

From Florida

# Gator Bowl Notes, Quotes

(Continued from page ten)

never heard of before. We've tried to prepare for everything."

Whether or not Paterno and his staff revolutionized football is a matter of conjecture but the Lions' changes certainly kept the Seminoles off balance in the first half.

On offense, State moved All-American tight end Ted Kwalick to wingback, first-team wingback Paul Johnson to reserve defensive back and sophomore Gary Williams to the tight end position.

On defense the changes were intended to aid the pass defense, so corner back Neal Smith moved to rover, Pete Johnson from rover to linebacker Jim Kates to middle guard.

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During the week prior to the game, both coaches praised their opponents and neither could resist the temptations to draw a few comparisons.

**BILL PETERSON:**

"Defensively, Penn State is like North Carolina State, as far as personnel is concerned, but they use different alignments.

"On offense, Penn State looks like Texas-Tech's running game, but they have a whole lot of different formations. They're a great offensive team. They really come at you.

"Ted Kwalick is the best tight end I've ever seen. He has great size and great speed. Tom Sherman is an excellent passer and a fair runner. He's about like the North Carolina State quarterback Jim Donnan. But the thing that worries us most is Penn State's running game. They have a great running game. Another thing that worries me is that linebacker Dennis Onkotz. He's a great one. I thought the Mississippi State boy, D. D. Lewis, was probably the best linebacker we've ever faced, but now I think Onkotz may be the best.

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**JOE PATERNO:**

"Sellers would have to be the best I've seen this year, and I've never seen anybody better. I'd like to compare him with Gary Collins (Cleveland Browns end). I thought Collins may have a step of speed on him, but Sellers has so many moves and real good speed.

"We've played a couple of drop-back passers like Hammond, but they're not as good as him. Hammond and Gary Beban are the best quarterbacks we've played. They're two great ones. Hammond's running is sometimes overlooked. He can run and scramble and has speed and toughness. We've played no passer anywhere who's near as good as Hammond. Beban is a great runner but Hammond is the superior passer.

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Much has been said in recent days concerning Joe Paterno's big gamble deep in Penn State territory, but perhaps the classic line was heard on the trip home from Florida. As the plane carrying the official Penn State party circled the Martinsburg airport, it appeared that a landing attempt could not be made. The pilot circled the snow-covered field and descended out of a snow squall in an effort to sight the runway. After dropping out of the clouds, he saw that the plane was headed more for the airport terminal than for a runway, so he quickly pulled up again.

To which sportswriter Roy McHugh of the Pittsburgh Press quipped: "I wonder if Joe would have gone for it."—Paul Levine.

## Lions Leave Tourney After Two

# Eagles, Orange Just Too Quick

By RON KOLB  
Assistant Sports Editor

A disappointed John Egli stood outside the steamy locker room in a corridor at Madison Square Garden, the second home of New York sports fans. The corridor was empty except for a couple dozen St. John's University cancer girls practicing a high-kicking coordination routine for a halftime show.

It was Tuesday afternoon at about 4 p.m., a bleak day after Christmas that saw the Penn State Nittany Lions basketball team suffer a frightful loss to Boston College. As he had been used to doing for over a season, Egli tried to find reasons why his boys only scored 58 points to the opponents' 87.

He had no reason to be short of reasons. They flowed from his mouth just as they had before, and just as they were going to again just 48 hours later. No bitterness, no excuses. Just every coach's dilemma of explaining what went wrong. To wit:

**Can't Keep Up**

"They were just too good a ball team to keep up with, they were faster and quicker than we are, and whenever we tried to run with them, we fell behind."

And, "We weren't following through on offense. We would set up a play and then someone would break it with a wild shot. All I ask for is a little more intelligence."

And, "We just didn't have the depth that they had. I didn't plan to play Bill (Stansfield) as much as I did, but we got into foul trouble and I had to go with him. He hadn't worked out much and he just wasn't in shape to play as much as that."

And, "I just couldn't ask for more effort from our boys. They went as hard as they could all the way. The only thing that was disappointing to me was the play of Jeff Persson. He's a much better player than he was today (eight points, four rebounds), and since he's the team captain, he must set the example for the rest. It seems as he goes, so goes the team. He must give us more."

**Both Must Improve**

The two most important men on the team are Bill Stansfield, at 6-8 and 235, and Jeff Persson, who averaged 17.6 points per game last year and is the only senior on the team. The big man is presently playing with an arm and a half because of an injury, while the leader has yet to assert himself as such.

Add to these factors the plain and simple fact that the Lions' opening game in the ECAC Holiday Festival tournament was against the 10th-ranked team in the nation, and you surely won't come up with a toss-up.

Nevertheless, that's how the whole affair began. After the Garden organist had finished playing "Fight for the Blue and White" at least a thousand times, and after the earth-shattering foghorn had alerted about 5,000 fans that the game was to begin, it took almost two minutes of playing time before State's Galen Godbey hit a 20-foot jumper for a 2-0 lead.

**Bad vs. Bad**

The following nine minutes of play seemed to be mistake against mistake, bad pass against ridiculous shot. Neither team could generate an ounce of offense, and with 8:50 remaining in the half, both boasted a red-faced 15 points.

The Eagles then hit a quick flurry of baskets to pull away for good. Bob Dukiet dropped one through from five feet for BC, the Lions' Galen Godbey accidentally put one through the opponents' nets on a rebound, and Terry Driscoll, BC's 6-7 pivot ace who led his team with 19 points, tapped in his first of several.

Moments later the Eagles scored seven straight behind the hustling ball-hawking tactics of Steve Adleman and Jack Kwanz, and the Eglimen found themselves down, 31-19. The halftime score was little more respectable at 38-27.

Boston College coach Bob Cousy naturally likes the fast game. The only time he's deliberate is when he talks

about his team and the many talents it has. One device he used to show off the squad was his version of musical chairs. Twelve men sat on the bench, and in the first half, 10 of them saw considerable action. Even Billy Evans, their top playmaking guard, got into the game, though he could hardly move on his heavily-taped right leg.

The Eagles' depth and Penn State's lack of it proved decisive in the second half as BC literally ran away with everything but the locker room sink. Between Lion baskets, Cousy's smoothies put together scoring strings of 10, 8 and 6 points, and again the former Celtic great cleared his bench, this time using all 12 men.

One bright spot in the Lion lineup was the hustling performance of 6-2 guard Tom Daley, a sophomore from

top four places in the tourney, Egli knew it could still salvage fifth place with two more wins. Syracuse was the next opponent that Thursday afternoon, having lost to St. John's in the opener.

Egli also knew that State had played the Orangemen to a deadlock two weeks earlier at Syracuse, only to lose in overtime. In that one George Hicker hit a foul shot with no time left on the clock, giving his club a 90-89 win. Here was the Lions' chance to gain revenge, like all teams do in John R. Tunis sports novels.

After the game, Egli stood outside the same steamy locker room and in the same corridor, minus the can-can girls. The dejected face was the same, and though the explanation was a bit different, the result was similar enough. Syracuse had won, 83-73.

"We're still quite inept, especially our ball handling," the 14-year coach said. "Though we worked like hell on defense, we just weren't quick enough to stay with them. And when we have to press, we're licked. Quickness is something we'll have to work on."

When it came to determining what player or players proved the difference, especially in comparison to the previous meeting in Syracuse, Egli didn't mention Wayne Ward, the 6-7 Orange center who scored 21 points, or George Hicker, who hit 19. Neither did he single out Jeff Persson or Bill Stansfield.

"We played a bit better today than we did up there," he explained, "except for the play of Bill Young. He was great up at Syracuse (13 points, 13 rebounds), but he just couldn't get started today. That could have been the difference."

**Shooting Surprises**

Actually, the difference proved to be some clutch outside shooting from a couple surprising reserves and a blond bomber.

The 40-38 halftime score gives a pretty good indication of what the first 20 minutes were like. Though the Orangemen held the lead most of the way, their margin was never more than nine, and they were never losing by more than two.

Pivotman Ward was unstoppable as he hit three offensive taps and a twisting layup, contributing 12 Syracuse points. On the other side, Bill Stansfield started hitting from in close as he, Persson and Daley each added eight points to the score. Then came a frustrating second half.

Guard Richie Cornwall dropped in a foul and Hicker swished a 25-footer, giving Syracuse a five-point lead that held to the 61-56 mark. Then 6-4 sub Tom Ringelmann hit 20-foot jumpers from both corners and Ward completed a three-point tap play with 5:45 left, making it a decisive 68-56. Again, at 73-64, Ringelmann hit two outside bombs and Ward added a couple driving layups, putting it out of reach at 79-64 with about three minutes on the clock. The Lions never caught up.

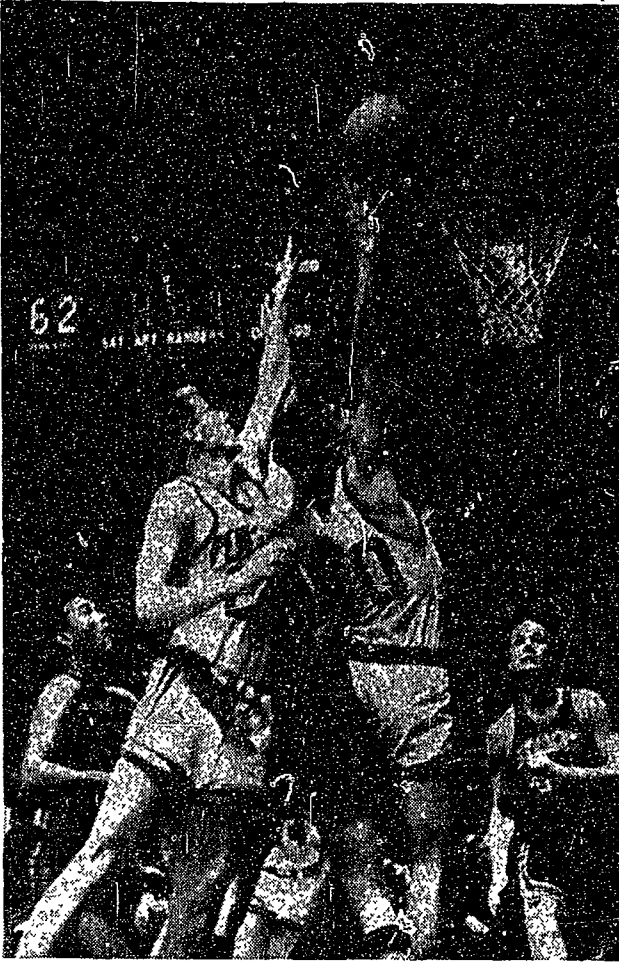
**Case, Hicker Hot**

Throughout the second half, Orangemen Bill Case, another substitute, consistently hit from the corners, and George Hicker, whose leg injury prevents him from moving effectively, added 11 points, six of them from the outside. State captain Persson kept the Lions on the scoreboard and began asserting considerable leadership in the second half, leading all scorers with a game-high 22 points.

"We threw a couple away and took a couple shots out of our range," Egli added, "and we got hurt on a couple calls. But we're going to win some ball games this year, because these boys aren't going to sit down and quit. They're a bunch of tough kids."

Penn State and West Virginia were the first to bow out of the tournament, losing their first two. Syracuse was defeated in the fifth-place game by LaSalle and also suffered elimination.

In the semi-final round, St. Johns and Columbia surprised everyone by upsetting Boston College and Louisville, respectively, to gain a berth in the final Saturday night. Louisville won the third-place consolation game, 81-74, and in the all-New York final, Columbia pulled its second big upset of the tourney by edging St. John's, 60-55.



—Photo by Ed Swierzewski

**LEAPING HIGH** for rebound during Penn State-Syracuse consolation game at Madison Square Garden are Lion forwards Galen Godbey (24) and Bill Young (50), Orangeman George Hicker (21) is sandwiched between the State rebounders while Vaughn Harper (left) and Tom Ringelmann (under basket) move in.

Lock Haven. Daley connected seven times from the field in the second half, leading both teams in scoring with 22 points. Six baskets came directly from steals and subsequent fast breaks, four of which he executed unassisted.

Despite the youngster's performance, Penn State was outplayed in every facet of the game. The Lions hit only 31 per cent from the field, to BC's 43 per cent. The Eagles hauled down 83 rebounds (14 by Driscoll) to the Lions' 58. Assist totals read 23-9 in favor of the winners, as did free throw percentages, 60-42. Four men hit double figures for BC, while Stansfield was the only one to supplement Daley's total with 11 points.

Although his team was out of the running for the

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