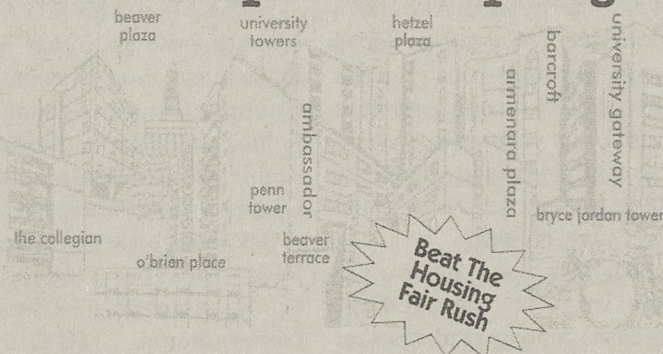


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Penn State Mont Alto Police Beat

Kyle Rondeau

On September 30, 2005 at 11:47 am Officer Dirk Hough received a report that there was damage to some vehicles parked in the lower lot near Mont Alto Hall. On investigation he found that there were two cars damaged apparently from some form of pellet gun, most likely a BB gun. The total damage to both cars was three windows ending up being shot out. One vehicle had the back window and passenger window shot out. The other vehicle also had the passenger side window broken. As I looked further into it, I found that both cars that had their windows shot out were similar in shape and model. The crime is still under investigation as it happened early in the morning and there were no witnesses and the

crime wasn't discovered until the next morning. The charges that will be filed, if the investigation is ever put to rest, will be criminal mischief, which is a petty offense. Petty offenses are minor traffic tickets, parking violations, and minor infractions on local ordinances. Typical punishment for a petty offense would be a fine exceeding no more than \$1,000.

If you plead guilty you will just have to pay your fine, but pleading not guilty will end you up in court for a trial usually in front of the district magistrate.

Travis Johnson

The Nittany Lions are on top of the Big Ten conference but don't seem to be getting the respect they deserve for their re-discovered success. A week after beating a potential national championship team in the Ohio State Buckeyes, many "experts" picked Penn State to lose to unranked Michigan in Ann Arbor. I understand that the anchors of ESPN's College Gameday figured Penn State's starting freshman (there are many of them) wouldn't be able to deal with the pressure of playing in "The Big House," the largest stadium and crowd in all of college football. Come on now, these kids can play, and they play at home in the second largest stadium in the Big Ten, Beaver Stadium.

My argument may sound stupid now, because Michigan did win the game. However, one must look past this and see the big picture. How did Michigan win? A wolverine fan will tell you they won the game on a brilliant Chad Henne pass with one second to go, a hard fought, honest win. That's not what I saw. As a football fan in general, I saw a robbery. Michigan needed to score a touchdown to win the game. As far as I'm concerned, the game was over when Henne completed a pass underneath to a Michigan receiver who was tackled short of the end zone, but that wasn't the case. There was still one second left on the clock, time for one more try. This second should not have been there. Earlier, while the wolverines were driving, head coach Lloyd Carr called a timeout. The referees stopped the clock when they heard him call the timeout, but Carr wasn't happy with how much time had ticked away before the referees stopped the clock. The Michigan coach argued with the officials and was able to get two more seconds added to the

game time; the extra second that gave Michigan the win. This is the most ridiculous thing I have personally ever seen. How could the officials give him two seconds back? He could have told them he called timeout five seconds previous to the clock stopping and gotten five seconds added to the game time, maybe time for an additional play if his offense had failed to score the second time.

The time added to the clock wasn't the only controversy to help Michigan in the game either. In the third quarter, Michigan running back Mike Hart fumbled the football and it was not reviewed. In the fourth quarter, Michigan receiver Jason Avant made a catch but only managed to get one heel in bounds; however, the referees ruled it a catch that gave Michigan a drive, saving first down. Did anyone else notice how Michigan seemed to be getting very generous spots on their runs as well? Some officiating. Are you kidding me?

Penn State played a better game than Michigan and in

my opinion won everywhere except on the scoreboard, unfortunately where it "statistically" counts. It's a crying shame to see kids play their hearts out only to have a game torn away from them based on bonehead calls from officials who you want to ask, "How much are you influenced by the pro-Michigan media surrounding the game and the crowd in the 'Big House?'"

The bottom line here is Penn State is better than Michigan. It's sad to say how much a highly controversial loss to the Wolverines can skew how good a team the Lions are in the national eye. While they're still on top in the conference standings and ranked in the top ten in the Bowl Championship Series, the "loss" to Michigan is very important in the long run, because without the "ghost seconds," Penn State is still undefeated and maybe closer to a national title. Maybe the only upside to this story is we get Michigan at Beaver Stadium next year, where we won't need any extra time to win the game.

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