

a dean's view



## Who Said It's How You Play the Game?

By DEAN BILLICK  
Sports Editor

What a difference there is between the victor and the victim—almost like night and day. It's no secret that to the victor belongs the spoils and to the victim goes a badly broken pride.

The past Gator Bowl certainly was no exception.

At exactly 4:16 p.m. Dec. 29 the victor was Florida and the victim was Penn State. The scoreboard flashed 17-7, but that wasn't the easiest way to tell the winner. One look at the dressing room of each team told the whole story.

Under the cluttered stands in the southeast corner of the stadium a near delirious band of Florida Gators pounded each other on the back and shouted back and forth to friends, relatives and well-wishers. Some were even crying tears of joy. Some were embracing each other and shouts of "I told you we could do it," could be heard.

**INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM** the players, some battered and bruised yet all smiles, congratulated their teammates. Someone shouted, "The coaches to the showers," and before any of the mentors had a chance to escape, they were promptly deposited under the spraying nozzles.

Head coach Ray Graves staggered out of the showers, grabbed a towel, wiped off some of the water, threw the towel over his shoulders, lit a big cigar, and then started talking to reporters.

"It means a little more when you beat a great team like Penn State. Our kids did the greatest job I've ever seen in getting ready for a bowl game. It was the only way to get ready for Penn State.

**"IT'S HARD TO SAY** whether this was our best game. Florida State and Auburn will have to rate up there.

"We knew Penn State would be tough but we still think we have one of the best teams in the South and I believe we represented the SEC as good as anyone could have this afternoon.

"You know they asked to have the Confederate flags painted on the headgear. The kids really wanted it and knuckled down and got it.

"Thanks Joe, that's OK. We played pretty good ball. (To a reporter who had blasted Florida for accepting the bowl bid after losing four games.)

"Shannon? Great leadership. He mixed his plays real well, probably one of the best all-around sophomore quarterbacks in the country."

So spoke winning coach Ray Graves.

**OVER IN THE SOUTHWEST** corner of the stadium, all was quiet. There were few well-wishers and there was no shouting.

All the players were inside except Roger Kochman. The Lion All-American quickly signed a pro football contract with the Buffalo Bills and then quietly nudged his way through a group of waiting reporters and into the locker room.

The reporters remained outside. No one except coaches and players were allowed inside. There were too many other things to think over.

Soon a smiling but downhearted Rip Engle opened the door and stepped outside. The Lion coach began answering a barrage of questions.

**"FLORIDA CAME UP WITH** the key plays. We did not. It was that simple. When you can't come up with the key plays, you're in trouble.

"Well, I don't know about the fumbles. I wish I knew. I wish I know. We played four games without a fumble. No, I think we fumbled once or twice in the Pitt game. Up till then, from the Army game, we didn't have a fumble for four or five games.

"No I think the boys respected Florida. I just think it was . . . to some extent we were a victim of circumstances. I just think we weren't sharp. When we came here I didn't feel that our reactions and condition were conducive to being where we were when we finished our season.

"Well the only other game that we lost was by three points. We lost this one by 10, so I guess you'd have to say this was the worst beating we got. (In response to a question if this was the worst Penn State had been beaten all year.)

**"WELL, WE THOUGHT** the turning point was when the score was 10-7 and we had a chance for an interception and the kid bobbled it. Had he got it we kinda thought we were in business. That's how close football games are. See? If he had come up with the catch, and it was tipped right into his hand and he didn't react, we might have done some business.

"The wind set up a couple of Liske's passes, but that's no excuse. Florida deserves the ball game. They played it well and we have no excuses at all. They deserve a lot of credit.

"No we didn't play as well as we had hoped or we would have won."

So spoke losing coach Rip Engle.

Thirty-five minutes later the locker room door opened. Inside the few remaining players discussed the game. Then the room was nearly empty.

**ON THE OTHER SIDE** Florida players and fans were still shouting of their sweet victory.

And to think someone once wrote: "And when that one great Scorer comes to mark against your name, He writes not that you've won or lost, but how you played the game."

It just ain't true.

## Leightweights Could Decide Lehigh Match

(Continued from page ten)

streak recently. The loss was Merriam's first in his college career.

Pat Smartt, the 130-pound champion, has been having his troubles. He has lost two straight regular season bouts and was also upended in the finals of the Coast Guard Wrestling Tournament.

The Engineers will probably juggle their lineup tonight and put Smartt against Thiel at 137 pounds.

In that case, twice beaten John Leek will get the call at 130 pounds against Haney.

**EDWARDS SHOULD** draw the twice-beaten Allen Tate at 147 pounds.

Lehigh coach Gerry Leeman will probably move his two-time Eastern Champion at 157 pounds, Pendleton, up to 167 to wrestle Strayer.

Pendleton has recorded wins this season by 12-2 and 16-1.

If Pendleton is switched to 167, Bill Berg will wrestle State's Chuck Beatty at 157 pounds.

Berg has split his two matches this season while Beatty has been decisioned twice.

Unbeaten sophomore Harley Ferguson will wrestle either Mike Gill or John Zabatta in the 177-pound bout.

**SPEIDEL WAS STILL** undecided as to who he would use in the final three weight classes.

"I have Gill and Zabatta around which to work but I still have to find another man," he said. "Dick Walker isn't ready to go yet at heavyweight because he just finished with football."

John Burns at 191 and sophomore John Illengwarth at heavyweight will complete the Lehigh lineup.

Dave Adams' freshman squad will seek its first win of the season when it tangles with the Lehigh Frosh at 4:30.

## 9 Lions Miss Post Season Games

To many members of the Penn State football team, including head coach Rip Engle, last week's Gator Bowl loss not only marked a dent in pride, but also a dent in the pocketbook.

Nine of Engle's senior gridgers were scheduled to play in lucrative post season contests.

Halfback Al Gursky, fullback Dave Hayes and guard Joe Blasenstein were to play in the Blue-Gray game, Dec. 29.

Captain and center Joe Galardi and tackle Chuck Sieminski were slated to play for the North team in the North-South Shrine game

at Miami, Dec. 22, and All-Americans Dave Robinson and Roger Kochman were to play in the East-West Shrine game one week later in San Francisco.

Fullback Buddy Torris and tackle Gerry Farkas had to cancel appearances in the All-American Bowl at Tucson, Dec. 29.

Sieminski, however, will play for the North squad in today's Senior Bowl in Mobile, Ala., while Robinson and Kochman will be on the North squad in tomorrow's Hula Bowl in Honolulu. Engle will serve as head coach in the Hula classic.

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