



Reproduced from postcard of State Teachers College, Slippy Rock, campus of the small Pennsylvania school shows rolling grounds, major buildings.

A Sooner Extra

# This Is Slippy Rock

Since scores of Slippy Rock's football games were first announced at O. U. games, fans have taken an inordinate interest in the Pennsylvania Teachers College.

**T**HE VOICE coming over the public address system was apologetic.

"I'm sorry, folks," it said, "but as yet I haven't been able to get a score on the Slippy Rock game today."

It happened during the Kansas State-O.U. game this season, in the midst of a time-out lull, which is a moment when fans expect the announcer to sandwich in hurried scores of the day's other games. Owen Stadium perks up its ears when there is mention of Texas, Notre Dame, Maryland—and Slippy Rock. On this particular occasion, it was disappointed to hear no doings of the latter, not knowing that it was an open date for the small Pennsylvania school.

Last summer an O.U. professor, making a motor tour of the East, drove 100 miles off his route just to get a look at Slippy Rock.

Why the interest in a small teachers college in Pennsylvania?

It began several years ago at one of O.U.'s home games. Calling out scores of other college games, the announcer came across that of Slippy Rock and its opponent for the day. The name was unique, fascinating to him. He had an impulse to snub the other,

better known colleges for a second and to let the crowd know how a school practically unknown to them was faring. He did, and it fascinated the crowd, too—and has to this day, for Owen Stadium still cheers when Slippy Rock is ahead, groans when it drops behind.

This in spite of the probability that only a handful of Oklahomans know that Slippy Rock is the name of a borough in Butler County, Pennsylvania, and the school's true title is State Teachers College. Located 50 miles north of Pittsburgh, on the western edge of the Allegheny Plateau, this beautiful campus takes in 115 acres of rolling land, and around the buildings and athletic fields are wide stretches of woodland.

The college was set up in 1888 by local residents, in order that their youngsters could get an education near home. It was called State Normal School then, and it wasn't until 1927 that it received its present name. The college's aim is impressive: it readies teachers for the Commonwealth's public schools, and each student pledges himself—in view of the low cost of instruction—to teach in state schools for at least two years.

At the time of this writing, Slippy Rock's varsity team had won three games, lost two, and still had two to go. And with their schedule winding up relatively early—about the middle of November—Slippy Rock's fate would not be coming over the address system at O.U.'s last two games, nor, indeed, again until the 1957 season. It seemed almost sad and more than just a little strange: for O.U. it meant a winter parting from an old friend it had never even met.