

Between



The Lions

With Elliot Krane Sports Editor

It was a silent and slow-moving crowd that filed out of the Penn State stadium Saturday afternoon. Even as they walked toward the exits, people turned to look unbelieving at the scoreboard. But the score remained, 27-6, and the game was over.

Not since 1945 when the Lion team went to Annapolis to receive a 28-0 trouncing has any team so overwhelmingly defeated the Nittany gridders, and not since 1931, almost two decades ago, has the team lost a home opener.

As for the game itself, the Penn State team was good, but the Villanova team was better. Saturday afternoon. The Wildcat's blocking and tackling was crisp and their line was strong enough to withstand the battering of Rogel and Company.

Passing seemed to be the crucial point of the game, and while the Villanova's attack continually found holes in the Nittany secondary, the Penn State passers couldn't seem to spot receivers down the field.

Another important factor in the passing department Saturday was the Villanova strategy of defense. Rather than concentrate on the receivers, the Wildcats directed their defensive attack against the passer, and time after time O'Bara or Luther would be stopped before he had a chance to get rid of the ball.

Outstanding

Even in defeat many of the Penn State gridders looked and played excellent games in the line and backfield.

Paul Kelly, who played most of the game, did a Herculean task of running from the guard position on the offense while backing up the line on the defense. Both Lion tackles, Negley Norton and Don Murray also did double duty on the line along with Bob Hicks and John Smidansky at the end posts.

The Nittany backfield, bottled up most of the game by the Villanova line, added a few bright spots to the otherwise glum picture.

Newcomers like Chandois Johnson, Mel Shephard, Roy Shaginaw and George Jacobs, playing their first game for Penn State, spelled the Lion regulars and gave notice that the Nittany Lion is far from the senile stage.

What's the team's attitude and what is the outlook for the future? Well, the team realizes that it has a big job to do—in fact eight big jobs to do and it's ready to buckle down to the task. Any feeling that all the Penn State team had to do to win was to walk onto the field has been smothered by 21 points and it's strictly "double time and no canteen" from here until November 19.

Heard in the Press Box

Beaver Field's new triple-decker press box was the target of compliments from all sides Saturday afternoon. Visiting coaches, scouts, scribes, photographers and announcers from the Eastern states all proclaimed the arrangement one of the finest in the region. To add a home-like touch to the steel and glass structure, Jim Coogan, sports publicity director of the College, provided chicken sandwiches, coffee and

Future Rivals Fare Poorly

Five of Penn State's future opponents wound up on the short end of the score in Saturday squabbles but the results aren't calculated to make Coach Joe Bedenk breathe much easier.

Boston College and Temple fell by heavy margins, 46-0 and 54-0 respectively to major rivals, Oklahoma and Texas. Michigan State scared the day-lights out of powerful Michigan Univ. before bowing, 7-3, and West Virginia and Syracuse were downed by Ohio Univ. and Boston Univ.

But on the other side of the ledger, State's next rival, Army, walloped little Davidson, 47-7, Nebraska soared over S. Dakota, 33-6, and Pitt edged William and Mary, 13-7.

Lions' future opponents in caps: ARMY—47; Davidson—7; Oklahoma—46; BOSTON COLLEGE—0; NEBRASKA—33; S. Dakota—6; Michigan—7; MICHIGAN STATE—3; Boston U.—33; SYRACUSE—21; Ohio U.—17; W. VIRGINIA—7; Texas—54; TEMPLE—0; PITT—13; William & Mary—7

coke for the press, radio and photo men.

Army Scout Says

Joe Stevens, West Point scout who took in Saturday's fray, was asked by a Philadelphia radio announcer, "What do you think of the fullback duel between Rogel and Pasquariello?" Without hesitating a minute Stevens answered, "There's no fullback like Rogel in my book." And coming from a man who scouts many of the major football teams in the country, that's some book.

Temple Scout Says

Jimmy Burns, former Temple grid star and now scouting for the Owls, said, "Penn State is suffering from the natural effects of the first game jitters. They're making mistakes now that any team makes in the opener. I think that they'll show a much better brand of ball later in the season than they're showing now."

Announcer Says

By Saam, nationally famous sportscaster, complained not about the game but about the officiating. "Every time I looked on the field, a red flag was down," he said. "The officials are killing the game with their constant whistle blowing."

Joe Fan Says

"Yes, the team lost Saturday and the fair weather friends are yelling for the usual scalps, but don't count the team out. They're capable of playing better ball and I'll bet my coonskin coat against a Cadet's hat that the Lion will still be able to come back with a big roar."

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Heavy Hitter

Penn State's 215-pound blocking back, Chuck Drazenovich twice won intercollegiate heavy-weight boxing honors.

Team's Top Scorer

Francis Rogel, Penn State's hard-hitting fullback, led the 1948 football team in scoring with 7 touchdowns.

New Opponents

Penn State's football team will play Rutgers University in 1950 and 1951, and Purdue University in 1951 and 1952.



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