

# Lions Favored Over Panthers

## But Series' Records Show Underdog Role Means Little

By JIM KARL  
Collegian Sports Editor

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Nov. 24—Penn State, boasting one of the most devastating offensive machines in the nation, goes into tomorrow's season finale against Pitt hopeful of a 7-3 record and a possible bid to the Bluebonnet Bowl.

But the Panthers, winners of only three out of nine games this season and listed as a six-point underdog by the oddsmakers, have other ideas.

In this red-hot series the team that's favored usually finds itself battered, bruised and beaten by the time 4 o'clock rolls around on the final major football Saturday of the year.

Pitt did last year, when State roared from three points behind to edge the favored Panthers, 14-3.

Penn State did two years ago when the Lions, led by All-American quarterback Richie

Scouts from the Gotham Bowl will be present at tomorrow's game. The Bowl, which is scheduled for Dec. 9, reportedly offered a bid to Syracuse but was turned down when the Orange accepted an offer to play in the Liberty Bowl Dec. 16.

Lucas and sporting an 8-1 record, went into the game heavily favored. Pitt won 22-7.

Joe Blasenstein set the flavor for last year's upset. For weeks and weeks the Lion guard studied game movies of Pitt's tremendous end, Mike Ditka. The Blazer felt that Ditka was the key to the Pitt team, and he thought he could find some flaw in the All-American's game. He found it.

Blasenstein noticed that on every opening kickoff when Pitt's opponent received, Ditka would wait near the sidelines, then tear in hell-bent from the blind side to smash an unsuspecting player.

Blasenstein was ready when Penn State won the toss last year and elected to receive. He watched Ditka linger near the sidelines as Jim Kerr took the opening kickoff and started upfield.

When Kerr fumbled Ditka moved in. He never got near the play. Blasenstein hit him from the blind side (but with a legal block, as movies showed) and the Pitt end was so shaken up that he didn't play his normal ferocious game.

This year the Panthers don't have anyone of Ditka's caliber, but they have one of the top field goal kickers in the country in Fred Cox. Cox missed a 61-yard boot by inches this year and his 43-yard kick made the difference in last Saturday's 10-9 victory over Southern California.

Galen Hall (QB) Roger Kochman (LHB), Junior Powell (RHB) and Buddy Torris (FB) will comprise the backfield.

Bob Mitinger and Jim Schwab will be at end, Jim Smith and Charlie Sieminski at tackle, Joe Blasenstein and Dick Wilson at guard and Jay Huffman at center.

## Startling Tackles Against Pitt--



CHARLIE SIEMINSKI



JIM SMITH

## Floyd May Defend Title Against Liston in Spring

NEW YORK (AP) — Heavyweight champion Floyd Patterson will defend his title late next spring against Sonny Liston if both come through their tests Dec. 4, a spokesman for Championship Sports said yesterday.

Championship Sports is promoting the doubleheader in which Patterson meets Tom McNeeley of Boston in Toronto and Liston, standout challenger from Philadelphia, faces Albert Westphal of Germany in Philadelphia.

"There is no doubt in my mind that Patterson will meet Liston in the late spring if both come through their fights," said Tom Bolan of Championship Sports.

## State X-Countrymen To Run In NCAA's

By DAVE LEONARD

The Penn State cross country team will travel to East Lansing, Mich., Monday to compete in the NCAA championships on the Michigan State course, but coach Chick Werner is pessimistic about his team's chances of winning.

"Even if we operate at 100 per cent efficiency, our chances of winning the meet are remote," Werner said yesterday. "The opposition this year is very tough and there are a lot of teams who are stronger than we are."

Although the Lions finished second in the IC4A meet Monday at New York, Werner feels that State's reputation will carry to East Lansing. "The other teams will consider us as one of the teams to beat," he said.

Werner rates Oklahoma State, Iowa, Houston, and Southern Illinois as the teams to beat in Monday's run.

Michigan State also should be a contender on the basis of its IC4A victory, and the fact that the Spartans will be running on their home course.

Gerry Norman will be the top Lion contender for the individual title. He finished second in the IC4A meet.

Steve Machooka of Cornell, the IC4A winner, and Al Lawrence of Houston, last year's NCAA champ, should battle it out for the title.

The Lions will send the same seven runners to East Lansing who competed in the IC4A meet.

The snowy weather conditions at the IC4A's brought on a rash of stiff leg ailments to the Lion harriers, but Werner said that the team will be in good shape for the meet.

## Big 8 Changes Bowl Rule

KANSAS CITY (AP) — A Big Eight rule which limits post season games by league football teams to the Orange Bowl was modified yesterday for this year.

The league faculty representatives in a telephone conference voted to approve "one or more additional teams going to a bowl game other than on Jan. 1," Reeves Peters, conference commissioner, reported.

## Gridiron Notes

Today's Penn State-Pitt clash will be the 61st game in one of college football's most heated rivalries. Although Pitt leads in the series with 33 victories to 24 for State (there have been three ties), the Lions have more than held their own in recent years. Since 1950, Rip Engle's first year as head coach at State, the Lions have whipped Pitt six times while losing four and tying one. The Lions won in 1950, the now-famous 21-20 game on snow-covered Forbes Field, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1958 and 1960. Pitt won in 1951, 1955, 1956, and 1959. The 1957 game ended in a 7-7 tie... A look at State's latest statistics reveals why Engle now calls Roger Kochman "the equal of just about any halfback in the country." Kochman ran around and through Holy Cross last Saturday for 133 yards in 25 carries, bringing his team-best rushing total to 619 yards in 118 attempts for a 5.2 average. As a result of his three touchdowns against the Crusaders, Kochman has moved into the No. 1 spot in scoring with 48 points. He's third in pass receiving with nine catches for 200 yards and three TDs. "And to top it off," says Engle, "he's our best blocking halfback."... Fullback Buddy Torris is runner-up to Kochman in rushing. He churned out 144 yards in 22 carries against Holy Cross, bringing his totals to 424 yards and a 5.1 average... Penn State claims one of the most unusual father-son acts in college football. State's starting ends — Bob Mitinger and Jim Schwab — are the sons of two of the finest guards ever to play for Lafayette (Continued on page seven)

## Beat Pitt



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