

Halftime



After It's Over

By JIM KARL
Sports Editor

It was a long time before the door to Penn State's dressing room was opened to visitors after the 21-17 heartbreaker at College Park, Md., Saturday.

Most of the 39,000 spectators had departed from Byrd Stadium, but little groups of people remained to talk over the game and feel sympathetic for Rip Engle and his fallen gridders.

The sky was graying now, and a post game attraction was taking place down on the lonely field. Half-a-dozen little boys, pretending they were Saturday's heroes, romped back and forth in the dusk.

Outside Penn State's door one griddier stood battle-clad still, slowly drinking a coke.

A well-wisher walked up to Terry Monaghan and congratulated him on a fine game "Yea, but not good enough."

Monaghan was sick. He moved around the side of the building.

Almost 45 minutes had passed since State failed to score from the three yard line. The door to the State dressing room opened and despite the hot steam rolling from the shower room, a cold chill rattled your bones.

Bob Hart rolled on the rough cement floor while trainer Chuck Medlar tried to slip his knee into place. Hart is through for the season. He's due for an operation at Geisinger Memorial Hospital in Danville Friday. One of the best lineman on the team, he played less than 30 minutes all year.

Dave Hayes lay on a bench staring at the ceiling, his swollen left ankle wrapped in tape and gauze.

Buddy Torris, who played most of the game with a badly bruised arm after Hayes was hurt early in the second quarter, sat on the end of a table staring at the floor.

It was Torris' bull-like 19-yard rush after apparently being stopped for a short yardage that set up State's second touchdown.

Torris might have had a touchdown a few plays later but he collapsed almost from sheer exhaustion on the one-yard line.

Roger Kochman, a much criticized halfback earlier this year when he wasn't gaining 100 yards every game, took the ball in on the next play.

Rip Engle stood in a little stairwell near the rear of the dressing room shaking his head. Except for a few words which he repeated over and over, Engle didn't say much. "It was a tremendous effort . . . we played a great game . . . we're proud of our kids . . . we're proud of our kids . . ."

And then people come up to you and ask in disgust, "What's wrong with Penn State?" And you wonder if it's worth it all.

Maryland coach Tommy Nugent eased away from well-wishers after the game to explain how the Terrapins exploited a weakness in State's defensive armor.

"Their safelmen were playing deep and dropping to the outside," Nugent said, "and the middle was wide open." But Nugent wasn't telling Engle anything he didn't already know.

"We know what the trouble is," Engle said yesterday. "We've been working hard on pass defense all year, even harder than usual, but we just don't have a Jim Kerr or a Dick Hoak back there to grab those interceptions. With either one of those boys playing Saturday we would have picked off two or three passes."

(Both Kerr and Hoak starred for State last year. Kerr is a defensive specialist with the Washington Redskins and Hoak is a halfback with the Pittsburgh Steelers.)

"We're using the same pass defense we've always used," Engle said. "But with boys like Junior Powell (5-8) trying to defend against Gary Collins (6-3), what can you do?"

Virus Fails to Stop Collins From Wrecking Lion Defense

By DEAN BILLICK
Assistant Sports Editor

Gary Collins, a sure-fire bet All-American, had to be helped to the Maryland dressing room Saturday following a 21-17 squeaker over Penn State, but for 30 minutes of play during the game, the 6-3 circus-catching end wrecked the Lions.

It didn't seem to matter to Collins that he had been in bed with a virus the day before the game, and that he was so weak that every time he was taken out of the game he was greeted with an oxygen mask. The only thing that the big end could think of was "we gotta beat Penn State."

And Collins did his part, even though he was able to play only about half the game.

All the All-American did was catch six passes for 80 yards, punt six times for an average of 46 yards, score on a seven-yard pass, set a new Atlantic Coast Conference pass receiving record of 1,859 yards for a season, stop Don Caum on a roll-out attempt for two extra points, and in general come up with the big plays that put a damper on State's bowl hopes.

"We wanted this game more than any other this season," Collins said as two trainers wiped the sweat from his face and tried to cool him by handing him a Coke.

"I'm so tired now, I can't even think," Collins said. "I have never been hit so hard in all my life. On that touchdown pass that I

caught, someone hit me so hard I thought I was splitting in half.

"On that last goal line stand I was so tired I couldn't even stand. I only weighed 199 pounds and I usually weigh 210."

Maryland Coach Tommy Nugent had high praise for his kangaroo-leaping end. "He kept us in the game," Nugent said. "I think it was probably his best all-around performance, especially his punting."

Collins, however, didn't agree with his coach. "I don't think it was my best performance," he said. "It was a team effort all the way."

Probably the happiest player in the Terp dressing room was quarterback Dick Shiner, whose passing and running in the first half kept State on the defense most of the time.

"Now I can go back home with pride," Shiner said. The Maryland sophomore is a Pennsylvania boy and wanted to go to Penn State. (Continued on page fifteen)



SISSORS CUT: Roger Kochman cuts sharply on a sissors play to move from the Maryland 15 down to the 2 in second quarter action at Byrd Stadium Saturday. Two plays later Kochman scored State's first touchdown.



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