

Ditka Has Been 'Hammering' Panther Foes for Three Years

By SANDY PADWE
Mike Ditka's teammates at Pitt have nicknamed him "the hammer" and Panther opponents won't argue with the choice.

A good bet for All-American end honors, Ditka throws his 6-3, 215-pound hulk around with so much authority that Pittsburgh Steeler coach Buddy Parker calls Iron Mike "the best college player in the country."

Ditka learned his football at Aliquippa high school, a tough WPIAL institution where aggressiveness is the only prerequisite for a varsity uniform.

The Panther captain, Ditka has been accused of being a highly unsociable fellow on Saturday afternoons, but that's the way he prefers it.

"If a guy knocks me down, I don't get mad at him," Ditka said. "I get mad at myself for letting him do it."

"Heck, he is just doing his job and if he can make me rock on a block, he is just doing what his coach told him to do. I just try to make sure it doesn't happen again."

Ditka isn't just a defensive ace, he ranks with the best as a receiver.

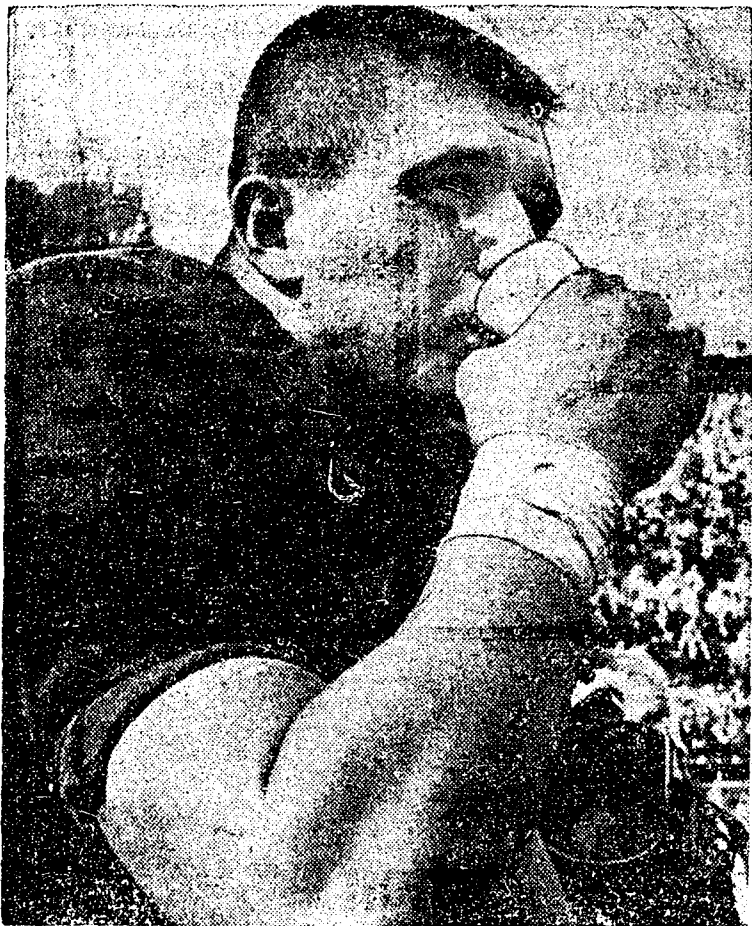
Going into his final game against Penn State Saturday, he is just 88-yards shy of Pitt's all-time record for pass receiving.

He has gained 730 yards on 45 passes and has caught seven TD aerials during his three-year varsity hitch at Skyscraper U.

Ditka has promised to be at his best Saturday for the all-important game with the Nittany Lions in Pitt Stadium.

"Every senior on the team wants to win this one," Ditka said as he thought about the fierce rivalry which is in its 60th year.

Last year the Panthers upset State's Liberty bowlers, 22-7, but



Mike Ditka

that's just history to Ditka.

"I don't think Penn State was ready for us last year," he said, "but I know they will be this year. They took care of Army at West Point and that is mighty tough to do."

Ditka doesn't hide the fact that he's disappointed with Pitt's 4-2-3 record, but he feels there still is a slim chance for a bowl bid.

"We must beat Penn State to

receive any consideration at all," he said, "and even then, nobody knows for sure if we will be invited."

Grimsley Picks Pitt to Beat Nittany Lions by One Point

By WILL GRIMSLEY

Associated Press Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The hottest and most uncomfortable seat in college football is the No. 1 chair in the national ratings, a spot taken over this week by Missouri.

Kansas, with a powerful team, will be the darling of the upset specialists. Resersing a limb-hanging trend which gave

us 39 winners in 50 games last week for a .760 average, we think Missouri will face up to the pressures and come out on top.

The picks:

Missouri 23, Kansas 15: This is Missouri's best team in 50 years.

Yale 28, Harvard 14: Tom Singleton and his mates carry the Eli to their ninth victory and a perfect season.

Duke 13, North Carolina 0: Bill Murray's Blue Devils edge nearer a bowl.

Wisconsin 18, Minnesota 14: Gophers fail to snap back after last week's setback.

Pittsburgh 15, Penn State 14: So tight a two-point conversion may decide this battle of Pennsylvania toughies.

Rice 10, Texas Christian 7: Another "pitchers duel" in the once

wide open Southwest Conference. UCLA 20, Southern California 14: the 13-point spread looks too big in this traditionally rugged struggle.

Arkansas 13, Texas Tech 0: Surprising Razorbacks clinch the Southwest Conference title and the Cotton Bowl.

Iowa 28, Notre Dame 7: Forest Evashevski's last game as Iowa coach.

Washington 23, Washington State 7: Huskies don't let down.

Tennessee 7, Kentucky 0: Not much scoring, but a plethora of bumps and bruises mark this Dixie classic.

Hutchinson Turns Prof

CINCINNATI (AP) — Fred Hutchinson, manager of the Cincinnati Reds, blames the poor showing of the team last season on carelessness and he is going to hold "night school" sessions next year to correct it.

For one night each week next spring and maybe more, all players will be required to attend baseball classes. Hutchinson will lead the discussion — complete with blackboard chalk talks — on the elementary points of the game.

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Injury Sidelines Panther Star

Special to the Collegian
PITTSBURGH, Pa. — Half-back Bob Clemens, Pitt's leading ground gainer, will miss Saturday's game with Penn State.

The Panther junior tore a ligament in his right leg during a practice session, forcing him to the sidelines.

Coach Johnny Michelosen is expected to move John Yaccino up to Clemens' first string post.

Through nine games, Clemens has picked up 349 yards in 74 carries, an average of 4.7 yards a carry.

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