

Editorial Opinion

Political Shenanigans Mix Up Liberty Bowl

Sports and politics do not mix, especially in bowls. The University administration from Director of Athletics McCoy to President Walker to Coach Lawrence should be aware of these hard facts after their experiences during the last few weeks.

The Penn State football team has been thrown for a long loss in its quest for a post-season bowl. It has proved to be the best Nittany team in many years and should be rewarded for its efforts.

But instead, Penn State has become the laughing stock of the football world, and for no reason at all if it hadn't been for the political and administrative pressure.

The Liberty Bowl fiasco has gone the limit. Student and faculty sentiment is one of disgust and disinterest. Such remarks as the "South Broad Street Classic" the "Dudley Bowl" and the "Pressure Bowl" flew about campus yesterday.

Pittsburgh papers took cracks at the Lions being given 22,000 tickets to sell; others blamed the Pitt loss partially on the pressure applied prior to the game.

It's a shame McCoy didn't learn a lesson on big promotions from the big flop in Cleveland's Municipal Stadium. There the Lions played before 15,000 fans in what was to be a top mid-west attraction. McCoy seems receptive to eager promoters.

Numerous reports concerning other bowl bids have circulated about campus. One is that the Lions were invited or at least received a feeler to play in the Bluebonnet Bowl in Houston, Tex. It seems the feeler fell on deaf ears in the athletic department. Another report was that the Lions were called concerning a Gator Bowl bid prior to the Pitt game but the call was not accepted.

The team was only given a chance to vote on whether to go to the Liberty Bowl. In accepting the bid, the University supposedly told bowl officials it wanted the Air Force Academy or Texas Christian University as opponents. But why did the University keep its invitation when bids to these schools fell through?

Perhaps the answer to the question lies in the fact that Penn State has gone big-time in football. Its schedule has been toughened. A new and bigger stadium is being built. Funds must be made available to pay for it. When a school engages in big-time football, it must be able to recruit good players and its athletic aid funds must grow—such as the University's Levi Lamb Fund.

All this takes money and the \$100,000 to \$150,000 supposed guarantee offered by the Liberty Bowl would go a long way in providing these funds. Perhaps the University needs to re-evaluate its athletic program.

But again, the basic fact remains—the Lions were forced into a game by political pressure and University administrative shenanigans.

tongue in cheek

Why Drivers Go Grey!

by bobbi levine

"But I'm only taking back the necessities of life!"

The young woman who had made the statement stood beside the car clutching a stuffed doll in one hand and a plastic piggy bank in the other. Around her feet were stacked two suitcases, a large collection of long-play record albums, a record player and three boxes filled with the same type of 'necessities' she was holding.

The problem which prompted the defensive statement was how to get six people with luggage to match into a car that measured about 18 feet from headlight to taillight. The luggage alone, when placed end to end, measured about 30 feet.

There was really no reason for the incident to occur at all. Each member of the University-bound car pool had been told that there would be six people making the trip back to school after the Thanksgiving holiday. Each had tried his best to squeeze that last new sweater and the extra turkey sandwich into the same suitcase space he had used on the trip home—except one. It always happens — there's

a curve-breaker in every class and an axle-breaker in every holiday car pool!

The young lady with the 20 camel-loads of luggage is not the only kind of traveller who turns drivers prematurely grey. Shuddering, white-faced drivers, fresh from the rigors of the post-Thanksgiving trip, report that another one of their special 'loves' is the student who is afraid to intrust his clothes to the safety of a suitcase.

When the driver meekly mentions that if his coed passenger would allow him to store her crinoline "sails" in the trunk the wind might stop rocking the car, she shrieks at him indignantly. "Do you want them to get wrinkled?"

Of course this same young lady wouldn't dream of packing her shoes in her suitcase either. She places them neatly on the back window sill of the car where they can hit the nearest victim in the back whenever the car stops for a traffic light. If she's carting those new pointed-toe, steel-heeled models, the back seat passengers are really taking their lives in their hands when they ride with her.

The male counterpart of this slip-toting student is the fel-

low who can't decide which suit to wear on Thanksgiving Day — so he brings all of them along.

Of course it wouldn't do to wrinkle any of his clothes in a suitcase, and if he puts them in a plastic suit bag they wouldn't get any air — so he hangs them on the hand straps which were put in the car for the safety of the passengers.

Drivers admit that luggage problems are not the only ones that plague them on the trips to and from the University. They list as other problems:

●The smoker in the fully-packed car (this person is usually sitting in the middle of the back seat between two non-smokers suffering from severe colds, and since he finds either ash tray equally inaccessible he deposits his ashes on the clean white socks of the person nearest him.)

●The passenger who has just eaten a huge lunch and casually mentions that unless he sits next to a wide open window he gets violently car sick.

But, with all the inconveniences of auto travel to and from the University, no one would think of using any other means of transportation if he can possibly get a ride.

Letters

Alum Blasts Politics Used In Bowl Bid

TO THE EDITOR: As an alumni of the Penn State sports scene, I am ashamed at the way Dr. Walker and the governor of this state, applied pressure to one of the finest Penn State football teams. This pressure over their participation in Philadelphia's Liberty Bowl brought about a yes decision from a team who preferred a southern bowl invitation.

This pressure was the leading factor in the humiliating defeat at Pittsburgh. Any team should have the right to a vote for the bowl of its choice without pressure being exerted by a state governor, the University administration and the school's athletic director.

The team has worked hard and earned the right to a democratic, pressure free vote in their final game. For the traditional game with Pitt, both teams have to be up. Our team was not only down, but completely demoralized.

The politics involved in swinging the team's decision is unforgivable. It is not the "obligation" of any institution to support a private business venture.

I wish Mr. Dudley success in his venture, but it is not up to Penn State or any political machine to supply this success. The goal of the politicians has been realized. Now Penn State's only choice will probably be the Liberty Bowl.

The damage is done. In the future, if Penn State is to continue with "Big Time Football," let's keep politics out of the picture!

—Edwin R. Sidwell
Class of '58

Letters

Grad Sees Worth of SGA

TO THE EDITOR: This letter says "to the editor" only because it is the accepted form. It is really to Mr. Hall, Mr. Bradley, and all of the Hall's and Bradley's on campus. It is an open letter to the Penn State student body.

So student government does nothing; it is only for the activities list in the yearbook. Let's look and see. Through student government, you, the student body got the HUB complete with BX, Terrace Room and Lions' Den. You get the Artist Series, the Lecture Series, Spring Week and Student Insurance.

You got community living, a direct reversal of University policy, after three years of banging by student government. You get all of the social and recreational events sponsored by student government with student government funds—all dances but Mil Ball; ping pong tables in West Halls; game rooms in the new dorms; and remember WRA (if you know what that means) is a part of student government.

Not too long ago the University calendar was such that most students would have to drive in New Year's Day traffic to return from vacation. Through student government pressure, this was changed. The student check cashing agency was a "campaign promise" which is now an accomplished fact.

Mr. Hall claims to speak for the student body ("we, the students"). I believe he does. Where is Frothy he asks? I ask where is the evidence that the students want Frothy at the

games. And what about homecoming queen? Does anyone really care? Who can tell? Your voice, the voice of the students, is never raised for the constructive purpose of saying what you want. It is only raised to blame student government for not obtaining your unexpressed desires.

You ask: "Since when has the administration given in to the wishes of the students?" Why should it? You, the students, don't care anyway. Does the student body do anything about parking regulations but grumble? Student government is at least trying.

The student voice is silent. It is left to student government to see such problems as the food situation and attempt to correct it; but the voice of you, the students, is silent.

Each in-state student is a voter or has parents who are voters in Pennsylvania. The University is a state university dependent on the support of the voters. But is the Student Voice heard here? As everywhere, the answer is NO! But you are proud that you didn't vote.

The fault is not with student government. It is with you, the students. Because you, the students, are the most uninformed, uninterested, lazy, lackadaisical, gutless bunch ever assembled in one spot. As an alum, I have seen student government work. As students you do not choose to see it. The fault is not with the leaders. The fault is with you, the students, the deaf, dumb and blind followers.

—James M. Goodwin.

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879. Mail Subscription Price: \$3.00 per semester — \$5.00 per year.

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Gazette

- TODAY
- Angel Flight Drill, 6:45 p.m., Armory, brief meeting, 7:30.
 - Air Force Glee Club, 8:30 p.m., HUB assembly room.
 - Belles Lettres Club, 7 p.m., Simmons lounge.
 - Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB.
 - Communion, 5:15 p.m., Wesley Foundation chapel.
 - Collegian Classified Ad Staff, 6:30 p.m., Collegian office.
 - Collegian Promotion Meeting, 6:45 p.m., 219 Willard.
 - Education Council, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB.
 - Graduate Student Association, 8:30 p.m., 217 HUB.
 - Faculty Women's Bridge Club, 1-10 p.m., HUB main lounge.
 - LA Council, 6:45 p.m., 212 HUB.
 - MI Council, 7:45 p.m., 212 HUB.
 - Methodist Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m., Wesley assembly room.
 - Newman Club, 7 p.m., 214 HUB.
 - Panhellenic Council, 6:30, 203 HUB.
 - Penn State Engineer, 7 p.m., 104 Boucke.
 - SGA Coffee Hour, 3-5 p.m., 218 HUB.
 - SGA, 6:30 p.m., 215 HUB.
 - Schupplatter German Folk Dance Club, 7:30 p.m., 3 White.
 - WDFM Live Broadcast, 7:15 p.m., HUB assembly room.

