

A Color Bowl Spectacle



STAN GANN
... directs Engineers



BILLY LOTHRIDGE
... sophomore QB

Engineers Have Rugged Defense

By DEAN BILLYCK
Assistant Sports Editor

The old question of which is more important, the offense or the defense, may receive a partial answer Dec. 30 in the Gator Bowl when Georgia Tech and its "Wall of China" runs head-on into Penn State, one of the nation's best offensive machines.

Bobby Dodd's "Rambling Wrecks" have long been known for their rock-ribbed defensive play and this year has been no exception. In fact, the Engineers have been so stingy with touchdowns that the opposition has crossed the goal line no more than once a game. Four teams have failed to get that far.

Tech has limited its opposition to an average of just 4.8 points per game, allowing 43 points in nine games. Dodd's tough defensive club shutout Florida, Rice, Duke and Tulane and held USC and Auburn to a lone tally. Tennessee, Alabama and LSU each managed a touchdown and

a field goal to hand Tech its only losses.

But if statistics mean anything, the Engineers should have their hands full trying to hold off Rip Engle's explosive attack. The Lions have been among the top 10 in the country in total offense nearly all season and for the past six weeks haven't dropped below seventh. This week State is sixth.

Led most of the season by second team All-East quarterback Galen Hall and third team All-East halfback Roger Kochman, State ripped-off 31 touchdowns to the opposition's 17, and ground out 194 first downs to the enemy's 135. The Lions' offense gained 3,691 yards for an average of 5.2 yards per play.

It seems safe to bet, however, that State will find Tech the toughest team to run against this year. Dodd has the biggest line in the school's history and a linebacker that is rated tops in the Southeastern Conference.

He is Rufus Guthrie, a 6-1, 231-pound junior who has spent his Saturday afternoons wrecking the carefully planned attacks of the opposition.

Dodd also has two other line-

backers who have been tabbed sure-bets to make the all-conference team. Dave Watson, a 211-pound junior, and Harold Ericksen, a 218-pound senior, give Tech one of the best guard corps in the country. In fact, the three are so good Dodd has called them "the top three guards on any team in the country."

Although the Engineer tackles are no giants, they are rated the two quickest in the conference. Ed Griffin, 6-1, 214 pounds, starts at left tackle and Larry Stallings, 6-2, 217 pounds, is the right tackle.

While Tech's defense has been drawing most of the praise, the offense hasn't been exactly sitting back on a rocking chair. The Engineers have tallied 140 points and have an excellent little halfback in Billy Williamson.

"The Little Injun" is only 5-8, 161 pounds, but he's considered Tech's best runner. Williamson made the second team all-conference squad last year. He's rated as a tricky and very deceptive runner as well as an excellent pass receiver.

The quarterbacking is handled by junior Stan Gann and sophomore Billy Lothridge. Starter Gann is considered an elusive runner but a poor passer. One southern writer commented that Gann "looks great in victory and poor in defeat."

Lothridge, on the other hand, can throw. He's considered dangerous with the long aerial and is a hard runner. His inexperience has hurt him at times. He also kicks field goals.

Tech is no stranger to bowl games. The Engineers have appeared in 14 post-season bowls



BOBBY DODD



BILLY WILLIAMSON
... top Tech halfback

and have a fantastic record of 11 wins and 3 defeats. During Dodd's 17 years at Tech, the Engineers have won eight of nine post season bowl games.

Six of those eight wins were crammed into less than a six-year period. Tech won in the Orange Bowl in 1952, the Sugar

Bowl in 1953 and 1954, the Cotton Bowl in 1955, the Sugar Bowl in 1956 and the Gator Bowl in Dec. of 1956. Tech is the only team to win six bowl games in six years.

The only loss during Dodd's regime was to Arkansas, 14-7, last year.

CHRISTMAS VACATION

State College - Lewistown Bus Schedule

Wednesday, Dec. 6

Leave Hotel State College:
11:15 A.M., 3:20 P.M., & 6:55 P.M.

Thursday, Dec. 7

Leave Hotel State College:
11:15 A.M., 12:05 P.M., 3:20 P.M., 6:55 P.M.

Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1962

BUSES WILL MEET ALL P.M.
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