

# Lions to run all-star game

## *Coaches choose group with history of success*

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A WORTHWHILE EVENT, which recently ended in a whimper of frustration, has come roaring back.

No one has gotten as far as giving it a new name, but the Bucks County Cancer Crusade All-Star Football Game does have a new sponsor.

Only procedural red tape stands in the way of the Lions Clubs of Bucks County assuming sponsorship of the game—the long-lingering albatross of the Bucks County chapter of the American Cancer Society, which struggled through four years as backers of the game before financial woes forced it to drop sponsorship earlier this year.

Now there's a whole new way of talkin' about the charity game which pits high school all-stars from the south of Bucks County against their counterparts from the north.

"WE ARE GOING to go all out," said Bob Sands of Holland, zone chairman of District 14A of the Lions Clubs of America. "We're going to go upstate, downstate, everywhere with publicity."

"We are going to be close to it," added Sands, a member of the Langhorne Lions Club, which spearheaded the drive to take over the game. "We're going to go through the ranks and pull men out who will know the game inside-out; to give the boys something they won't forget."

The Lions were recommended for the task in a poll taken of all Bucks County high school football coaches. The Jaycees, Sons of Italy, Big Brothers and Today, Inc., had also applied for sponsorship.

"All of these groups are capable," said Central Bucks West coach Mike Pettine, who coached the North squad to a 36-12 vic-

tory in this year's game and also coached the North to victory in the first contest. "We felt the Lions had the edge in history of charity work. They have about 30 groups behind them in the county."

THE LIONS MUST now apply for approval from the National Collegiate Athletic Association. But an okay from the NCAA should "only be a matter of procedure," Sands said.

"The setup of the game will stay the same," said Sands. "We have a lot of plans to make this thing work better in the future. But right now we just want to let people know there will still be a game."

One major difference in the game, which its name will inevitably underscore, is that future proceeds will go toward helping the blind.

"I felt badly that the Cancer Society wasn't able to continue with the game," said Bensalem-Township coach Bob Hart, who directed the South team last June. "But of course you can't draw a line as to what charity is more important. The idea of the Lions taking over is still a plus. It seemed to me, they (Lions) were highly organized and could carry on very easily from where the Cancer Society left off."

With 1,200 active members in Bucks County, the Lions are generally considered the best bet to continue an idea which, while suffering from lack of financial support, may also have been growing in other areas.

"WE ALWAYS SET goals for our team, and for the seniors, that game has been it," said Morrisville coach Fred Conger, who coached the 1974 South team. "In the last few years we've made that game a great honor—a big thing for any of those who might be chosen."