



1989 — 1990

**Pennsylvania Interscholastic
Athletic Association, Inc.**

**FOOTBALL
CHAMPIONSHIPS**



**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 9, 1989**



PRICE: \$2.00

1989-90 PIAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday, December 9, 1989

PIAA "AAAA" Football Championship

7:00 p.m. Hersheypark Stadium, Hershey, PA

Wilson (District 3, 14-0) vs Upper Saint Clair (District 7, 14-0)

Dr. Russell T. Werner, PIAA Executive Director and Game Manager

PIAA Football Officials

Curtis Steigerwalt, Referee

Pat Garramone, Umpire

Barry Keim, Linesman

Mark Berner, Line Judge

Michael Lukac, Jr., Back Judge

Frank D'Angelo, Field Judge

PIAA "AAA" Football Championship

1:00 p.m. Hersheypark Stadium, Hershey, PA

Berwick (District 2, 14-0) vs Perry Traditional Academy (District 8, 12-0)

Dr. Russell T. Werner, PIAA Executive Director and Game Manager

PIAA Football Officials

Ronald Kalup, Referee

John Descutner, Umpire

David Papariello, Linesman

Joseph Boario, Jr., Line Judge

Stephen Biro, Back Judge

Frank Pidro, Field Judge

PIAA "AA" Football Championship

4:00 p.m. Memorial Stadium, Middletown, PA

Montoursville (District 4, 14-0) vs Hickory (District 10, 11-2)

Dr. Russell T. Werner, PIAA Executive Director and Game Manager

PIAA Football Officials

Robert Spagna, Referee

Alex Brogna, Umpire

Nicholas Bolick, Linesman

James Mellow, Jr., Line Judge

James Blaum, Back Judge

James Fisher, Field Judge

PIAA "A" Football Championship

10:00 a.m. Memorial Stadium, Middletown, PA

Dunmore (District 2, 12-1) vs Keystone (District 9, 12-0)

Dr. Russell T. Werner, PIAA Executive Director and Game Manager

PIAA Football Officials

Paul Feeley, Referee

William Williams, Umpire

Russell Zimmerman, Linesman

Thomas Boyd, Sr., Line Judge

Robert Walker, Back Judge

James Lashinsky, Field Judge

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE
2ND ANNUAL PIAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1989-90 PIAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Class AA

Saturday
December 2, 1989

Saturday
December 9, 1989

**THE ROAD TO
MIDDLETOWN**

	Reg. I-Bethlehem Catholic (11)		
(301)	Eagles Nest Stadium Blue Mountain H.S. 1:00 p.m.	Montoursville (4) 31-16 (321)	
	Reg. II-Montoursville (4)	Middletown Area School District Memorial Stadium	PIAA AA Champion
	Reg. III-Hickory (10)	4:00 p.m.	
(302)	George P. Miller Stadium Indiana University 1:00 p.m.	Hickory (10) 17-7	
	Reg. IV-Steel Valley (7)		

1989-90 PIAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Class A

Saturday
December 2, 1989

Saturday
December 9, 1989

**THE ROAD TO
MIDDLETOWN**

	Reg. I-Dunmore (2)		
(401)	Elmer L. Meyers H.S. Wilkes-Barre 1:00 p.m.	Dunmore (2) 27-12 (421)	
	Reg. II-S. Williamsport (4)	Middletown Area School District Memorial Stadium	PIAA A Champion
	Reg. III-Keystone (9)	10:00 a.m.	
(402)	Sharon H.S. Sharon 1:00 p.m.	Keystone (9) 15-14	
	Reg. IV-Clairton (7)		

Hornets take AA title with 30-22 victory

By John Bassetti

Vindicator sports staff

MIDDLETOWN, Pa. — It may become known as the only state football championship game in which shoes made a difference in the outcome. And what an outcome.

Hickory High overcame a 15-13 halftime deficit and Andre Coleman overcame icy shoes, to bring the Hornets back to win the PIAA Class AA state championship at Middletown Area High School Field Saturday.

Coleman scored four touchdowns and had a season-high 245 yards rushing to ignite the Guy Gibbs-coached team to a 30-22 victory over Montoursville on a frigid evening. Coleman must have gotten better as the game went on, as he managed to increase the distances of his touchdown runs from three to six to 35 and finally 65 yards with his last scoring dash, an insurance run that still didn't put Hickory out of the realm of a possible tie.

It was during the third quarter that Gibbs gave his tennis shoes to Coleman, a 5-10, 170-pound senior tailback who thrilled the crowd of 2,000 with exciting runs throughout the game, one which marked Hickory's first PIAA title in football. Coleman said his shoes had accumulated ice to the point that they were like skates. Gibbs, who wears a size 10, found the solution to Coleman's traction problems by trading the 'skates' for sneakers.

Coleman's first touchdown of the second half gave Hickory a 19-15 advantage, its second lead of the game after a 7-0 start. The TD followed a fumble recovery by outside linebacker Kevin Trapp with 3:40 left in the third quarter. A two-point conversion run by Coleman gave the Hornets a 21-15 edge that it quickly lost when Montoursville, previously unbeaten in 14 other games this season, struck on a 45-yard pass from Mark Mussina to fullback Rick Hagemeyer. Aaron Barnes' point-after kick lifted the Warriors by one, 22-21.

Approaching the quarter's end, Hickory put together a 30-yard scoring drive that ended with Scott Baker making a 35-yard field goal. Joe Marasco's 22-yard return was a big assist on the three-pointer that put the 12-2 Hornets on top for good.

More art on page D-3.

Hickory could not relax as Montoursville, a school located five miles east of Williamsport, marched to within five yards of a go-ahead touchdown. On third and goal, Mussina dropped the ball on the snap. On fourth down, the 6-0, 166-pound senior went through one of his many elusive scrambles to hit Geoff Edsell in the end zone. However, the Warriors had clipped on the play, moving the ball back to the 20 where Barnes missed a 26-yard field goal.

The second half was a wing-dinger with its big plays and damaging penalties. However, it gave the frozen fans a real warming.

The game enabled Coleman to go over 2,000 yards this season. He did it with 25 carries. He had needed only 47 yards to top the figure.

Coleman's six-yard TD just before halftime was unbelievable. The tailback took an off-balance pitch from quarterback Kevin Rauch and moved to his right. Finding the area swarming with Montoursville players, he floated left and jetted into paydirt.

Coleman also saved the game when he intercepted at the five-yard line with 15 seconds to go.

Although there were plenty of Hickory heroes, Mussina was also incredible, hitting 15 of 19 passes for 10 yards. Most of the yardage was to Brian Kennedy.

Despite all of Montoursville's passing, no Warrior tallies came on air strikes. In addition to Hagemeyer's big run, Jamie Ott scored twice by run.

Kevin Cromarti intercepted twice for Hickory while Kerry Boldish set up Coleman's TD before halftime, when the 6-2, 170-pound wide receiver dashed downfield to make a 41-yard catch at the one-yard line with only seven seconds remaining.

Hickory was playing without leading tackler Pierre Hubbard who this week was in the hospital with double pneumonia.

Hubbard thought he had the flu but became concerned when he couldn't take deep breaths. After a visit to a doctor, he was admitted Monday with pneumonia in two chambers of the left lung.



The Vindicator/Bob DeMay

Taking home the trophy

Hickory High School assistant football coach Bill Bell lifts the championship trophy after his team winning the Class AA state championship Saturday in Middletown, Pa.



A proud moment in Hermitage

Gene Paulson/Herald

Hickory High football coach Guy Gibbs holds up the state championship football trophy during a reception to honor the team at Hickory Methodist Church, Hermitage. Hundreds of fans turned out Sunday to praise the team,

which won the PIAA Class AA title with a 30-22 victory over Montoursville on Saturday. Behind Gibbs are Hickory assistant coaches and Dr. Robert Anderson, right, principal of Hickory High School. Story, other photos on page 19.

Shenango Valley high on Hickory state victory

A telephone call to the Hermitage School District had a distinctive ring to it this morning. "Hickory State Champs" was the first thing said by the switchboard operator.

It came as no surprise.

Excitement was obvious throughout the city after the Hickory High Hornets defeated Montoursville, 30-22, Saturday at Middletown High School.

By Sunday morning, signs were posted at a number of businesses in the city, proclaiming the deeds of the new state champions. Lighted signs blinked outside businesses along East State Street. Paper signs were taped on the front of other businesses.

Sunday night a reception was held at the Hickory Methodist Church and a capacity crowd greeted the team as Hickory head football coach Guy Gibbs introduced and praised each team member, the coaching staff, managers, trainers, cheerleaders, the band as well as the community.

"We tell our players to be thankful to God for being able to play this game of football," said Gibbs. "Don't take this great game of football for granted because many aren't able to play the game."

Gibbs introduced his senior class, naming each player and his position and praising each one.

He called quarterback Kevin Rauch the "team

leader," referred to standout tailback Andre Coleman as "Mr. Impact" and cited kicker-fullback Scott Baker for his consistency.

"I'm very proud of our quarterback," said Gibbs. "He led us to our first state championship. He is poised and has shown great leadership."

Regarding Coleman, Gibbs said, "We have the No. 1 tailback in the state of Pennsylvania in Class AA. He's a leader on and off the field and a fine young man."

Gibbs lauded Kerry Boldish as their clutch receiver and lineman Dan Hansen, a 3-year starter, one of the best.