like Foster, to substitute early and often and the result should be a fast, hard-fought game.

Use New Players.

The Rough Rider coach will give his freshmen plenty of opportunity to show their capabilities. He has a number of smart, promising boys in camp for the front line and backfield divisions, and while he wants to win this game, he will take advantage of it to give his new candidates a thorough baptism under fire.

Last season's regulars will start out and they are sure to receive a huge hand from the crowd which should be the largest that has seen an opening exhibition game in a number of years. The deeds of this 12 a year ago when they carried the fight to Argonauts until the end of that memorable day when they were defeated in the Maple Leaf Baseball Stadium are still fresh in the minds of the fans and they are sure of a great reception.

The one that will be accorded Nationals won't be much less warm. Eddie Barnabe, Johnny Ferraro, Ernie Hempey, Tommy Burns and company are admired and popular athletes in the Capital and they'll be accorded a tribute when they dash out from under the stands.

Feature Ferraro.

With that ace of passers, Johnny Ferraro, in his backfield, Coach Foster will probably dwell to a considerable extent in the air this afternoon. Ferraro, free from the worries that attend the coaching job when a playing position is coupled with it, should be in for his finest season and there can be no under-rating the former Cornell captain. Foster has groomed a fleet crew of clever pass-receivers and the Riders are more than liable to be subject to a heavy overhead attack.

Trimble was reticent yesterday as to what type of strategy he will employ against today's enemy. The probabilities are that he will mix up lateral, forward and plunging manoeuvres with the idea of testing their respective strengths and the object of seeing how effective his formations are with strong opposition.

The club has adopted an innovation that should appeal to the fans. A public address system has been installed and the fans will be informed of the identity of ball-carriers and tacklers, besides having penalties and scores explained.

Nationals Ready.

MONTREAL, Sept. 16.—(CP)—Coach Hoddy Foster pushed his Montreal Nationals through a last signal drill tonight as the local entry in the Ontario Rugby Football Union made ready for tomorrow's exhibition encounter with Ottawa's Rough Riders. The clash, scheduled for Lansdowne Park at the Capital, will mark the schedule-opening for each squad.

Quarterback Ed Barnabe donned the cleats, but was worked only lightly by Foster. Signals were called by Johnny Ferraro. Absent from recent lineups with a cold and leg injury, young Jimmy Riddell turned up for tonight's workout and it was expected he would share punting duties with Ray Mullins against the Big Four team.