

TOUCHDOWN—Bill Brown (39), Illinois fullback, plunges over for score during Saturday's Penn State-Illinois game in Cleveland. The Lions won, 20-9. Center Bob Saul, Guard Sam Stellatella and fullback Sam Sobczak of Penn State attempt to stop Brown.

—Collegian Photo by Marty Scherr

# Lions' Win Over Big 10 Foe Should Quell 'Fluke' Claims

By JOHNNY BLACK  
Assistant Sports Editor

"For all those people that were bellyachin' about the Army game, this should give them the idea that it was no fluke." That was Rip Engle's beaming summation of his Nittany Lion gridders' decisive 20-9 triumph over Illinois in Cleveland Saturday.

It was a victory-hungry pack of Lions that was turned loose on the Illini in the massive Municipal Stadium for the entertainment of a sparse crowd of 15,045. "They wanted the game badly, and they went after it and got it," said Ray Ehot, Illinois coach.

But the disgruntled Illini mentor, who is retiring at the end of this season, gruffly refused to compare the "minor-league" Lions with Big Ten clubs and avoided further comment by hurrying to the safety of the team bus.

Likewise, the Orange and Blue players who were nursing their bruises and their hurt pride in the locker room were reluctant to rate the Lions on a par with the Big Ten teams.

"We beat ourselves" said Captain Bill Burrell, Illinois All-American candidate at guard, and fullback Bill Brown, the two defensive linebackers who made more tackles than the rest of the Illinois squad combined. But they got their signals crossed as to whom they had faced that was better than Penn State. Ohio State, said Brown, but Burrell had claimed Minnesota (the Gophers are last in the Big 10 with a 1-3 record).

The feeling, however, was mutual. Army was tougher than Illinois, agreed the Lions after



BILL POPP  
... tough on defense

the game. "They hit harder and more often," said Stew Barber, who was promptly seconded by Hank Opperman.

But it was evident to sideline and press box observers alike that the big difference was the fierce line play of the Nittanians.

It was the shoestring tackles of Bill Popp, hard-nosed Lion guard, who spent half the afternoon un-

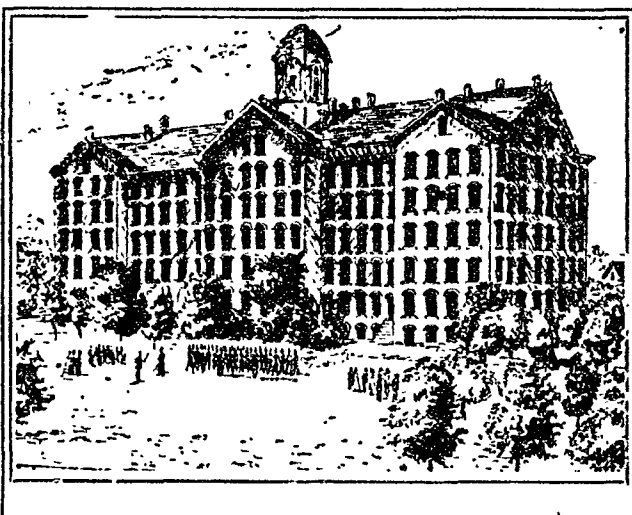
twining his arms from the legs of Illinois ball-carriers. It was the slashing tackles of linebackers Jay Huffman and Bill Saul, the driving blocks of Bud Kohlhaas, Frank Korbin and Tom Mulroney. It was the long arm of Andy Stynchula, grabbing Mel Meyers' collar and dumping the Illini quarterback 10 yards behind the scrimmage line.

"It was our defense that won the game," said assistant coach Joe Paterno, who scouts the game through field glasses from his lofty perch on the stadium roof. "Our linebackers keyed exceptionally well, and were in the right place at the right time," added line coach Jim O'Hora.

Richie Lucas, running the rollout and Jim Kerr, running the inside reverse, did most of the ground-gaining for the Lions.

"Illinois played their ends soft because of the danger of Lucas' rollout. Thus we could block their ends and run outside," analyzed Paterno.

When Cliff Roberts booted his 30-yard field goal to give Illinois a 3-0 lead early in the first quarter, it was the first time that Penn State has been behind in any game this year. The Nittanians found this new sensation a rather uncomfortable one and wasted no time getting back to the front where they have remained throughout the six games this fall.



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... Richard Leveridge 1670-1758

## THE TAVERN RESTAURANT

### Grandstand Views



## Just How Good Is The Big 10?

By Sandy Padwe  
Collegian Sports Editor

We're beginning to wonder just what it takes to convince the high and mighty people of the Big Ten that their teams aren't the only good ones in the country.

Last Saturday in Cleveland, Penn State, just a "minor league team," proved that the East has some pretty fair

squads when it beat Illinois, a contender for the Big Ten crown.

But the Lions didn't get much credit. One veteran Chicago newspaperman said the Illini lost because they just don't play fired-up football against Intersectional opponents. (He forgot Illinois' win over Army a few weeks ago.)

Asked what they thought of Penn State as a team, two Illinois players said they thought both Ohio State and Minnesota were better.

But the truth is Penn State outplayed the Illini from the opening whistle to the end of the game.

So the controversy over Big Ten football vs. the rest of the country rages on and everyone seems to have slightly different opinions on the matter.

Take Notre Dame's ex-coach Terry Brennan who was in Cleveland Saturday for the game.

"I don't think you can really say that any area is better than another," the young insurance executive commented.

"They play good football all over including the East. And Penn State's definitely one of the better teams in the East along with Syracuse, Army and Navy.

"Out west you have Southern Cal, U.C.L.A. and others while the South has its share of the good ones.

"I think that Penn State or any of the big Eastern teams could hold its own in the Big Ten."

Leo Fischer, the former president of the Football Writers Association, who covered the game for the Chicago American, said



Terry Brennan

the Big Ten plays the best football in the country.

"You have ten of the best teams in the land competing against each other week after week so its no wonder that Big Ten teams are so good.

"But I think that this Penn State team would hold its own against most of the Big Ten squads," he said.

Illinois coach Ray Eliot shared Fischer's view. "You have good football played all over," Eliot said, "but the teams in the Big Ten have to play topflight squads every Saturday and that makes a big difference."

Penn State's backfield coach Joe Paterno said that good football is played all over the country and no one section really has a monopoly.

"The Big Ten has its share of good teams and so do the other sections," he said. "It just depends on where the top ballplayers are each year."

Another Big Ten representative Russ Rippe, a Wisconsin scout, said that Saturday after Saturday the best games are played in the Big Ten.

"In our conference you have a big game each week and you have to be up for it," he said. "In some other parts of the country, the teams are good but they don't have to be up all the time because their opponents aren't so good."

But a look at the records of the Big Ten schools against intersectional teams doesn't prove that their ballclubs are that much better.

In 13 intersectional games this year Big Ten teams have won 7, lost 5, and tied 1. Two of those wins were by one and two points.

Right now in the Big Ten race Northwestern is leading with a 3-0 record and Illinois, Purdue, (Continued on page eleven)

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