

Between The Lions



By Tom Morgan
Sports Editor

Propaganda

Daily we are in receipt of a batch of mail which includes long, imposing, business-like envelopes containing the latest sweet utterances of sundry athletic publicity directors of Penn State's football opponents.

In trying to outdo one another while touting their respective teams to the bursting point, they always leave room for a moment of black silence in anticipation of the awful moment when their courageous elevens are prostrate in the wake of the notorious Nittany Lion.

Although enlightening and entertaining, this kind of stuff, to be sure, is designed to throw somebody off guard, namely the Nittany Lions and their fans, before each big game comes up. By instilling false security, these purveyors of the printed sports word figure they've done their duty in setting the psychological stage for their team's tussle with the Lions.

Non-Goliaths

These Lions, however, aren't a bunch of monstrous gridiron Goliaths set to blast the daylight out of each successive foe. They're human, subject to all the flighty bounces that a fickle football may take, just like other teams.

The Nittany machine, too, can experience tough sledding on the green gridiron turf if the opposition has a mind to put up a fuss.

Witness Saturday's battle with the Bisons.

Not Good

A substantial segment of the Nittany fans, the blood-craving ones, expressed disappointment that the score before the Bisons were finally counted out did not reach the astronomical proportions of last year's 54-0 rout. They said, "The Lions didn't look so good."

True, Coach Bob Higgins and his aides have a lot of kinks to iron out in the attack of their '48 football eleven before it approaches its smoothest-running form. But any coach has similar prickly problems after the first game.

Frankly, we're satisfied with the outcome of the Lions' in-

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Hicks' Loss Hampers Lions

(Continued from page one)

tensive practice sessions for the impending game with Syracuse in just three days.

Coach Bob Higgins will have to rely on Dennie Hoggard and reserve terminals Dan Kline, Dalton Rumberger, Jack Storer and Lloyd Amprim to fill the gap in the lineup.

Another sophomore end, John Smidansky, suffered a slight shoulder separation in Saturday's fray but he is expected to be back in the fold in time for the Syracuse battle.

Four other Penn State grid-ders, Don Murray, Bill Luther, Wally Triplett and Fred Felbaum, received minor strains and bruises and, with the exception of Murray, will be ready for practice scrimmages this afternoon.

Don "Duck" Murray, 215-pound Lion tackle, received a bruised foot and will stay on the inactive list for the early portion of the week.

VICTORY

Flashing at times the power of the undefeated 1947 team, but unable to gain complete control of a stubborn Bucknell eleven, the Penn State football team rolled to a 35-0 victory over the Bisons Saturday afternoon before an opening day crowd of 15,000 at New Beaver field.

A combined ground and air offensive that piled up 320 yards against the opponent's 79 kept the Lions' undefeated record intact and assured even the visitors from Lewisburg at the onset that as for Bucknell's topping Penn State, "it can't be done."

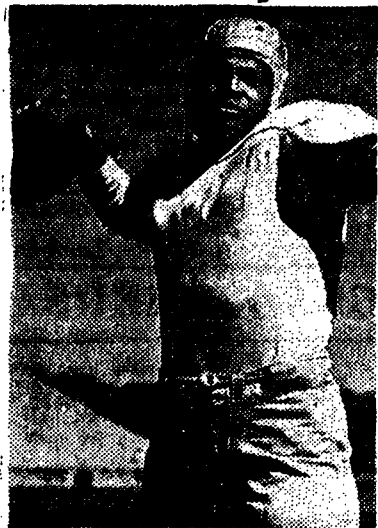
Wally Triplett, 172-pound Nittany wingback, shone brilliantly in both his offensive and defensive play. The LaMott speed merchant started the scoring spree in the opening period when he pulled in a lofting Petchel pass in the end zone.

Again in the third quarter Triplett snagged a Petchel toss and spun his way down to the Bucknell 15 for a 41-yard gain. In the opening minutes of the last quarter, Wally took the ball on a reverse, skirted the end, spun away from four Orange and Blue tacklers and sped across the goal line for the fourth TD of the battle.

PETCHEL

The Nittany air attack centered on the accurate right arm of Elwood Petchel. Scampering about in the backfield, the "Flying Fragment" would spot an end or back, cock his arm, and deliver the ball into the waiting hands of the receiver.

Petch opened the Penn State



second-half attack that netted 21 points, by speeding over the goal from the 2-yard line late in the third quarter. As an extra feature, the Easton air artist held the ball for the five placement kicks that Carl Sturges, the Lion placement specialist, booted between the goal posts.

On the heavy side of the Nittany attack, Bill Luther, Captain Joe Colone, Franny Rogel and Larry Joe smashed into the Bison line to rack up 11 first downs.

With their sophomore sensation, Jim Ostendarp, in the hospital with the grippe, the Bisons used a substitute, Lee McCloskey, in the tailback spot. McCloskey more than filled the gap in the visitors' lineup as he repeatedly smashed through the Blue and White line for short but effective gains.

FUMBLE

Not until the third quarter was the Lawrence coached team able to pass the mid-field marker and penetrate into Lion territory. A fumble recovered by Chuck Drzenovich halted the minor Bison threat and from that point on, the

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visitors concentrated on keeping the score to a minimum.

After an exchange of punts in the first period, Luther returned a Bucknell boot to the Herd's 36. Triplett went to the 25 on a reverse but a holding penalty put the ball near the mid-field stripe.

Smashing into the line, Colone bucked to the 39 and Luther slammed down to the 20. Coach Bob Higgins sent Petchel into the fray at this point and after Triplett picked up 13 yards on a reverse, Petch flipped a pass to Wally for the touchdown. Sturges converted to give the home team a 7-0 lead.

ROGEL

Larry Cooney, Petchel, Colone and Franny Rogel collaborated for the second marker with Rogel blasting his way from the 14 to the end zone.

A pass interception by Joe Drzenovich on the Bucknell 15 set up the third six-pointer. Petchel, keeping the sequence of plays in the family, fired a pass to Chuck Drzenovich on the 5. Rogel chalked up a first on the 2-yard line and Petchel made the score 21-0 on an end run.

After Wally Triplett's 28-yard scoring run, Newcomer O'Bara's touchdown in the opening minutes of the last period concluded the scoring for the Lions. In the closing minutes, O'Bara, Dougherty and Urion penetrated to the Bison 9 but a penalty nullified Penn State's chances for another score.

Bob Higgins is the tenth football coach in Penn State history. He has served longer than any of his predecessors.

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Touch Football Opens Tomorrow

Competition for 65 teams in intramural football will open tomorrow under the lights at the reserve varsity field when four teams line up, announced Assistant Director of Intramural Athletics Clarence Sykes, adding that he expected to have the schedules made up shortly.

He also expects to have tennis singles organized and teams playing immediately, with swimming beginning near the middle of the month at Glennland pool.

Comparing the interest shown by students in intramurals this year with the number of participants in the fall of 1947, Sykes revealed these figures:

Fraternities show 100 percent participation in touch football with 47 fraternities competing in the sport, as compared with 43 last season. There are 18 independent teams this year, 11 more than last.

Swimming competition and tennis singles also show an advance in interest, 39 fraternities entering participants in the water sport, seven more than last year, and in tennis, 86 men from 44 fraternities and 27 independents represent an increase of 36 participants.

First touch football games at the practice field will begin at 7 p.m. each evening, with subsequent contests following every 45 minutes.

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NOT THIS TUESDAY, BUT . . .

Next Tuesday
is
FROTH DAY

Because of the unprecedented demand for FROTH subscriptions, the Foolish Gentlemen have been forced to delay the sale of the magazine until Tuesday, October 12.