Lions Squeak Past Tough Navy, 21-10

Last Saturday, the Penn State Nittany Lions had a tough time turning back the Naval Academy in the home opener at Beaver Stadium. Only clutch plays by the defensive unit defeated the Midshipmen by a 21-10 count.

Navy threatened all afternoon to upset the highly favored Lions, who had been defeated in the season opener at Tennessee. Navy led 3-zip at the half and 10-7 in the third quarter before the Lions pulled the game out of the fire.

The Midshipmen took the opening kick-off and marched to the Penn State three yard line before being stopped by State's vaunted defense. QB Fred Stuvek passed to tight end Steve Ogeen at crucial times during the drive from the Navy 20. Ogeen would delay at the snap of the ball, then fly across the middle. The play worked four times during the course of the march. But the big play came with Navy at the State 35 in a fourth down situation. Navy set-up in punt formation, but Stuvek got the snap and ran for the first down. They picked up a first down at the PSU three, but State held. Navy then fumbled the snap as it tried a field goal.

The Lions moved for a few first downs, then coughed up the football on a fumble, the first of five throughout the game. Navy was unable to move the ball and had to punt. The Lions failed to move in the first half, gaining only 80 yards in total offense.

Navy scored the lone tally of thehalf when they scored a field goal in the opening seconds of the second quarter. The Middies got the ball when State's John Cappelletti fumbled a punt at the PSU 28. Roger Lanning kicked a 38 yard three-pointer to give Navy the early lead. Lanning attempted a 27 yarder at the close of the half but the kick was wide.

The State attack, as it was in the first half against Tennessee, was stymied by turnovers at times. The only difference between the Vols and the Middies was that the Vols capitalized on Penn State's mistakes.

The Lions, determined to win, came out roaring in the second half. Cappelletti took the kick-off to the State 11, from where the Lions launched a drive. QB John Hufnagel, an All-America candidate, passed three times to sophomore tight end Dan Natale on plays covering 19, 16 and 19 yards. Halfback Gary Hayman, who did not start the game, contributed much to the attack with explosive running, the big play a 16 yard run to the Navy five

Hayman, who has missed the past two seasons because of injuries and saw limited action against Tennessee, is the closest thing to replacing Lydell Mitchell, the record-setting running back, that the Lions have. Cappelletti dived into the end zone from two vards out to put State ahead for the first time. Alberto Vitiello added the conversion.

Navy came right back when on theensuing kick-off, freshman speedsler Ike Owens (9.3) seconds for 100 yds.) took the ball 59 yards to the State 28. A desparation tackle by Hummelstown's Mike Orsini saved the touchdown. But it didn't matter much as Andy Pease inched over the goal a few

plays later, giving Navy a three point lead.

Cappelletti took the kick and almost broke it off before being stopped at the State 40. Hufnagel passed for 20 yards to Carlisle's Jim Scott, then Hayman ran for 12 more. Natale made a great catch of a Hufnagel bullet and got to the Navy one yard line. Cappelletti got the TD on the next play, giving State a 14-10 advantage.

Navy threatened throughout the remainder of the game while Penn State's offense again floundered. But the four point lead seemed safe enough until the latter stages. Navy got the ball on their own 20 and prepared to put together a final scoring drive.

But John Skorupan, a senior who had a super game with 15 unassisted tackles, put the game on ice. With barely a minute left, he intercepted a Stuvek pass and raced 32 yards for the clinching TD as the 50,457 at Beaver Stadium went wild.

Hayman had a fine afternoon as he gained nearly 80 yards on the ground. Hufnagel came up with the big play as did Dan Natale. But the rest of the team was disappointing. improvement needs to be made for this team to live up to the reputation Penn State has as the premier power in eastern college football. It has the potential and the personnel, but to have a great team, thecostly turnovers which have plagued Penn State in its first two games must disappear.

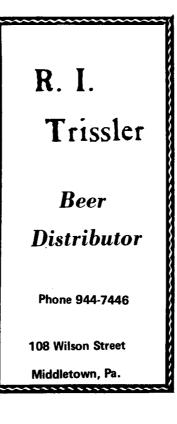
Penn State's next game is at home on Saturday against Iowa, with kick-off at 1:30 p.m. The following week the Lions face a tough Illinois squad at tough Champaign.

Penn State Football '72

PSU 21 21	Tennessee Navy		Opp. 28 10
Sept.	30	Iowa	
Oct.	7	at Illinois	
	14	at Army	
	21	Syracuse	
	28	at West Va.	
Nov.	4	Maryland	
	11	N. Čarolina St	
	18	at Ohio U.	
	25	Pittsburgh	

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SPORTS

Game Statistics

	PSU	NAVY
First Downs	17	15
Rushes/Yards	49-141	49-112
Passing	10-19-1	14-26-3
Pass Yardage	132	147
Total Offense	273	259
Return Yards	108	4
Punts/Av.	5-43	6-38
Fumbles/Lost	5-5	3-2
Penalties/Yards	2-15	2-10

Scoring

 $0 \ 3 \ 7 \ 0 - 10$ Navy Penn State 0 0 14 7 - 21

Navy – Lanning 38 FG PSU – Cappelletti 2 run (Vitiello kick) Navy - Pease 1 run (Lanning kick)

PSU - Cappelletti 1 plunge (Vitiello kick) PSU - Skorupan 32 pass

interception (Vitiello kick)

INTRAMURALS

PLEASE NOTE: Don't forget to sign up for the following:

JUDO INSTRUCTION

8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. - Mondays & Thursdays at the Recreation/Athletics Building. Registration fee \$10.00

SELF-DEFENSE INSTRUCTION

7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Mondays & Thursdays at the Recreation/Athletics Building. Registration fee \$5.00

KARATE

There will be registration and a meeting for Karate instruction Wednesday, September 27, 1972, at 7:00 p.m. in the Recreation/Athletics Building. Registration fee \$20.00

MEETING NOTICE

Football Meeting – for all captains and officials of flag football – Thursday - September 28, 1972 - in the Main Street Gym, School Board Room - 8:00 p.m. - All captains and officials please attend.

STUDENT DAY CARE CENTER

Is still in need of volunteers, mainly for on a "standby" basis. Your assistance will be deeply appreciated. Please call Recreation/Athletics Building, 787-7751 and give a helping hand to a very worthy activity.

> DON'T FORGET THE DEADLINES FOR REGISTRATION FOR YOUR INTRAMURALS

Horseshoes – October 4, 1972 – Wednesday Tennis - October 9, 1972 - Monday Vollevball – October 11, 1972 – Wednesday Shuffleboard - October 18, 1972 - Wednesday Darts - October 23, 1972 - Monday

ALL REGISTERING MUST BE DONE AT RECREATION/ATHLETICS BUILDING - COME IN NOW AND SIGN UP FOR THE SPORT OF YOUR CHOICE!!

