

Late Toss Tops Cornell, 23-20

By **DEANE MCGOWEN**

Special to The New York Times

ITHACA, N.Y., Nov. 3 — Yale became today the first college football team to win 700 games, but it took a tipped pass and a rally in the closing minutes to do it. John Rogan's 12-yard touchdown pass capped the winning drive in a 23-20 victory over Cornell.

The triumph extended Yale's winning streak to 10 games, seven in this season, its 107th of football, and the final three of the 1978 campaign. The victory also extended Yale's unbeaten streak, including two ties, to 12 games.

In the Ivy League, the triumph kept Yale on top with a 5-0 won-lost mark and dropped Cornell two games out with two games left.

"Number 700 is nice, but we didn't mention it all week," said Coach Carmen Cozza of Yale afterward. "The Ivy championship is our goal."

Decker Scores Twice

Yale, which has 70 more victories than Princeton, the next biggest winner, went into the game as the nation's top-ranked defensive team. But Cornell's offense, the best in the league, gave Yale's defense more than it could handle. So much, in fact, that the Big Red stormed into a 20-17 lead with slightly more than six minutes to play.

Cornell's tight end, Brad Decker, scored both of those last-quarter touchdowns on passes of 24 and 17 yards from Mike Tanner and gave the Big Red its first lead of the game.

Cornell drove 84 yards in nine plays on the first Decker touchdown, but Yale helped the drive along with a pass-interference call at the Yale 25. Tanner then hit Decker on fourth down.

Dan Scully recovered a Yale fumble and gave Cornell the ball on its 46. Cornell wasted no time, marching the remaining 54 yards in seven plays as Tan-

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Yale Defeats Cornell for No. 700

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ner again found Decker clear in the end zone.

Tipped Pass Helps Yale

Yale took the following kickoff with the clock showing 6 minutes 7 seconds to play. Yale drove to the Cornell 43 but failed to make the final yard on fourth down. Then Cornell was not able to move and had to punt to Yale's 33 where the Bulldogs took possession with 2:32 on the clock.

Three downs netted Yale nothing. Then Rogan dropped back, hoping to hit his split end, Dan Stratton. But Paul Dale of Cornell tipped the ball that was intended for Stratton — tipped it straight into the hands of Ken Hill of Yale, who sped to the Cornell 36.

Rogan hit Bob Rostomily for 14 yards to the 22, then found him alone in the middle again at the Cornell 14. Hill added 2 yards, and then Rogan, fading to his right, spotted Rostomily uncovered in the right section of the end zone for the winning touchdown pass.

The Yale drive covered 67 yards in 10 plays, but if Hill had not caught that tipped pass, Cornell probably would have run out the clock and sent Yale to its 200th defeat.

Blackman Feels Frustrated

Yale's victory, its seventh in succession over Cornell, was taken bitterly by Coach Bob Blackman of Cornell.

"I have had a great many victories and many defeats in my coaching career," Blackman said, "but I have never seen a game that was more frustrating to me or to a group of players.

"We made a lot of little mistakes but that tipped pass on a fourth-down-and-long-yardage situation was the play that broke the game open for them.

"But Yale is a very fine football team, no question about it. They made the play when they had to make it."

Cozza said: "We chose the wind with

us, and it worked out our way in the last quarter. Rogan had that wind with him, and it made the passing game much easier. Dennis Dunn fought that wind in the first and third quarters. We thought John would pass better."

Cozza Didn't Want a Tie

The Yale coach added: "My legs are a little weak. We didn't want a tie; we wanted to go all the way. I would have played for the tie if this game had meant the league championship."

For the Elis, Rostomily caught three passes for 68 yards and Stratton caught two for 68. Rogan was nine of 13 for 193 yards and two scoring passes. Tanner of Cornell was eight of 14 for 120 and two scoring passes.

Tom Weidenkopf of Cornell, who rushed for more than 200 yards last week, was held to 40 on 12 carries today, and part of the reason was the outstanding defense played by Tim Tumpane of Yale, who made 13 tackles and assisted on four others.

Princeton 38, Penn 10

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3 (AP) — Larry Van Pelt scored three touchdowns to lead Princeton to a 38-10 victory over Penn today in Ivy League play.

Van Pelt opened scoring with less than three minutes elapsed in the first quarter on a 46-yard run.

Penn tied the score at 7-7 early in the second quarter on a 67-yard pass from Doug Marzonie to Nelson Johnson. John Dwyer of Penn (0-7 and 0-5) hit a 51-yard field to make the score 10-7, but the Princeton quarterback, Bob Holly, ran 37 yards for the go-ahead score with 1:39 left in the first half.

Van Pelt's second and third touchdowns and a 32-yard field goal by Lou Vaccarello in third quarter, and a 1-yard scoring run by John Berry in the

final quarter provided Princeton (4-3 and 4-1) with its comfortable final margin.

Virginia 31, Georgia 0

ATHENS, Ga., Nov. 3 (AP) — Todd Kirtley threw two touchdown passes and set up a field goal today to power Virginia to a 31-0 victory over Georgia, the Southeastern Conference leader.

Kirtley connected with Greg Taylor for a 53-yard scoring bomb on the Cavaliers' first possession and then tossed two key passes leading to a 29-yard field goal by Wayne Morrison only 52 seconds before halftime for a 10-0 Virginia lead.

The Cavaliers (5-3) scored three fourth-period touchdowns on a 5-yard run by Taylor, Kirtley's 5-yard touchdown pass to Tom Vigorito and Joe Bock's recovery of a fumble in the end zone.

Georgia (4-4) is 4-0 in the S.E.C., and failed to cash in three first-half turnovers. The loss ended a four-game winning streak.