

# On to the Cotton Bowl

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Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph Photo

**HIG TAKES A RIDE:** Penn State fans carry Coach Bob Higgins after the Nittany Lions roared to a 29-0 victory over Pittsburgh at Pitt Stadium Saturday afternoon. The triumph gave Penn State its first perfect season since 1912.

### Students Call for Cotton Bowl Game As Nittany Lions Claw Panthers, 29-0

#### Penn Staters Endorse SMU As Next Opponent

By Allan Ostar

"On to the Cotton Bowl" was the cry of the Penn State students who braved a cold rain yesterday noon to cheer Coach Bob Higgins and the first Nittany Lion football team to achieve a perfect season since 1912.

Since the Pittsburgh newspapers carried the news that Penn State had a very good chance of being invited to participate in the New Year's Day classic at Dallas, Texas, enthusiasm has reached a new high among the student body.

The streets of the Smoky City reverberated until the early hours of Sunday morning as Penn State fans let it be known that they wanted to add Southern Methodist University to the Nittany Lion's string of nine victories.

Some optimistic students went so far as to get timetables and transportation costs to Dallas from the travel agencies in Pittsburgh. It costs \$167.44 for a round trip by air.

The only thing missing is an official bid from the Cotton Bowl Athletic Association, and this will not be forthcoming until the bowl officials hear in answer to their "feelers," that Penn State might be receptive to such an offer.

Yesterday afternoon Coach Higgins called a meeting of the football players and asked them if they would be willing to sacrifice their Christmas vacations to play a post-season game. The Lion riders were enthusiastic in indicating their desire to play.

Meanwhile Coach Matty Bell of Southern Methodist said that his team would have no objections to playing Penn State in the Cotton Bowl even though there are some Negroes on its team. The SMU riders, in a poll taken yesterday, indicated that they would be very willing to play Penn State.

Speaking of the Nittany Lion's Negro players, Coach Bell declared: "That's a problem for the Cotton Bowl officials. We have no objections ourselves. SMU has broken precedent before. We were the first school of the Southwest Conference to play against Negroes in another section. After all, we're supposed to live in a democracy."

Bell pointed out, however, that Triplett and Hoggard might have to stay in hotels apart from the

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By TOM MORGAN

There's great joy in the Nittany Lion's den. The reason: Penn State's mountain cat reached out with a predatory paw Saturday and crushed Pitt, 29-0, and the deep cleat-marks in the Panther's hide will burn and rankle for many moons.

For Head Coach Bob Higgins and his once-in-a-lifetime grid aggregation, the nugget of victory had many facets:

First, it overcame a Pitt jinx that had plagued the Lions for three years, transforming them into floundering kittens, putty in the paws of Pitt's Panther.

Second, it was the final stage in a gridiron campaign that stamped the high-g geared 1947 eleven as one of the greatest ever to don Blue and White moleskins of Penn State.

Third, it paved the way for a stream of post-season bowl offers, some of which have already been received.

Fourth, it climaxed the first perfect nine-game football season in the history of the College.

Fifth, it enabled the Lions to register the first undefeated and untied record in 35 years of State grid competition.

SFT RECORD

Sixth, it lowered the Nittany Lion's phenomenal rushing defense mark to a record average of 17 yards yielded per game to opponents' running attacks. This shatters the national record of 25.3 yards, registered by Santa Clara in 1937, and takes on added significance in the light of the offensive key to which present-day football is pitched.

Seventh, it marked the Lions as one of the country's top 1947 football Titans, virtually a sure bet to capture the Lambert Trophy, symbol of Eastern football supremacy.

Eighth, it transformed into reality Coach Higgins' 27-year-old dream of skipping a collegiate football team through an undefeated and untied season.

FOUR UNDEFEATED

Ninth, it established State as one of the nation's four major eleven-boasting spotless records. None of the others—Southern Methodist, Southern California and Notre Dame—has finished its schedule. The latter two clash Dec. 6.

Before a throng estimated to be 53,000 (highest in the 47-game Pitt-State series), the Higginsmen's powerful running attack churned out four touchdowns, with a field goal tacked on, to blast the hapless Pittmen.

WILLIAMS SCORES

After halfback Bobby Williams (Continued on page four)

### State Conquers Pittsburgh; Does City Little Damage

By Ben French

Penn State took over the city of Pittsburgh last weekend—both figuratively and literally.

Yesterday the hotels paused to survey their damage but found surprisingly little. The Lion fans had made plenty of noise but conducted themselves better than had been expected, hotel officials stated.

Hotels Slightly Damaged

The Hotel William Penn, scene of most of the post-game celebration, reported a broken window and a cracked elevator floor-indicator. Downtown police had calmed two men who they said were squirting a fire hose down the 11th floor corridor, causing the major disturbance of the weekend. The hotel declined to prosecute.

The Webster Hall in the Oakland section could only complain that bottles and glasses were hurled from windows onto a patio. The Hotel Schenley had the job of disposing of the Stadium goal posts which were dumped on the hotel's veranda.

The celebrating started Friday night at the Smoker and Pep Rally held at the William Penn. Lion students, sensing that the Higginsmen would be able to

down the hapless Panthers the next afternoon, made their presence known to sleeping Pa Pittsburgh.

It was a quiet evening for co-captain John Nolan as he had dinner with his parents, who were celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary by attending the game.

Rooters Cheer Each Play

Next day, by the time the game was several minutes old, Lion rooters realized that the football team knew nothing of the Stadium jinx and let loose with cheers and screams on every play.

A 30-foot long banner with the inscription, "Roar Lions, Roar," was unfurled from one end-zone. Materials for the sign were provided by All-College Cabinet with Ferris Thompson painting the yard-high letters.

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### Fans Cast Ballots Today For Year's Football Stars

Football fans will begin balloting today for their choice of the outstanding Lion back and lineman.

The official ballot appears on page 7. Only votes entered on the official ballot can be counted.

Due to the extra vacation the balloting will be continued through next Tuesday. Another ballot will be printed in Tuesday's paper.

Ballot boxes will be placed in most of the restaurants and College dining halls in State College for the convenience of the Penn State students and State College fans, and at the Bob Davis Store, Pe Ro Dairy and Uhl's Smoke Shop in Bellefonte.

Ballot boxes will also be at the Times offices in State College and Bellefonte.

Any person in Centre County resident or student, is eligible to vote, and any member of the

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### Rally Draws 1000 Despite Downpour

More than a thousand faithful student supporters assembled in the rain before Old Main at noon yesterday to voice their enthusiastic approval of the perfect grid record chalked up by Coach Bob Higgins and the Nittany squad.

The impromptu Victory Rally sponsored by Hat Societies Council, featured responses by the veteran gridiron coach and Carl Schott, dean of the school of physical education.

Coach Higgins was wildly cheered when he referred to a telephone call from Dallas, Texas, site of the Cotton Bowl grid classic. Dean Schott in his re-

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### Ashenfelter 2nd, Karver 6th As Lion Harriers Win NCAA's

By ELLIOT KRANE

They're thinking of changing Horace Ashenfelter's nickname from "Fearless Fosdick" to "Hardluck Horace," and they've already started calling the Penn State cross country team "Champs."

Chick Warner's Nittany Lion harriers won their second National Collegiate cross country championship at Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan in three inches of snow yesterday morning.

Ashenfelter led the pack to the three-mile mark and then took a wrong turn and went 20 yards off

the course; by the time he got back on the path he was third. Jack Milne of North Carolina and Quentin Brelsford of Ohio Wesleyan, defending titlist, passed Ashenfelter.

Milne won the race in 20:41.1, 30 seconds off Brelsford's pace last year, and 30 seconds off Greg Rice's record for the four-mile flat run in 1938.

BRELSFORD FALLS

Ashenfelter finished second, taking over that position after Brelsford had slipped and fallen in the snow. Ash's time was 20:45, three seconds better than Brelsford's who finished third. Jerry Karver, ace Lion harrier,

found the going rougher than his teammate and finished in 6th place, just ahead of Rhode Island State's Bob Black, 1947 IC4-A cross country champ.

The Lions won the team trophy with 60 points. Syracuse was next with 72, followed by Drake, three-time winner, with 133. Purdue and Indiana tied for fourth with 147 and Michigan State was fifth with 152.

KARVER'S BEST

Ashenfelter, who finished second to Black in this year's IC4-A's, pulled a similar stunt last year in the Nationals and finished 19th after he made a

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### Vacation Begins

Thanksgiving vacation begins at noon today, said Wilmer Kenworthy, secretary to the acting president of the College. The 24-hour extension was granted as a "football holiday." Classes will be resumed Monday, December 1.