

Editorial Opinion

Red alert response

Administrators correct ambulance problems to provide better emergency medical service within fund limits

Criticism is something no one takes very well, especially when it comes from the media. But when human life is involved, the same rules do not apply.

Last spring, the Daily Collegian ran a two-part series exposing the poor condition of the ambulance and lack of 24-hour emergency medical technician service at the Ritenour Health Center.

At that time, the ambulance had a cracked roof which allowed rainwater to leak into the van, rusted wheel wells, a leaky oxygen system which didn't provide adequate oxygen supply to patients needing respiratory aid, and a tank stored on its side instead of upright—problems which represented some significant violations of state certification requirements.

time, when more students, faculty and staff are on campus, the ambulance was staffed by a janitor, with cardiopulmonary resuscitation training, and a stock man, with preliminary American Red Cross first aid and emergency training, employed as driver and technician respectively. The minimum requirement for state certification of the ambulance is employment of at least one EMT to assist with all emergency calls.

Instead of griping about inadequate newspaper coverage of these problems or trying to defend an obviously substandard system, officials at Ritenour took the criticism to heart and significantly improved their emergency service.

One EMT is now present on all calls, including those made between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., according to Ronald Fetzer, assistant director of administration at Ritenour.

And during the summer, major repairs were made on the ambulance, including a new fiberglass roof, new tires and a fresh paint job. The ambulance crew now uses a portable oxygen system instead of the leaky system installed in the ambulance, Fetzer said. The center also equipped the ambulance with a new radio joining it with the Emergency Radio System of Centre County to provide direct access to Centre Community Hospital in extreme emergency cases.

These improvements represent a recent push by health center officials for state certification of the Ritenour emergency medical unit, which would symbolize "top service," Fetzer says. Of course, everything was not changed. The ambulance still has rusted wheel wells, and the oxygen tank is still stored on its side, but these are minor points and should not hinder state certification.

As Fetzer says: "A rust spot on an ambulance is not very important. The service it provides is our primary concern."

The real question facing Ritenour officials is: Can they afford a new ambulance to provide the best possible service to students? Last year, when the center was funded under student affairs, buying a \$30,000 ambulance with an annual budget of \$50,000 seemed an impossibility.

However, as of this fall, Ritenour is included under administration in the University budget which could change its annual allotment, Fetzer says. Just what the change will mean is still uncertain, though.

In the meantime, Ritenour has taken criticism well and tried to make the best of a less-than-perfect situation by providing the most efficient emergency medical service possible with present facilities.

Letters to the Editor

A better message

Mr. Alan Schein, I agree with your observation completely about the pope. When he speaks his views in his way, the masses cry "We want you!" This way the pope can in no way be confused with Christ, whose views and way resulted in his being lashed onto a couple of logs and left to die at the insistence of the masses.

It would appear that the pope either has a better message than Christ or a better way of putting it. Either way, I feel sorry for Christ who did not have the benefit of the pope's example of how it should really be done.

James L. McDonel
Assistant Professor
Department of Microbiology
Oct. 10

Home on the range

Life in a student dormitory really should be recommended. Not only because it is near one's classroom, but because it has many other advantages that you cannot obtain from an off-campus living environment, such as a large and clean guest lounge, a comfortable color TV room, washing machine equipment, etc. Penn State does offer those advantages to her students.

Although we know there is nothing perfect, we still work to be better and better. The following incidents may not be noticed, or few people may care. But there is a need to change the ways some things are managed.

We frequently cook our dinner in the kitchen. One day last term we found the refrigerator was out of order, we wrote a note to the janitor to ask if it could be fixed.

The next day, the refrigerator was taken away. That made us feel better and we thought the janitor was efficient. Unfortunately, the refrigerator did not come back.

Six weeks ago, the electric stove was not working well. Again, we wrote a note to the janitor. Yes, of course, they took it away. But since that time, we have not received it back nor the refrigerator. We were disappointed when we learned that those faulty appliances did not go to the electrician, but instead to the storage room.

We wonder whether we ask too much. This letter does not ask for perfection. We think we should, at least, get a response or replacements.

Dan-Pai Feng
graduate-vocational and
industrial education
Sept. 25

Where credit is due

Allow me to push this subject a bit further—that is, the one about the Eagles being short-changed in the Daily Collegian. I missed most of the Eagles' game because of bad reception, and my schedule last Sunday, so Monday morning I

went to the sports section of the Collegian to find out why the Eagles extended their record to 5-1. I was treated to a thorough, informative, (and well written) paragraph on the game. The Collegian summarized the entire game in one paragraph (7 1/2 lines).

I assumed this paragraph could not be the complete coverage of the game, so I searched the rest of the sports section for the whole story on what happened at the Vet on Sunday. To my dismay I didn't find anything else written on the Eagles' game, but there was a big article on the Steelers-Browns game.

Out of curiosity I compared the space given to the Steelers' game to the space given to the Eagles' game. The coverage for the Eagles took up a whopping 2.32 square inches of page 9, in contrast to the Steelers' article, which was squeezed into 92.05 square inches of the same page.

I do not understand why the Steelers' win deserves 39.68 times as much coverage as the Eagles' win.

Die-hard Eagles fans like myself have suffered a lot of abuse for the past few years, so when the Eagles have some credit due, we want it in writing. I do not think that a big article on the next Eagles' game and a small one on the Steelers' would make me feel better, but perhaps equal space allotted to both teams would be acceptable. They are both great teams and both deserve the kind of coverage only the Steelers' fans have been enjoying in the Collegian.

In regards to Richard V. Giovannelli's letter to the editor (Oct. 4), who the hell is Edward Pietrusinski? And why is he comparing the Eagles' football team to the Steelers' football team? That is not the issue here, the issue concerns the Collegian's coverage of the two teams.

I do not know if the letters to the editor are considered constructive criticism, or are printed as entertainment, but we will find out next Monday.

Timothy P. Gill
7th-horticulture
Oct. 11

Equal time

I would just like to say that I'm fed up with this garbage about giving equal time to Pittsburgh and Philadelphia sports teams.

I agree with sports editor Jon Saraceno that "The Daily Collegian is not biased and tries to give as much equal time to the two cities as possible. But I would like to know one question—where were all the Philadelphia 'crybabies' in the past?"

All of us familiar with the sport world can recall that Philly teams have always been the darlings of sports until recent years. You didn't hear people complain in this year about the Phillies receiving equal press as the Pirates, did you?

After all the Phils, with Pete Rose, were supposed to win all the marbles this year, but again as usual for Philly teams, they choked. It has been exactly 20 years since the Phils last went to the World Series, even back then they

were swept in four straight games by the Yankees. The Eagles extended their record to 5-1.

Since the Philadelphia teams have always been perennial last-place dwellers and now finally have a few teams with talent, their fans want equal time. But who wants to read about a team like the Eagles, 76ers, or Phillies? Has the city of Philly produced a Super Bowl, World Series, or NBA Championship team lately? No sir.

It is just that Philadelphia fans are not mad, but are actually jealous of good sports towns like Pittsburgh and New York, and now since they have a team that appears good (the Eagles) they want equal press time. Good, let them have it because the Eagles haven't won anything since 1960 and if it makes the diehard Eagles fans happy, great. Even if the Eagles make it to the playoffs, they will keep in the tradition of Philly sports teams when it comes to postseason play—they choke.

Granted, the Flyers had some glory years in Philadelphia, but even today they are on their downhill swing. I can't wait until January when the Islanders, Rangers, and Penguins are enjoying fine seasons and the Flyers will be sneering with mediocrity. Let's see if the "equal time" policy is demanded then.

As for the Collegian sports department, continue the fine work. Print stories about winners, not chokers. After all, the cities of New York and Pittsburgh in the past six years have given us five pennant winners, two World Series winners, one NBA Championship, three Super Bowl victories, two NASL Championships and almost a Stanley Cup last year. What has Philadelphia given the sport world in the past six years? A couple of Stanley Cups and a lot of "choker" teams, that's what.

Richard W. Hyle
7th-broadcast journalism
Oct. 11

Another complaint

In reference to a letter to the editor, by Ronald J. Consalvo, 10th political science, Oct. 2: Surely, the Pittsburgh Pirates winning the National League East is more important than a regular season football game between the Steelers and the Eagles.

If the Phillies had won the Eastern division, would he have complained that there wasn't a full page spread on their success?

It would really be a bad move on the part of The Daily Collegian to give more coverage to a game in the beginning of the football season, than the entering of the Pirates into the playoffs, for the first time in four years.

I would like to congratulate the staff of the Collegian on their decision to print in their paper what they think is most important to the readers. And to all the Philadelphia Eagles fans who read Mr. Consalvo, remember one thing: Pittsburgh Steelers—3 Super Bowl victories, Philadelphia Eagles—0.

Joseph T. Mihalcevic
1st-engineering
Oct. 4

Amnesty

Ms. Helen Scoville, from the Washington, D.C., office of Amnesty International, will visit the State College area later this month to speak with people interested in forming a local AI adoption group. Ms. Scoville will describe the Amnesty International network and structure. The organization earned a Nobel Peace Prize in 1974.

Through its network of members and supporters made up of small local groups, AI works for the release of prisoners of conscience, protects their families from hardship and seeks improved international standards in the treatment of prisoners and detainees. Local units of AI are called "adoption groups."

Each group, consisting of 12 to 20 or more people who meet monthly, is assigned two prisoners of conscience by the International Secretariat in London. To insure impartiality, prisoners are assigned from countries of different political systems. No group works for prisoners from its own country.

On the basis of case sheets and background papers provided by the Research Department in London, group members engage in sustained, imaginative letter-writing campaigns on behalf of their individual prisoner of conscience. Letters, financial aid, and packages (when allowed) are sent to the prisoner and his or her family.

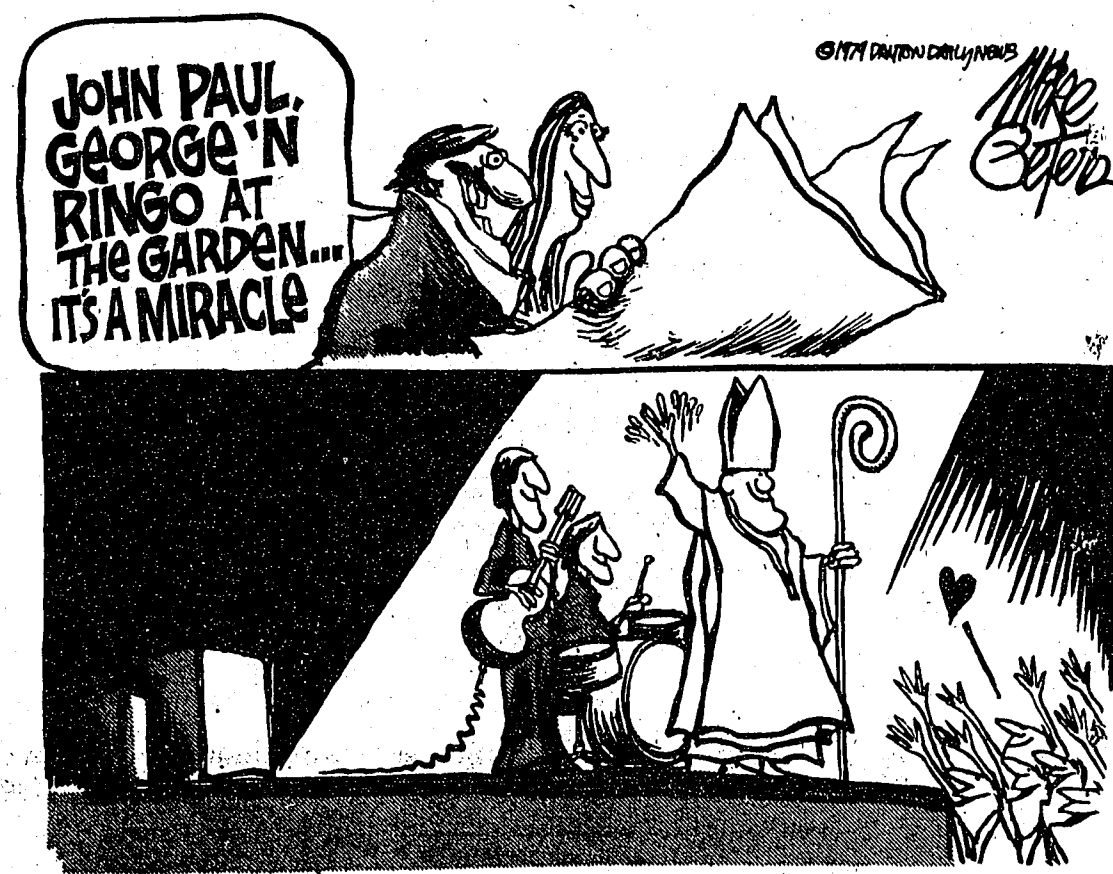
Adoption groups also engage in other AI techniques, including country and special campaigns and urgent action appeals. The present country campaign is on torture and detention in Guatemala.

There are 175 adoption groups in this country. Worldwide, AI has over 2,000 adoption groups in 33 countries, with more than 200,000 active members and supporters in 111 countries. In the context of the AI movement, the U.S. section is a "middle level" section, comparable to the French and British sections in a number of adoption groups along with these sections, larger sections such as West Germany, Sweden, Holland and the small sections like Sri Lanka, Mexico and Nigeria all send delegates each

Put a stop to it

In a letter regarding religious discrimination in Tuesday's Daily Collegian, a writer said he feels sure that if a group passed out anti-semitic literature the University—whatever that might be—would put a stop to it. Sorry. Groups do come on campus and pass out anti-semitic literature—one campus organization even did so at registration—and no stop is put to it nor any outcry made about it.

Further self-appointed "men of God" assault the beliefs of everyone—Christian, Jewish,



Muslim, Buddhist, and other—who do not agree with their narrow, sectarian beliefs, and the "University" does nothing. The Collegian even published a severe editorial last week inviting George B. Kleindorfer, Associate professor, school of business, to the movement's decision-making body, the International Council.

Ms. Scoville will speak at 8 Wednesday night in 101 Kern. All interested persons are invited.

George B. Kleindorfer
Associate professor, school of business
Oct. 11

Face the music

With this season's coming of Pure Prairie League and Chuck Mangione, the University Concert Committee has answered many of its critics.

Yet many students still express dissatisfaction over the entertainment brought to Happy Valley. A common complaint is the big-name bands that play Philadelphia and Pittsburgh rarely pass through Happy Valley, even though metropolitan ticket prices frequently do.

By the same token, the UCC is strapped by a location far from the maddening concert tour routes, very limited on-campus facilities and the seeming unpredictable music tastes of University students.

On Tuesday, Oct. 16, The Daily Collegian will focus its weekly Open page on the topic of on-campus concerts. If you have any gripes concerning past performances or requests for future acts, please write to the Daily Collegian Editorial Editor, 126 Carnegie (across from Willard).

the Collegian
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Pete Barnes Marjie Schlessinger

Editor Business Manager
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LETTERS POLICY: The Daily Collegian encourages comments on news coverage, editorial policy and the affairs of the University. Letters should be typewritten, double spaced, signed by no more than two persons, and not longer than 30 lines. Students' letters should include the name, term and major of the writer.

The editorial editor reserves the right to edit letters, and to reject letters if they are libelous or do not conform to standards of good taste.

Mail letters to The Daily Collegian, 126 Carnegie Building, University Park, Pa. 16802. Names will be withheld on request. Letters are not published in the Daily Collegian may also be selected for publication in The Weekly Collegian.



Students hold their own party while watching the Homecoming parade. Photo by Ed Glantz

Area awakens for Homecoming

By BARI WINEMILLER
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

An atmosphere laced with mad hatters, Greek letters, lawn displays, hypnotists, men in gray uniforms, bonfires, floats and blue and white settled over Happy Valley this weekend as campus and town came alive to celebrate Homecoming 1979.

Scores of alumni, students, faculty and town residents lined the streets Friday evening for the annual Homecoming Parade. So many people, in fact, spilled into the streets that an 8-foot-long banner in the parade had to be carried on an angle to make it down the street, said Carole Gaynes, Homecoming co-chairman.

Delta Kappa Phi fraternity and Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority won first place in the float division of the parade with their "Peanuts" version of the Homecoming theme, "Penn State: We Call It Home."

At last night's award ceremony, Beta Theta Pi fraternity and Delta Delta Delta sorority took second, and Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and Sigma Delta Tau sorority got third for their floats.

In other related categories:—Mad hatter, Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity and Kappa Delta sorority won first place for their huge lion. Delta Tau Delta fraternity and Alpha Gamma Delta sorority teamed for second place and Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and Phi Mu sorority took third.

—Crazy bands, Kappa Sigma fraternity and Gamma Phi Beta sorority won first place, Delta Chi took second, and Alpha Sigma Phi and Phi Mu took third.

—Banners. The teams of Alpha Chi Sigma fraternity and Alpha Phi sorority, Sigma Pi fraternity and Chi Omega sorority, and Acacia fraternity and Alpha Xi Delta sorority took first, second, and third respectively.

—Standard. Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity and Kappa Delta sorority took first, Delta Kappa Phi fraternity and Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority took second, and Delta Tau Delta fraternity and Alpha Gamma Delta sorority took third.

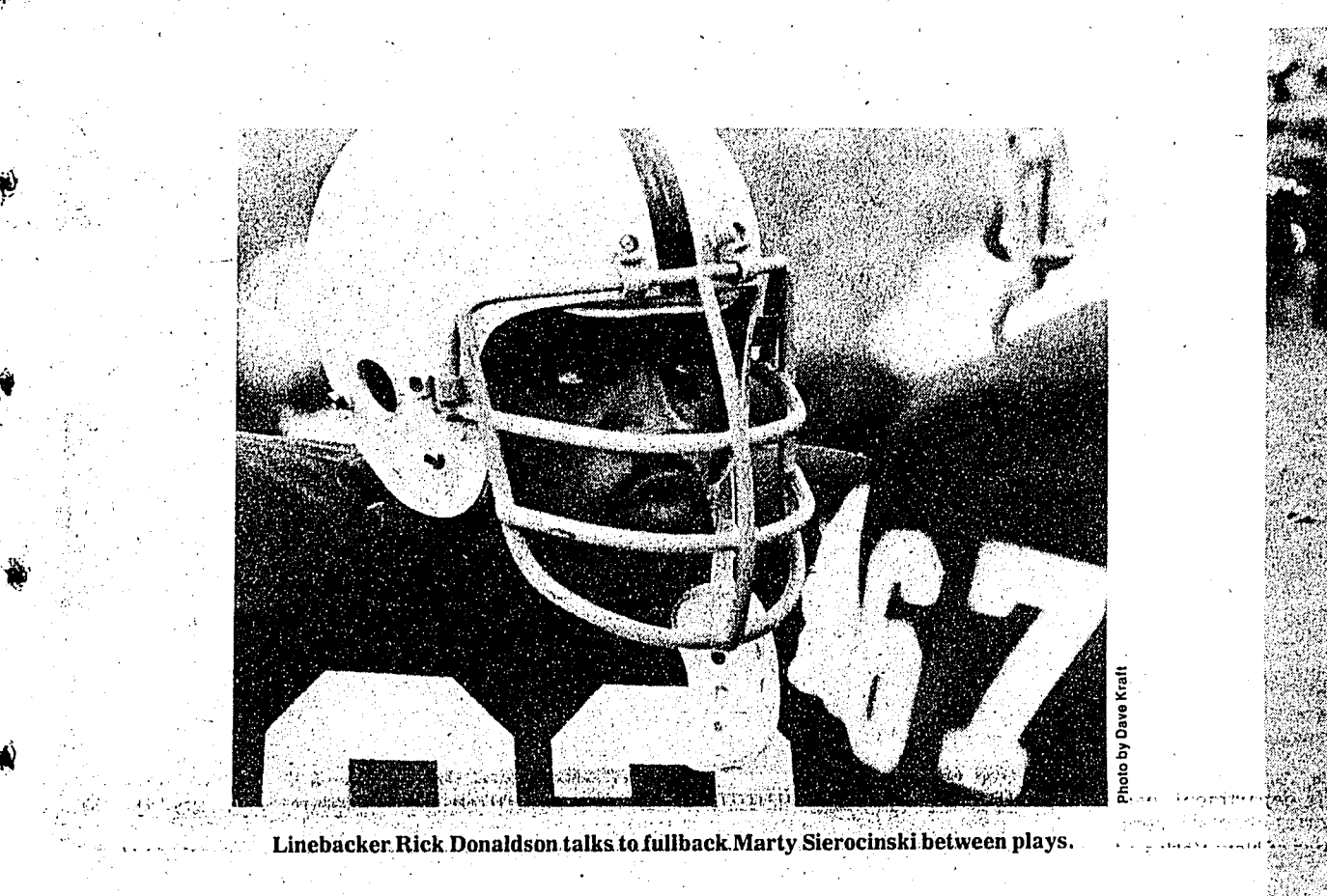
Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity and Kappa Delta sorority won first place overall in the Homecoming Competition for doing well in all eight divisions of the competition. Delta Tau Delta fraternity and Alpha Gamma Delta sorority placed second overall, and Beta Theta Pi fraternity and Delta Delta Delta sorority placed third.

Theta Chi fraternity won first place for their lawn display, Delta Chi fraternity won second, and the team of Triangle and the Society of Women Engineers won third.

In the window competition, Beta Theta Pi fraternity and Delta Delta Delta sorority won first place. The teams of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and Sigma Delta Tau sorority, and Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity and Kappa Delta sorority tied for second, and Alpha Zeta fraternity took third.

As planned, the weekend had something to offer everyone. Students and alumni were busy with a variety of activities such as the traditional Glee Club Candlelight Sing, bonfire and pep rally, an all night vigil at the Nittany Lion shrine as well as a Chuck Mangione concert, a performance by Glee Eagles, and a Glee Club Concert with the visiting West Point Glee Club.

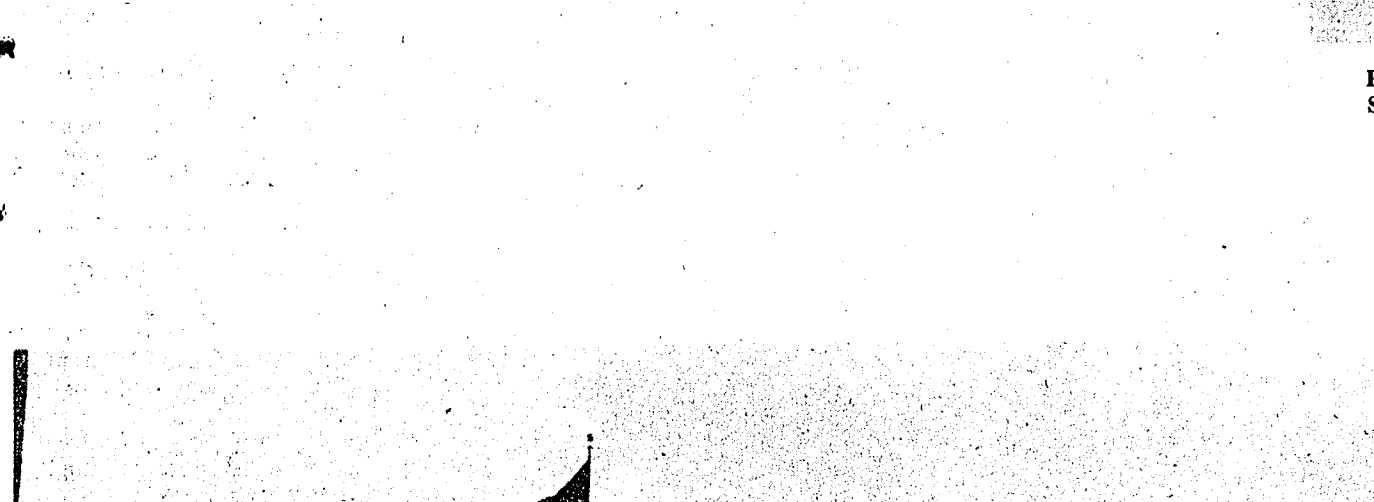
"Everything we did this year was successful," Gaynes said.



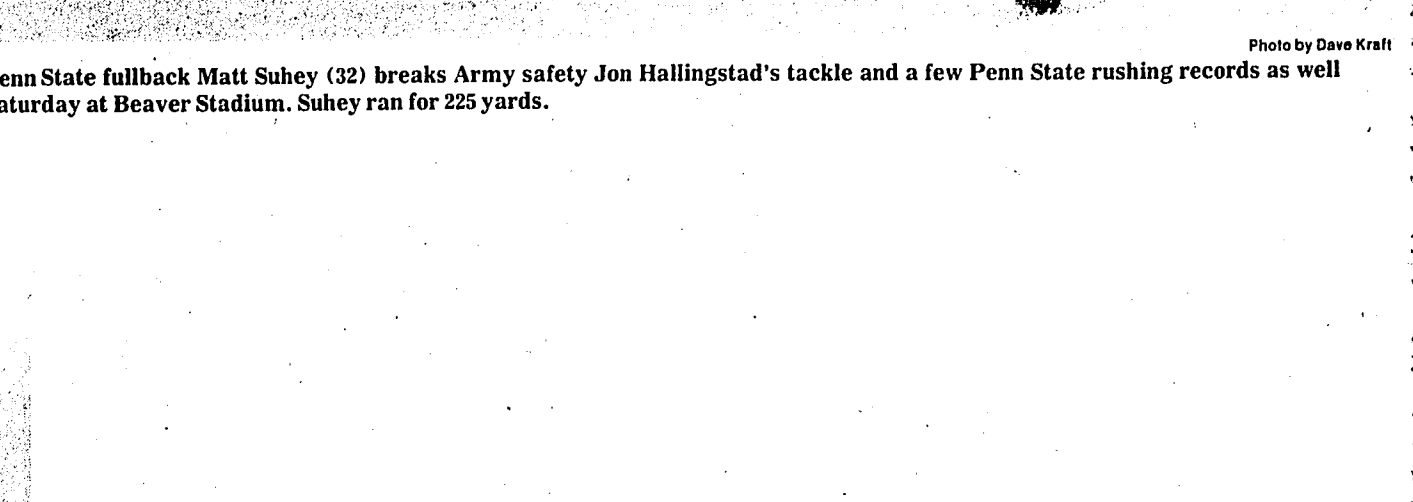
Linebacker Rick Donaldson talks to fullback Marty Sierocinski between plays. Photo by Dave Kraft



Penn State fullback Matt Suhey (32) breaks Army safety Jon Hallingstad's tackle and a few Penn State rushing records as well Saturday at Beaver Stadium. Suhey ran for 225 yards. Photo by Dave Kraft



Joe Paterno and the Nittany Lions return to the field after halftime. Photo by Rick O'Neil



Delta Gamma sorority members wave to onlookers during the parade. Photo by Ed Glantz