

It Was The First Time...

By RON KOLB
Assistant Sports Editor

Was it Henry David Thoreau, or was it Wally Cox who once said, "There's a first time for everything?" Whatever literary genius can claim the distinction didn't know how right he could be upon applying the phrase to the happenings at Beaver Stadium Saturday.

For instance, there was the Penn State Blue Band lining up for its halftime show. It rocked down the field to the tune of "The St. Louis Blues March." Everyone's All-American drum major, Charlie Rosebrock, high-stepped his way over the gridiron to his stage-center position, turned, and faced the marching contingent coming toward him, as he always does.

Rosebrock then prepared for his big moment, one that everyone watches each week. He takes his heavy baton by the ball end and flips it 25 feet in the air. He had never missed a toss yet over three years at the job, and now, with two games left, he surely wouldn't want to drop the thing for the first time.



FRANK SPAZIANI
... he'd rather dive

As he lofted the heavy object skyward, a gust of wind, probably close to hurricane force, grabbed the baton and carried it away from the senior performer. Rosebrock sprinted toward it, but the baton just kept moving away until it finally came to rest at the feet of its owner.

State College weather had done it again. It had brought a halt to the most popular record since Ramon Navarro retired from active chariot racing.

That, of course, wasn't the only "first" to be displayed before a handful of fans which, by the way, numbered fewer than any seeing a game in several years at the stadium. When rain and snow started to whip through the bleachers it was the first time all year that the ushers just about outnumbered the spectators.

Bob Capretto registered a "first," with a little over two minutes to play in the first half. It was the initial TD of his career, scored on a 50-yard pass interception. The 5-11, 175 pound senior from Jeannette was ecstatic after his theft, jumping up and down as if the play were a last-second win-clipper. For the pre-dental major, that first score was as easy as pulling teeth.

Next it was Frank Spaziani's turn to cross the goal line for the first time ever. Spaz figures if you can't get there running, then dive. The 6-2, 210-pound defensive end did just that, rushing a fourth-quarter Bob Brown punt, hurtling through the air and deflecting it from his midsection.

Spaziani got up from the ground, scooped up the oval and streaked for the touchdown before anyone realized what had happened.

Split end Jack Curry in last week's N. C. State game became the first Penn State player in history to catch 100 passes in a career. On Saturday he caught his first touchdown pass of the season. Surprisingly, of his 110 career catches, only four have gone for six points. His only reception for a touchdown last year came in the second quarter of the final game with Pitt.

Another first—Penn State went into the game for the first time all season branded a "weak" team. An article in last week's Sports Illustrated said that "UCLA suffered two terribly narrow escapes against weaker teams—Penn State and Stanford—that easily might have defeated the Bruins and tied Oregon State."

Putting Penn State (7-2) in the same class as Stanford (5-5) is like putting the Green Bay Packers in the same category as Kiahacoquillas High School.

It was the first time Ohio University played Penn State, and they probably wish it were the last. However, the Bobcats will be coming back to University Park in 1949 and 1950. The Nittany Lions are not scheduled to make the return trip to Athens.

And there were other firsts of lesser note: the first time in State College history that there was more paper in the atmosphere than moisture (confetti lay knee-deep in the aisles after the game), the first time defensive tackle Mike McBeth didn't play in a regular-season game in his varsity career (he injured his knee trotting off the field between quarters at the N. C. State game), and the first time the Penn State defense outscored the offense all season.

Finally, chilled fans and even those who didn't go to the game felt like celebrating after the win, marking "Phyrra" time for everyone.

May Play Gators or Seminoles

Lions Headed for Third Gator

By PAUL LEVINE
Collegian Sports Editor

It took nearly eight hours yesterday, but when Penn State accepted the bowl bid, Lion fans everywhere breathed a sigh of relief.

Not that there was much chance Penn State officials could turn down the Gator Bowl's offer, but in a year when the nation's top team changes every week, when Michigan State has won two games, and when a mediocre LSU team gets a Sugar Bowl bid, anything can happen.

The decision to accept the bid to the Gator Bowl came after a day-long conference between University President Eric A. Walker and Athletic Director Ernest B. McCoy.

Three Parties
The process of accepting a bid actually depends on three parties. First, it is the Administration—meaning President Walker—who formally receives the invitation to spend the holidays in the Sunny South. The Senate Committee on Athletics—meaning the faculty—must also approve. And finally, the players get the vote.

It seems like a lot of red tape, but there was never much doubt about this one. The Lions, a safe bet to finish 8-2 this year, are enjoying their finest season since 1932 when they ended 9-1 and went to the Gator bowl.

"I'm pleased because it's a reward for a job well done," Coach Joe Paterno said of the invitation. "I'm pleased that the Gator

Bowl thought enough of these boys. Besides being a reward for a team that has a lot of class and a lot of character, it's a great challenge to play in a national game against a team from another section of the country.

"I'm sure the team will be a fine representative for Eastern football, and I'm sure they'll play the kind of game that Penn State, Penn State, and Eastern football fans can be proud of."

But Paterno, who always stresses taking one game at a time, is not looking beyond this Saturday.

"The important thing now is the Pitt game Saturday," Paterno said. "We're concentrating on keeping our minds on this week's game and we'll think about the bowl after Pitt."

Florida or Florida State
Presently, it appears that Penn State will face off in the Gator Bowl, Dec. 30, against the winner of this week's Florida-Florida State game. The Gators (6-2), will have to play Miami after their intra-state rivalry match this weekend. The Florida State Seminoles, who at one point in the season were 0-2-1, have won six straight games and close out the season against Florida.

The Lions aren't strangers to Gatorland. In 1931, after finishing 7-3, State traveled to Jacksonville over the holidays and well-loped Georgia Tech, 30-15. The following season, the Lions rolled to their best record since 1947 and finished at 9-1 with the only

blatant, 9-0 loss to Army. However, the team's play was somewhat less than inspired in the Gator Bowl, and State lost to Florida, 17-7. A possible return bout may be on tap.

State entered the Gator Bowl picture by a process of elimination. Generally considered the nation's fifth-best post-season game, status-wise (after the Rose, Sugar, Orange and Cotton), the Gator Bowl latched onto Penn State after the four New Year's Day games appeared to have selected their pairings.

The Lions were, of course, never in the Rose Bowl picture, which will find Southern California (9-1) playing host to the Big Ten representative.

Cotton Bowl Mentioned
For a time the Cotton Bowl was mentioned in Penn State's future. Now it appears that Alabama (7-1-1) will get a crack at the Southwestern champion, to be decided this week.

Penn State has already appeared in the Orange Bowl once this season and could have made a return appearance. However, the New Year's night game has already received acceptance from Tennessee (7-1) and Oklahoma (7-1).

It seemed as if the Lions' best shot at one of the big four was an appearance in the Sugar Bowl. Both Army and North Carolina State had been mentioned for the New Orleans game, but the Pentagon knocked the Cadets out of the running, and the Lions teamed with Clemson to eliminate the Wolf-

pack from Bowl contention. Penn State seemed the logical choice but Sugar Bowl officials didn't see it that way. They chose Wyoming (10-0), the country's only major unbeaten team, and Louisiana State (5-3-1), a move intended to insure a large crowd.

LSU is a dubious choice at best, but as one observer noted, "The South takes care of its own."

But the Gator Bowl is certainly no disappointment for the Nittanyans, who rebounded from an early season 1-2 log to win six straight.

Game on TV

The game will be broadcast nationally by ABC, and there shouldn't be too many empty seats in the 65,000-seat capacity Bowl. Last year, the Gator furnished one of the most exciting of the post-season contests as Tennessee defeated Syracuse, 18-12.

It will be State's seventh appearance in a bowl game. Besides the two previous Gator Bowls, the Lions own a 14-3 loss to California in the 1923 Rose Bowl; a 13-13 tie with SMU in the 1940 Cotton Bowl; a 7-0 win over Alabama in the 1950 Liberty Bowl; and a 4-13 win over Oregon in the 1960 Liberty Bowl.

For Penn State students wishing to attend the Gator Bowl, 4,000 to 5,000 tickets will soon be available at the ticket office in Rec Hall.

As one student quipped yesterday, "See you later—attheGator."

Seaver Is NL Rookie Of Year

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Mets, early with a player among the leaders in season of out, came up with a winner yesterday when Tom Seaver was named the National League's Rookie of the Year for 1967.

Seaver, a 23-year-old right-handed pitcher who won 18 games and lost 13, received 11 votes in the balloting by 20 members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Right-handed pitchers dominated the voting. Dick Hughes of the champion St. Louis Cardinals was second with six votes. Cincinnati's Gary Nolan collected three.

Seaver is the first Mets' player ever to capture an official post-season award and the first member of a last-place team to win the rookie award in the National League.

Originated in 1949

Outfielders Albie Pearson and Bob Allison were named the top American League rookies while with last-place Washington. Pearson in 1958 and Allison in 1959. The award in each circuit was originated in 1949.

Seaver, the first pitcher to take NL rookie honors since Jack Sanford of Philadelphia in 1957, set Mets' records in victories plus complete games, 18, strikeouts 170 and lowest earned run average, 2.76.

He also preserved the National League's 2-1, 15-inning victory over the American League in the mid-season All-Star game by pitching a scoreless last inning.

"This is a bigger thrill to me than being named to the All-Star team," said Seaver, who is living in Manhattan Beach, Calif., while completing his junior year at Southern California.



"They're Gator-Skin - What Of It?"

Injuries Take Toll

CITRIN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Coach Vince Lombardi of Green Bay took note Monday of the National Football League's mounting injury list and said, "we're very happy to get out of games with our lives these days."

Quarterback Bart Starr was stunned by a Stan Hundman tackle in last Sunday's 18-0 victory over San Francisco, and was forced out of the game in the second period. Linebacker Lee Roy Caffey suffered an ankle injury. He is considered a doubtful starter in Sunday's meeting with the Chicago Bears.

Starting fullback Jim Grabowski and starting halfback Elijah Pitts are out with injuries. Grabowski could be back in time for the Chicago game but Pitts was lost for the season with a torn Achilles tendon.

The New York Giants lost the services of running back Tucker Fredrickson and defensive tackle Jim Moran for the rest of the season in injuries suffered Sunday. Fredrickson sustained torn ligaments in his right knee and underwent surgery for the second time in his brief career. Moran's left leg was broken.

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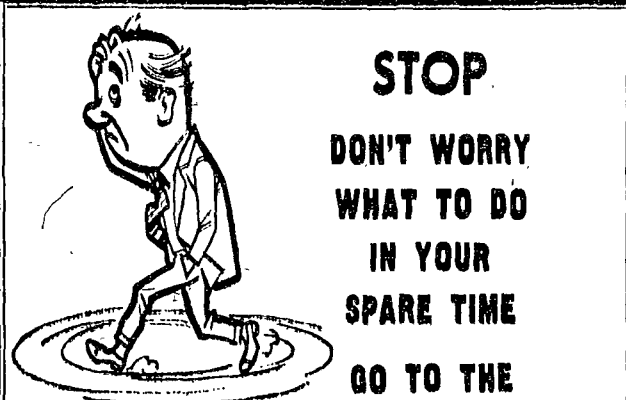
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Officiating Clinic Set For Women Referees

An officiating clinic for prospective and currently rated women basketball officials will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. Dec. 3 in the White Hall gymnasium. Sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Board of Women Officials, in conjunction with the College of Health and Physical Education, the clinic is designed to introduce prospective basketball officials to the techniques of officiating and to explain and demonstrate technique changes to already rated officials. In addition the clinic will provide an opportunity for interested women to practice officiating under the supervision of officials with National ratings.

According to the board's basketball chairman, Pat Sent, women attending the clinic should bring a whistle, tennis shoes and a current rule book. A rating session will be held early next term.



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A Jon By Any Other Name...

In an effort to clear a misconception which has been heard frequently around campus, the Daily Collegian presents this public-service statement.

The Collegian's sports cartoonist, who formerly signed his work "Fox," is not the Jon Fox whom we all know and love. Instead, he is Tom Fox, an eighth term general arts and sciences major from State College.

Jon Fox, multi-talented as he may be, candidly admits that he can't "draw a straight line." Therefore, the Collegian, intent on distributing credit where credit is due, is anxious to clear up this misconception. Beginning today, Tom Fox will affix his given name as well as his surname to the cartoons.

"Call a Jon a Jon—a Tom a Tom" is the Collegian's philosophy. "Nuff said?"

WRA Volleyball

The Women's Recreation Association volleyball tournament will go into its final round of eliminations next week.

The single-elimination tournament will have two seeded teams playing each night. Seeded teams are: Monday, McClain and Westmoreland; Tuesday, Delta Zeta and Ewing; Wednesday, Iota Alpha Pi and Pi Beta Phi; Thursday, Zeta Tau Alpha and Delta Delta.

Gutzwiller Wins Dorm Intramural Tennis Singles

Steve Gutzwiller of Allegheny House won the Dormitory Intramural Tennis Singles Championship by defeating Daniel Pritz of Electric House by scores of 6-2, 3-6, and 10-8.

Gutzwiller, a first year liberal arts student from Lancaster, has been playing tennis for four years. In those four years Gutzwiller won several tournaments, including the Haverford Tournament in 1988 and the Lancaster City Tournament this past summer.

Gutzwiller played tennis at Hempfield High School where he won the Pennsylvania Inter-scholastic Athletic Association's District 4 Indoor Tennis Championship last season.

Gutzwiller expects to try out for the freshman tennis team next spring.

This was the first match in which Pritz, Gutzwiller's opponent, lost a set during the 149 man intramural single elimination tournament.

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