Nittany Lions Have Size, Strength, Feature Fine Short-Passing Game

By GERRY URBACH

The Owls' opponents for this week are the rugged, well-coached Nittany Lions of Pennsylvania State University who are threatening to capture their third straight Lambert Trophy, emblematic of Eastern gridiron supremacy. Rip Engle, head coach at Penn State, one of the most well-respected in the business and has been marshalling the Lions' football forces for the past fourteen seasons.

This year's State squad is more dependent on sophomores (for depth) than any in quite a while, but the first unit is of the caliber that annually boosts Penn State to high national rank. The strong suit of the Lions is at the man under position where Pete Liske ranks as probably the most adept short-pass phenom in the East while being ranked second only to Navy's Jolly Roger Staubach in all-around efficiency. Backing him up at the quarterback spot is Ron Coates, the field goal specialist and also a skilled passer and master of the roll-out play.

P.S.U. Again has a strong line anchored by All-American Harrison Rosdahl and the team captain, All-East center, Ralph Baker. The backfield is young and has so far justified the observation of one national pigskin publication that Penn State's football fortune would depend on how well they replaced the graduated backfield stars of a year ago. So far Junior Powell, Dave Urbanik, and Gary Klingensmith have proved more than adequate.

Penn. State is ranked among the nation's top fifteen, defeating Oregon and the renowned Mel Renfro 17-7 last week nipping U.C.L.A. 17-14. In the Oregon clash the Lions from Mount Nittany unveiled a new slot-T offense in which they moved a back to an open end position, split the end, and made a tackle eligible for pass receptions. Rice's best hope lies in Walter McReynold's strong right arm as Penn. State proved vulnerable to the U.C.L.A. passing attack last Saturday.