

Nittanymen Reach Performance Pinnacle Against Penn



JOE COLONE



CHUCK DRAZENOVICH



PAUL KELLY



ELWOOD PETCHEL



WALLY TRIPLETT

(Continued from page one)

147 yards for the Nittany team via the airplanes. Seven Petchel passes hit their mark, and his adagio dances in the backfield while spotting a receiver kept the Penn line running in circles around him.

But the superb defensive and offensive work of the Nittany line which held the heavier and supposedly superior Red and Blue team to minus 15 yards in the first half and just 28 yards for the entire game was the dominant factor in keeping the Philadelphia team at bay.

Triplett

Penn's desperation last-down pass, completed to Carmen Falcone on the one-yard line, failed when Falcone attempted to crawl the final inches over the goal. Last man to get up from the pile at the goal line was the LaMott wingback, Wally Triplett.

Three Nittany backs, Larry Joe, Bill Luther and Joe Colone, smashed their way into the Penn line for a total of 47 yards in just 16 attempts. Besides his running chores, Colone pushed the Red and Blue back into its own territory just as he did in the 1942 battle by sending the opposing backs chasing after long spiraling kicks.

The "pass defense backfield"

bolstered by Larry Cooney, Bill Scherer and Bob Urion grounded all but 10 of the 24 Penn passes for a total Quaker gain of just 78 yards in the airways.

Kelly

Crashing through the Penn line for three consecutive tackles that set the Red and Blue back from the Penn State 42 to the Penn 35, Guard Paul Kelly single-handedly crushed a Penn threat in the second quarter.

Tackles John Finley and Negley Norton, both playing with shoulder injuries, stopped the highly touted Ray Dooney cold, and then with Joe Drazenovich leading the charge, rushed "Reds" Bagnell when the Quakers took to the air.



Finley

Turning point of the game came in the third quarter. A fourth-down goal-line stand, during which the Penn team threw everything it had against the Lion defenses, was engineered by the line, plus John Simon, Wally Triplett, Chuck Drazenovich and Rogel backing up.

On the first down John Finley

drove Bill Talarico from the Nittany four back to the eight. Then while Simon, Rogel and Chuck Drazenovich were covering receivers, Wally Triplett twice streaked from nowhere to smack the ball out of hands of the white-shirted receivers.

Ends

The four Lion ends, John Smidansky, Bob Hicks, Sam Tamburo and Dennie Hoggard, posted no trespassing signs on their territory and kept the feet-footed Penn backs from skirting the Nittany line. Hoggard and Tamburo also were on the receiving end of the passes that set up both touchdowns.

Outstanding on the Penn roster was All-American center, Chuck Bednarik, who vainly tried to rally a completely rattled team until the final whistle spelled defeat to a team foreign to that word since 1946.

The climax of his outstanding play came in the final period. Petchel hit Tamburo with a pass from the Lion 35 to the midfield stripe. Tamburo cut to the sidelines and was on his way to a score when the 6-foot, 3-inch Bednarik just clipped him to stop the Lion end 13 yards from the goal line.

In punting, the 220-pound center was unequalled, kicking six times for an average of 43 yards per boot. His fourth-down punt

from the Penn 39 to the Lion 8 pushed Penn State from a threatening position to one of near-danger.

Penetrate

Penn State kicked off to Penn and, after holding the Quakers, took Bednarik's out-of-bounds punt on the midfield stripe. Three times the Nittany team penetrated deep into enemy territory and each time the play was called back for a rule infraction. After seven plays, Petchel kicked over the goal line and Penn took the ball, but could do nothing with it.

The Quakers ran only 12 plays in the first quarter while the Lions ran 25. Penn could not carry the ball past its own 22-yard line, but the Nittany squad advanced to the Penn 27 on the first play from scrimmage and twice advanced to the 36 before the quarter ended.

Dooney's 58-yard kick in the opening minutes of the second period set the Blue and White back to its own 16. Luther, Rogel and Petchel advanced the ball to the 35, and Petchel's pass to Hoggard gave the Lions the ball in Penn territory on the 46.

First Score

Triplett smacked down to the 44 and Rogel hit the line, was momentarily stopped, and then twisted away from his tackler to race 44 yards for the opening Nittany marker. Sturges' kick split the uprights to give the Nittanyites a 7-0 lead in 6:01 minutes of the second period.

The Kelly treatment of minus 33 yards completed the first half and a dejected Penn squad dragged its way to the

locker room to receive the word from Quaker Coach George Munger.

And receive it they did, since as soon as the Red and Blue squad got its hands on the ball it reversed its offensive plays of the first half and took to the air instead of keeping to the ground.

The revitalized Penn squad advanced to the Nittany 39 before Duck Murray and John Simon stopped Bagnell's attempt for a first down, and forced Penn to kick.

Stand

Another drive through the air carried the Philadelphians right to the Penn State doorstop but the goal-line stand led by Triplett made the Penn try fall inches short of the goal.

Tamburo's catch and run in the fourth quarter set up the second Nittany score, and two plays later, Rogel took the ball, handed it to Chuck Drazenovich, who flipped it to Petchel, who passed it to Rogel.

Rogel caught the ball, let it bounce into the air, and then scooped it up just before it hit the ground in the end zone. Sturges' conversion went wide to give the Lions the 13-0 score maintained for the remainder of the game.

This was the first Penn-Penn State fray since 1909 to break the jinx of neither team being able to win more than two consecutive games. The Lions won in 1942, 13-7, and in 1939, 10-0.

STATISTICS

	Penn	Penn State
First Downs	7	10
Yards Gained Rushing	74	158
Yards Lost Rushing	46	17
Yards Gained Passing	78	143
Forwards Attempted	24	18
Forwards Completed	10	8
Forwards Intercepted by	1	1
Punts	9	8
Punts Average	48	43
Yards Kicks Returned	85	66
Fumbles	1	3
Ball Lost	0	1
Penalties	5	6
Yards Lost Penalties	35	40

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