

Lions Top Lambert Trophy Race

Win 8th Straight Over Midshipmen

By TOM MORGAN

Penn State has advanced to first place among contenders for the coveted Lambert Trophy, symbol of Eastern football supremacy. According to figures released last night, the Lions pace the field with 982 points. Other grid powers, are: Penn, 981; Army, 980, and Columbia, 970.

Last week Penn topped the Nittanymen by two points.

A power-laden pack of Nittany Lions clawed the Navy, 20-7, Saturday and served notice to skeptical grid scribes and bowl committees across the nation that they can pounce with the same deadly results on a big league foe as on the so-called Larry Lavdowns which supposedly dot their schedule.

It was triumph number eight for State's grid giants, who, by virtue of Penn's deadlock with Army, now rank as the East's lone undefeated and untied eleven and one of the country's four major teams boasting spotless records. They are Michigan, Notre Dame, Penn State and Southern Methodist.

Now only victory-starved Pitt bars the Lions from their first perfect grid campaign since 1912.

GROUND ATTACK

In spite of a swamp underfoot, Coach Bob Higgins' vaunted Lion ground attack functioned with the force of a pile driver and sank Navy in a water-clogged turf that was almost better suited for water polo. Twenty-five thousand fans defied the mud, cold and steady drizzle to witness the conflict staged in Baltimore's Municipal Stadium.

Amassing 228 yards by rushing, the Lions garnered a total of 150 on three plays which high-

lighted their potent ground offense. In the first, wingback Jeff Durkota skirted the weak side of Navy's line in the first period and streaked 47 yards to the end zone as quarterback Chuck Drazenovich, tackle John Nolan and guard Steve Suhey executed deadly downfield blocks.

The same play, a weak-side reverse hand-off from fullback Joe Colone to Durkota, fooled the Middies again in the third stanza and this time netted 43 yards and a State score. Durkota slashed over the goal line just as three Navy backs, in mad pursuit, dived at him.

A sparkling 60-yard spurt by wing-footed tailback Larry Joe set the stage for a Nittany touchdown in the second quarter. Crashing through a wide hole in the left side of Navy's defense, Joe eluded at least four would-be tacklers before Middle fullback Bill Hawkins stopped him on the Navy 13 after chasing him 30 yards.

WILLIAMS SCORES

From there Taiback Bobby Williams pounded methodically a stubborn Navy wall for six successive plays before plunging to pay dirt from the 1-foot line on the seventh try.

Navy, which paced the Higginsmen, 11-5, in first downs, rebounded after State's initial TD to knot the count at 7-all early in the second period. Quarterback Bob Horne tossed 15 yards to Al McCully, left half, who snagged the ball on the Lion 31 and raced down the sidelines to score.

Sophomore Jim Willis kicked his thirteenth extra point in as many attempts for Navy, while Ed Czekaj bagged two more successful conversions for the Blue and White. The Lions' other try for an extra point misfired when Bobby Williams' pass, intended for Halfback Wally Triplett, was batted down in the end zone.

Rolling from the Middle 40 where Chuck Drazenovich had

Congratulations!



JOHN POTSKIAN

Co-captain Johnny Potskian rates Collegian's rave notices for Player of the Week honors after his standout defensive work in Saturday's game with Navy.

One of the best-liked players on the squad, genial "Potsy" has shared the team direction this season with Johnny Nolan. Whether his assignment is blocking or tackling, the big end performs his duties in top form.

Saturday's game with Pitt will mark "Potsy's" final appearance as a Higginsman as he will receive his diploma this summer.

recovered a Navy fumble, the Nittany machine thundered toward what looked like its fourth TD of the fray in the third period, but the offensive stalled in the quagmire that was Navy's 6-stripe.

KICKING

Top-notch punting featured the struggle. Colone's prime effort was a 67-yard boot which stopped lead on Navy's 23 in the first quarter, while Middle center-captain Dick Scott, who doubles in punting, kicked one 35 yards to State's 1-line in the same stanza.

Although suffering their sixth setback, the Midshipmen from Annapolis pierced Lion defenses for 217 yards, 122 of which were chalked up on the ground. This threw a plexus punch into Nittany hopes of bettering Santa Clara's all-time defensive record against rushing and passing, set in 1937.

Yielding 217 yards to Navy's attack caused State's defensive average to rocket from 61.6 to 81.0 yards per game, according to unofficial figures. This is about 11 yards higher than Santa Clara's all-time mark of 69.9.

Between The Lions

WITH TED RUBIN

Said Navy's great center and All-American Dick Scott, "We've never faced a tougher line all year, and that includes Notre Dame's." The Nittany Lion forward wall had done it again; helped out immeasurably by sixty minute Church Drazenovich, the Bedenk coached chargers had played their part and played it well, and the Blue and White ascended the throne of Eastern college football. Army helped out by tying a strong Penn eleven, and Penn State's national standing was further aided by the surging Alabama Crimson Tide's conquest over previously invincible Georgia Tech.

With statistics hounds sleuthing in record books for past unscathed teams in Lion gridiron history, let's look at the Baltimore contest, and to how well the Warriors of Nittany stood up when it counted.

This was to be the contest in which the Hig was to throw the book . . . wide open football with plenty of hipper-dipper . . . the spectators were to be in for a show.

However the field was soggy, and fleet Lion backs couldn't find the secure turf which was necessary for many of their trickeries. So the plays called were simple and routine, but every once in a while, the cat was let out of the bag . . . the deep reverse was called in and the Navy defense was penetrated.

Statistics show the Middle the first down victor, but State had the point score, and State walked off of the field with the pigskin. The Lion was mighty and had prevailed!

DURKOTA AGAIN

It was the terrific blocking which sprung able Jeff Durkota loose those two times, and which sent Larry Joe off on his mad dash which ended just 13 yards short of paydirt.

Eastern newspapers have been giving much deserved raves to the Blue and White defense, to Tamburo and Potsy, Nolan and Norton, Iron man Suhey and Joe D., "Shag" Wolosky and that stone wall Chuck Drazenovich. Big Chuck, with two more years of play would stand more chance for national honor mention if the Penn State single wing would call for the quarterback's carrying the ball, and for more active contact with the ball. Quarterbacks like Johnny Lujack, Gene Rossides and others run and pass, and are therefore more prominent in the eyes of spectators and newsmen.

Fairly early in the Baltimore tilt, Chuck D. brought many laughs when, after he had sprung up from the muddy sod, he dropped back a few yards and washed off his hands in a nearby puddle of water.

The Hig used the lowest number of substitutes this season, sending only twelve replacements into the fray. Suhey and Chuck D. both played the entire game, and a few others played far more than usual.

Navy exhibited a very fine passer in Bobby Horne, who directed the Annapolismen when Reaves Baysinger, son of the the Syracuse coach, was on the sidelines. Horne's tosses were very dangerous, and on a dry field, would have been even more of a threat. Carrying a towel in his pants, this aerial artist was seen to dry his hands off before nearly every play.

LONG PRELIMINARY RUN

Wally Triplett's kick-offs were very efficient, and a factor in this may be his extra long run preliminary to booting the ball. From a point twelve to thirteen yards behind the ball, Wally begins his run.

High-scorer Jeff Durkota not only was the game's offensive star, but was a very valuable man on defense. Two or three times this senior wingback was the only man to stand in the way of a Navy runner and paydirt; they did not pass.

Another important factor in the win was the inspiring kicking of fullback Joe Colone. The now-famed Colone quick kick was again effective, and Joe outdistanced the Middle's Dick Scott. Scott, a center, did fool the Lions once when he ran the ball from a kick formation, picking up a neat eleven yards. Trying it again a little later, Scott was only able to advance the ball one yard, as the Nittany defense had learned its lesson.

This contest marked the end of the five year Navy-Penn State series, with Penn replacing the Midshipmen on the '48 slate.

Now only Pittsburgh has the chance to mar the unblemished record of the Warriors, and the Lions will be the heavy favorite over the Panther. But Penn State teams know better than to disregard the Smoky Cityites, for the latter annually play inspired ball in this finale . . . the mountain is nearly climbed.

Record 93 Entries Predict Rugged Court Competition

Intramural cage competition gets underway tonight in what promises to be the most successful IM basketball season in the history of the College.

A record ninety-three teams, twenty-eight more than were entered last season, will vie for the coveted crowns won last year by Sigma Nu in fraternity competition, and Dorm 11 in independent league.

360 Games

The 360 game tournament, which will run through the month of February, is divided into two levels of competition, fraternity and independent, as was the case last season. Both the fraternity and independent levels will be subdivided into four leagues of eight or nine teams each.

League champions will be determined on a percentage basis, with each team meeting every other team in its respective league once. After league champions have been decided, a post-season tournament will be staged.

The fraternity winner will receive a trophy emblematic of its

victory in the interfraternity tournament, and all members of the championship independent cage squad will be awarded individual medals.

Tonight's tilts and the respective courts on which they will be played are:

8:45—Beta Sigma Rho-Theta Xi, court 1; Alpha Zeta-Phi Kappa, court 2; Triange-Delta Theta Sigma, court 3.

9:35—Acacia-Phi Kappa Psi, court 1; Tau Kappa Epsilon-Pi Kappa Alpha, court 2; Alpha Chi Rho-Delta Sigma Phi, court 3.

10:05—Lambda Chi Alpha-Sigma Phi Sigma, court 1; Kappa Delta Rho-Phi Epsilon Pi, court 2; Phi Delta Theta-Sigma Phi Alpha, court 3.

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