

Sandy Padwe

Joe Proves True to Self

By SANDY PADWE
Collegian Sports Editor (1958-60, 1960-61)
(In the Philadelphia Inquirer)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 30 — The locker room was nearly empty now. Joe Paterno finally had slipped away from the reporters who had pinned him mercilessly against the wall outside the dressing room beneath the Gator Bowl.

A few seconds before, Paterno patiently explained "the play" time and again. "I blew it," he said. "I should have known better. If I had it to do over, I wouldn't."

That was not the real Joe Paterno talking. The real Joe Paterno sat in the empty coaches' locker room unlacing his football shoes.



JOE PATERNO
... Confidence in Self

A soft drink rested on the table. Paterno leaned back. He closed his eyes for a moment. They were tired, weary eyes, eyes that had just seen a certain victory turned into a tie game.

Paterno's Penn State football team had built a 17-0 lead over Florida State in the Gator Bowl, and the third quarter was ticking quickly away. Penn State had just stopped Florida State with a goal-line stand on the one-yard line.

Three plays later, Penn State had the ball on its own 14 1/2-yard line with a fourth-down-and-inches situation. Penn State broke from the huddle. Guys in the press box started shouting, "Watch for the shift." Only there was no shift.

Tom Sherman, the quarterback, took the snap and plunged straight ahead into a wall of white jerseys. The referee told a shocked Sherman his plunge was short. The clock showed 4:10 remaining in the third period.

Florida State took over and, in three plays, had its first seven points. Less than two minutes after that, Florida State had another touchdown. Then with 15-seconds left in the game, Grant Guthrie kicked a 26-yard field goal which capped a furious rally and gave Florida State a 17-17 tie. The tie made Joe Paterno a very vulnerable target.

As the equipment men began cleaning up the litter in the Penn State locker room, Paterno sat quietly, re-explaining what will be remembered as the most controversial play of his career.

"I believe very much in the theory 'to thy own self be true,'" Joe Paterno said. "You can go through life playing everything safe and wind up mediocre. If I had ordered a punt on that play instead of a run, I wouldn't have had the courage to be the football coach I want to be. I took the chance. I know it turned the game around. But I took it."

"I expect to be criticized. And I'll probably get it. But I've always considered every knock a boost."

"I felt field position and control was vital to us at that point of the game. If we get the first down and a few more, we're in control."

To understand Joe Paterno a little better, you have to go back to Friday Evening, 8 p.m. Joe Paterno sat in a hotel suite telling of his changes offensively and defensively for the Florida State game. They were radical. Switching Ted Kwalick, the All-American tight end, to wingback. And re-aligning the defensive backfield and linebackers.

"Our purpose is to stop their passing game," Paterno explained. "We won't play our customary 4-4-3. We'll also use a 5-5-1, a 3-5-3 and a 6-5 at times. I've moved some of the kids around to give us more speed to help us cut-off their passing zones."

"I don't know. Maybe this won't handle them (Florida State). But the moves give us more flexibility, both offensively and defensively. I know these things might not work and I'll fall flat on my face. But it's my face."

"If you don't have the confidence to make some changes, you're not a good football coach. Besides, the kids are enjoying it (all the switches)."

"Preparing for bowl games can be a boring thing. I know, because we've been in a few. You have all that extra time, and if you just do the things you've done all year, the kids get bored silly. You're going to see some weird things out there tomorrow."

"A bowl game is a one-shot thing. You're here to enjoy it as much as you're here to win. I think the moves we made give us our best chance to win."

On the other side of the Gator Bowl, Florida State coach Bill Peterson was having his problems, too.

Everyone was demanding to know why he had called for a field goal with a fourth-and-five situation on the Penn State eight and only 15 seconds remaining.

Down here, they take their football seriously. You don't play for ties, you see. You play to win, especially against a team whose campus is north of the Potomac River Bridge.

"The reason we went for the field goal," Peterson said, "is any time a team is down by 17 points at the half and comes back the way ours did, it doesn't deserve to lose the ball game. It was the right decision. We had been down there three other times and were stopped."

They say first impulses are correct. Joe Paterno's first impulse was to go for the first down deep in his own territory. Bill Peterson's first impulse was to go for the tie.

Nobody left the Gator Bowl happy. Too bad. It was a magnificent football game between two of the Nation's best teams and two of the Nation's best coaches.



Sports Editors Return

THREE FORMER Daily Collegian Sports Editors were on hand in the press box to see their alma mater battle Florida State in the Gator Bowl. Sandy Padwe (foreground), a 1961 graduate of the University is currently a sports columnist with The Philadelphia Inquirer. John Lott (standing), a 1966 Penn State graduate is completing work on his master's degree and is an assistant in the University's Sports Publicity Department. Ira Miller, a 1965 graduate, is a sports writer with The Associated Press. All three were covering the Gator Bowl and their accounts of the game appear elsewhere on this page.

Ira Miller

State Fit To Be Tied

By IRA MILLER
Collegian Sports Editor (1963-64)
(In the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 31—Penn State gambled. Florida State didn't. And that was about the story of their 17-17 tie in yesterday's Gator Bowl football game.

The Nittany Lions practiced in secrecy for two weeks developing new formations, they worked. But the big gamble spelled the beginning of the end.

Florida State, faced with a win-or-tie choice in the final seconds, chose the tie. And at the end the record crowd of 68,019 was asking two questions.

Why did Coach Joe Paterno of Penn State, leading 17-0, risk trying a fourth-and-inches play from his own 15-yard line and why, after Quarterback Kim Hammond had completed 37 of 53 passes, wouldn't Florida State Coach Bill Peterson let him try more? Especially since Peterson said just a couple of days before the game that you never should play for a tie in a bowl game.

Paterno blamed himself for the fourth-down backfire which led to the first of two Seminole touchdowns within 69 seconds.

"It was my call," he said. "I blew it—and if I had it to do over again I wouldn't do it."

It was a gamble Penn State had made before, during the season, which usually paid off. But this time Tom Sherman couldn't get the six inches. Or at least not after the ball was spotted.

"I looked down and I was this far past the line," Sherman said, holding his hands two feet apart. "Then somebody started pulling me by the seat of my pants. The officials grabbed the ball and spotted it where I ended up after they finished pulling me back." Peterson, who is expected to be named San Francisco 49ers coach this week, defended his strategy.

"Our kids had made a great comeback and I didn't want to see them lose," he said. But, said his All-American Flanker Ron Sellers:

"I don't like tie games. I'm just glad it wasn't my decision." Said Paterno:

"Nobody likes a tie. My thoughts in that last minute were that I hoped they'd miss the field goal. I hoped they'd try for the touchdown, because I didn't think they'd make it."

The Seminoles had gone for the touchdown on the play before Grant Guthrie's 26-yard tying field goal (with 15 seconds left), but Bob Capretto's last-second leap deflected the Hammond-to-Sellers toss.

The shifting-Y formation which Penn State had devised in secrecy kept Florida State off balance for the first half and helped the Lions grab that 17-0 lead. Sherman threw scoring passes to Jack Curry and Ted Kwalick and kicked a 27-yard field goal.

But after the Lions stopped Florida State at the goal line in the third quarter, the momentum began reversing itself when the big gamble failed.

"It was the turning point," Paterno said. "That gave them momentum when they had to have it—particularly after our goal-line stand."

"I felt I shouldn't do it, but the kids wanted to go and I got caught up in the enthusiasm."

Even though Hammond smashed a bevy of Gator Bowl marks with his passing display that netted 362 yards, the only touchdowns Florida State scored were made possible by the fourth-down misfire and a fumble.

One of the reasons was the Penn State defense which, as usual, came up with the big plays.

Tim Montgomery made a pair of interceptions and saving plays that ruined both a fake field goal and a fake punt. Neil Smith, shifted to roverback, and Pete Johnson each had interceptions.

Sellers caught 14 passes and Bill Moreman 12, but the pass defense for Penn State played well.

"Hammond's awfully tough," Montgomery said.

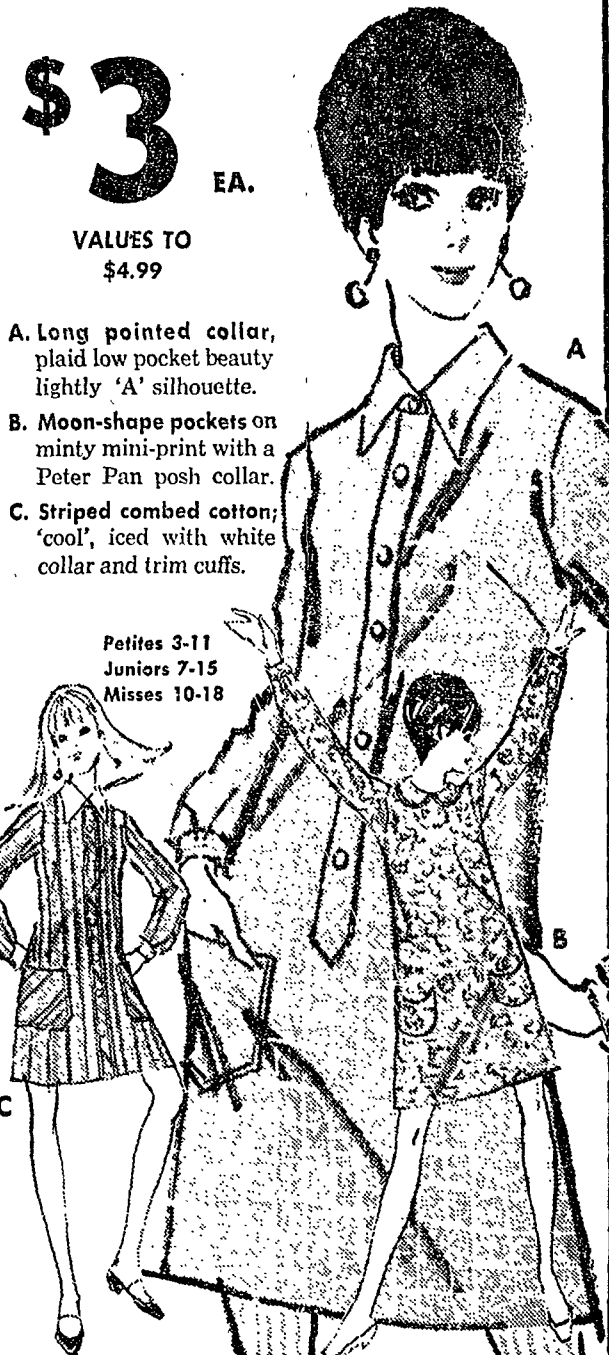
"He's right on target all the time."

Paterno said Penn State did the best job any team had done in rushing Hammond.

"That Capretto was one of the best to defense me all year," Sellers said.

Bravo! Our young jaunty shirt shifts

\$3 EA.
VALUES TO \$4.99



- A. Long pointed collar, plaid low pocket beauty lightly 'A' silhouette.
- B. Moon-shape pockets on minty mini-print with a Peter Pan posh collar.
- C. Striped combed cotton, 'cool', iced with white collar and trim cuffs.

Petites 3-11
Juniors 7-15
Misses 10-18

W.T. GRANT CO.

"THE BIG NEW GRANTS"

At the Nittany Mall, Triangle, Rt. 64 & 26(N.)
Between State College & Bellefonte
Open Mon. thru Sat. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Winter Sports In Full Swing Next Weekend

Although the Nittany Lion basketball team is at home tomorrow for a 3:30 p.m. game with Kent State, Penn State's winter sports schedule doesn't get into full swing until next weekend.

The wrestling and gymnastics teams will hold a day-night doubleheader with Springfield College next Saturday, with the wrestlers getting the nod at 2 p.m. in Re Hall, the gymnasts at 8 p.m. The Lion rifle team travels to Cornell next week, while the fencers and swimmers play host to temple.

The basketball team will play at Pittsburgh next Saturday.

For Good Results Use Collegian Classifieds

HORNER'S BOOK SHOP

202 South Allen Street
Phone 237-1404

SALE

ALL HARDCOVER BOOKS 25% off
MONARCH OUTLINES
SCHAUM OUTLINES
COLLEGE OUTLINES 20% off

SEE US FOR PAPERBOUND TEXTBOOKS

John Lott

'A Stupid Game'

By JOHN LOTT

Collegian Sports Editor (1964-65)
The hotel elevator soared silently from one floor to the next . . . 14-15-16 . . . and with each floor the slightly inebriated Floridian weaved slightly, nearly oblivious of the four other persons in the ascending cubicle.

"Both teams were stupid . . . out there . . . this afternoon," he said to the wall.

One corner of the elevator responded. "What?" asked Sue Paterno. She didn't say it sarcastically. She just wanted to make sure.

"Stupid . . . both of them," the man said. He was surprised to hear a reply. He had been talking to walls and flashing elevator buttons for several hours.

"No offense, ma'am . . . just my personal opinion," he said.

"No, no, that's OK. We're all entitled to them," Sue Paterno said as the door opened at her floor. She got off, keeping her opinions to herself.

The man didn't know he had been talking to Mrs. Joe Paterno. It had been a trying day for her, and it was not a nice way for it to end. First, the ball game. Then a banquet, where all the speakers smiled into the spotlight and said how nice it was that both teams could win, and Sue Paterno and many others knew it wasn't true. And now a man with bourbon on the brain said the whole thing was stupid. Sue Paterno is married to a man whose life is devoted to this stupid game.

It was not a nice way for the day to end.

Twenty-four hours before, a small cluster of sportswriters had gathered in a hotel to hear just how much stupidity had gone into the Penn State game plan for the Gator Bowl. Joe Paterno had said there were going to be drastic changes, and now, after it was too late for the writers to get the story in their Saturday papers, he was going to tell them about his strategy.

"If I can help you people write a story . . . a story you're going to have to do in a hurry, then I'm more than willing," he said. "Personally, I think the whole thing has gotten a little bit out of hand."

He meant that the writers had displayed such concern about Penn State's secret practices that they were starting to lose their perspective about the game itself. They felt deprived because sports writers have an obsession about knowing everything. They're also the worst people around at keeping secrets.

Joe Paterno knows this. That's why he waited until Friday night.

The Penn State coach started speaking, and as his plans unfolded and the writers scribbled furiously, not fully understanding all they wrote. It became obvious that Paterno and his staff had laid the most careful plans since Normandy. The 1967 Gator Bowl might have been the most intricately planned football game in history.

He talked about defense first. About how Florida State creates five short passing zones, and that the Lions had to add another defensive back to combat this, and how Neil Smith was now a rover back (not a corner back), and how Pete Johnson was now a strong side linebacker (not a rover back), and how Jim Kates would be a middle guard who would come out of the line to play linebacker when the Lions went "to a six arrangement."

He went on to say that now the Lions were short of defensive halfbacks,

so Paul Johnson was moved from wingback to a reserve defensive back. And that All-American Ted Kwalick would now be a wingback instead of a tight end, and that Gary Williams would be the tight end, and that Jack Curry would be a wingback when Kwalick lined up at tight end.

He called it a "domino effect," and like a lot of the people who defend Vietnam policy by citing the domino theory, he met with several protestors.

One of the demonstrators said that Kwalick had never been a back in his life, and demanded to know how he would adapt to such a foreign position.

"I've seen Kwalick enough to know that he'd be a great college tailback if we put him there," Paterno said, probably wondering if the writer remembered that Kwalick had carried the ball before on the end-around play.

The writers' questions came like anti-aircraft fire, and they were designed for the same purpose. Once, one writer screamed at another for interrupting a question. You would have thought it was a meeting of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and that Joe Paterno was William Westmoreland.

But then, in his own inimitable way, Joe Paterno calmed the writers by explaining his rationale. The antidote worked faster than Excedrin. The writers stopped shouting. Some even stopped writing.

"One thing I know about a bowl game," Paterno said. "It can be the most foreign thing in the world to practice for if you do the same things you've been doing all year. The players simply get bored."

"Now," he went on, "tomorrow you're going to see some things you haven't seen all year in a college football game. A bowl game is a one-shot affair. And we're going to play like we've played all year. We're down here to have fun."

To have fun, or to win? someone asked.

"To do both," Paterno said. "But the kids are loving it. They've cooperated right to the hilt. I'm not naive enough to think we're going to win by changing the O's and X's. The big thing is execution. But I do think we need better O's."

Better O's? someone asked.

"Yeah, you know, X's and O's," Paterno answered with a grin. The writer smiled blankly. Maybe he thought Paterno and his staff were playing tic-tac-toe.

"If you don't have enough confidence in yourself to make some changes when you think it's necessary, then you're not a good football coach," the Lions' coach said. "I honestly believe that I'd be a coward if I didn't change the character of our defense. I'll say this: we couldn't have beaten them the other way."

"Look, we may stink out the place tomorrow. People will say Paterno's stupid. That's part of football."

Twenty-four hours later, people were saying Paterno was stupid. They were saying it in hotel lobbies, and on the streets of Jacksonville. A drunk who wouldn't know a rover back from a shin splint was saying it to Paterno's wife in a hotel elevator.

The X's and O's didn't matter. The complex planning was irrelevant. All that mattered was that Penn State landed inches short of a first down try at its own 15-yard line.

That's what sportswriters like to write about. That gives television fans in bar-rooms a good conversation piece.

After all, it's just a game. A stupid game. Ask Joe Paterno.

Better yet, ask Sue Paterno.

Athletes Aided by Air

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) —

There have been divergent views over the effects of high altitude and "thin air" on the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City.

But geodesists, the scientists who deal with measuring and mapping the earth, seem to agree that gravity will make a

difference. It will make it easier to break records.

As gravity on its surface varies from point to point, geodesists feel this should affect the distance a person can throw or jump.

Dr. Richard H. Rapp, associate professor of geodesic science at Ohio State University, believes many of these differences are significant.

"If the distance a person can throw an object depends on where he is located, we would expect all competition to be based on the same location in order to establish world records correctly," Dr. Rapp said.

"This is not being done, and this fact becomes important in considering world records that are being set at many different locations for longer and longer throws."

Dr. Rapp noted that avity variation has many causes but the dominant one is that the earth is somewhat flattened to-

ward the poles.

"Thus at the equator a person, is at sea level, the farthest from the center of the earth and at a point where centrifugal force is strongest," Dr. Rapp said.

"Here gravity is much less than at the pole where a person would be closer to the center of the earth and also where there is no centrifugal force."

What effect does this gravity difference have on athletic performance?

Dr. Rapp said the 1968 Olympics next will be held at a latitude of 19.405 degrees. As this is closer to the equator than the 1964 Tokyo site at 35.71 degrees latitude, the gravity is less, and therefore it will take less effort to set the same marks achieved in Tokyo.

In fact, Dr. Rapp noted, each Olympics since 1960 has made new records easier because each successive site has been closer to the equator.

CASTINGS ENGINEERS

Planned expansion of our structural castings product line has created several opportunities in our Product Engineering Department.

If you are a graduate in mechanical or metallurgical engineering and you would like an interesting and challenging job in a company with outstanding growth plans and potential, we would like to talk to you. You will be given necessary training and orientation in investment casting technology and you would have many opportunities for advancement dependent on your ability and personal contribution.

Excellent benefit program and working conditions. Salary will depend on your experience and qualifications. DON'T PASS UP THIS OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER YOUR ENGINEERING CAREER.

Send your resume, or letter will do, giving your education, experience and your ultimate professional objectives to:

C. W. Russell

TRW

Metals Division
Minerva, Ohio 44657
An equal opportunity employer

SKI JACKETS & SKI GLOVES HAND KNIT SWEATERS

(SMALL FOR THE GIRLS)

LAMB'S WOOL SWEATERS

THE ONE ELEVEN SHOP

111 South Pugh Street
STATE COLLEGE, PA. 16801