

# the daily sports

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## Moore's gallop sparks Lion comeback

By TOM VERDUCCI  
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Even if Booker Moore was the only one listening to Joe Paterno's halftime talk Saturday, the coach's words were well spent.

"At halftime we said, 'We've gotta get a big play,'" Paterno said. "You don't beat Maryland without a big play. You gotta get the big play with a pass or when everybody's coming you gotta find a crack and split it."

So the first time Moore got his hands on the ball in the third quarter, he hauled it 55 yards for a touchdown, wiped out a 10-3 deficit and provided the boost Penn State (4-1) needed to defeat Maryland (3-2), 24-10, in College Park, Md. All that in one simple slant play.

Losing coach Jerry Claiborne called it "the biggest play in the football game."

For Moore, it was the biggest chunk of his 98 yards on the day — in just 10 carries — and the biggest reason for winning '76's player of the game honors.

"On that play," Moore said, "we had worked them outside with the pitch all day and we ran one up the middle and I cut it back. They overpursued and I just tried to outrun them to the end zone."

And for Penn State, it was yet another win over Maryland, which has beaten the Lions just once since 1917 and not at all since 1961.

The Terps played like they hadn't read their history books, however, and actually had a chance at winning in front of a Byrd Stadium crowd of 48,123.

"We knew if they played their best game they could beat us," Lion defensive tackle Frank Case said. "Lion defensive tackle Frank Case said, 'I think we weren't quite ready. We were hoping our name would shut them up. They lost 27, 28 in a row (actually 17) so we were hoping that would take over but obviously it didn't.'"

The two teams went into the locker room at halftime tied 3-3, but the Terps led in first downs (10-5), passing yards (87-11) and total yards (161-116). And less than five minutes into the third quarter, Maryland led on the scoreboard.

linebacker Chet Parlavocchio stepped in front of a Tice pass and rumbled 37 yards with it to the Maryland 34. To Paterno, that was "the big play of the game."

"It was a curl to the flanker we've been working on all week," Parlavocchio said. "I was hanging inside and as he came across I kept an eye on him. As he broke, I broke, and the ball was right there."

Joel Coles and Mike Meade alternated carrying the ball down to the six, where on third-and-goal, freshman John Williams, who threw 21 touchdown passes as a high school quarterback, lofted a less-than-artistic pass to a wide-open Meade in the end zone.

"I didn't know if it was ever going to come down," Paterno said. "We tell Williams, 'If he's open don't overthrow him. You're sure not going to overthrow him with a one-handed jump shot.'"

That was it for the scoring, and that was it for Maryland. Van Horn, a fifth-year senior and one of 20 Pennsylvanians on the Maryland roster, saw the Terps fall once more to the Lions, but refused to say he was frustrated.

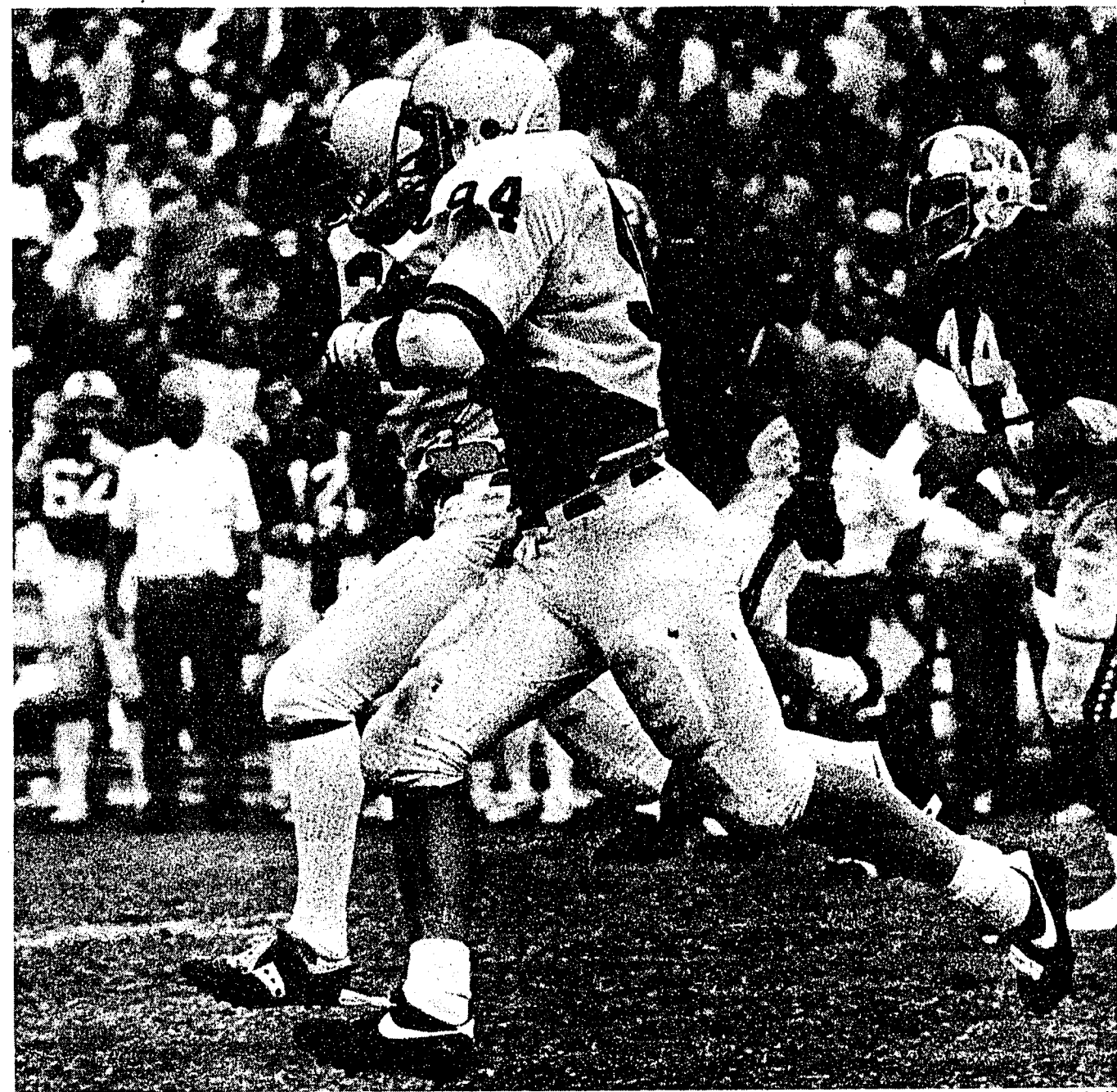
"You don't lose to Penn State, you beat yourselves," Van Horn said. "That's what happened today. I was completely confident. We were down two touchdowns and I was still confident. We were moving the ball. I hadn't given up to the last whistle."

"This year we were confident to the point where we were gonna stay calm. We weren't gonna get too jugged."

Maybe not, but thanks to Penn State, they were fresh-squeezed — again.

**NITTANY LINES:** Herb Menhardt hit a 44-yard field goal and tied a school record for consecutive successful extra points (4) but missed a 33-yard field goal. . . Ralph Giacominari punted through a time for a 46.4-yard average. . . Case twisted a knee and Leo Wisniewski suffered a slight concussion. . . Curt Warner ran for 100 yards on 22 carries.

Statistics on Page 9

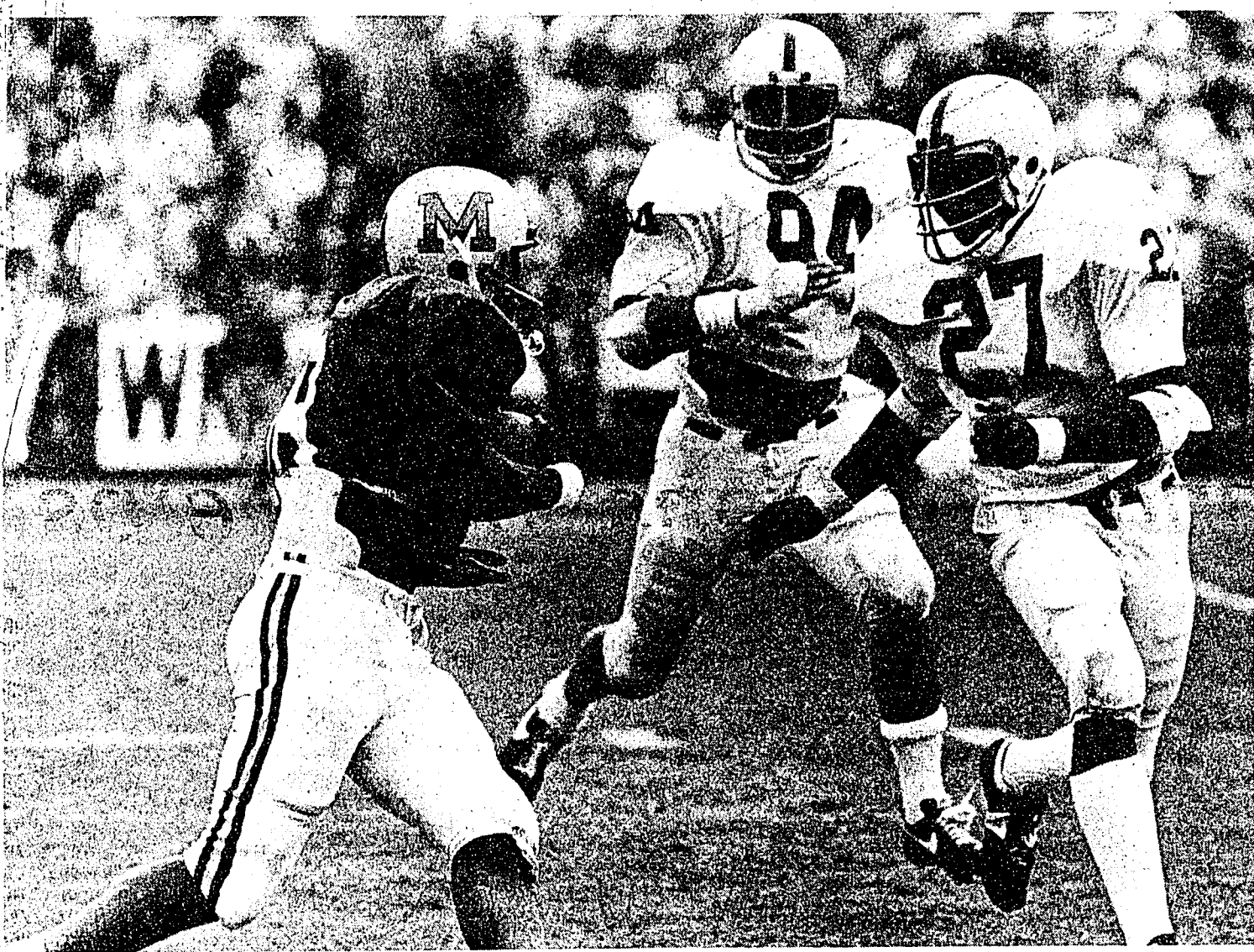


Lion linebacker Chet Parlavocchio (94) returns his interception of Terp quarterback Mike Tice's pass 37 yards in Penn State's 24-10 win over Maryland on Saturday in College Park.

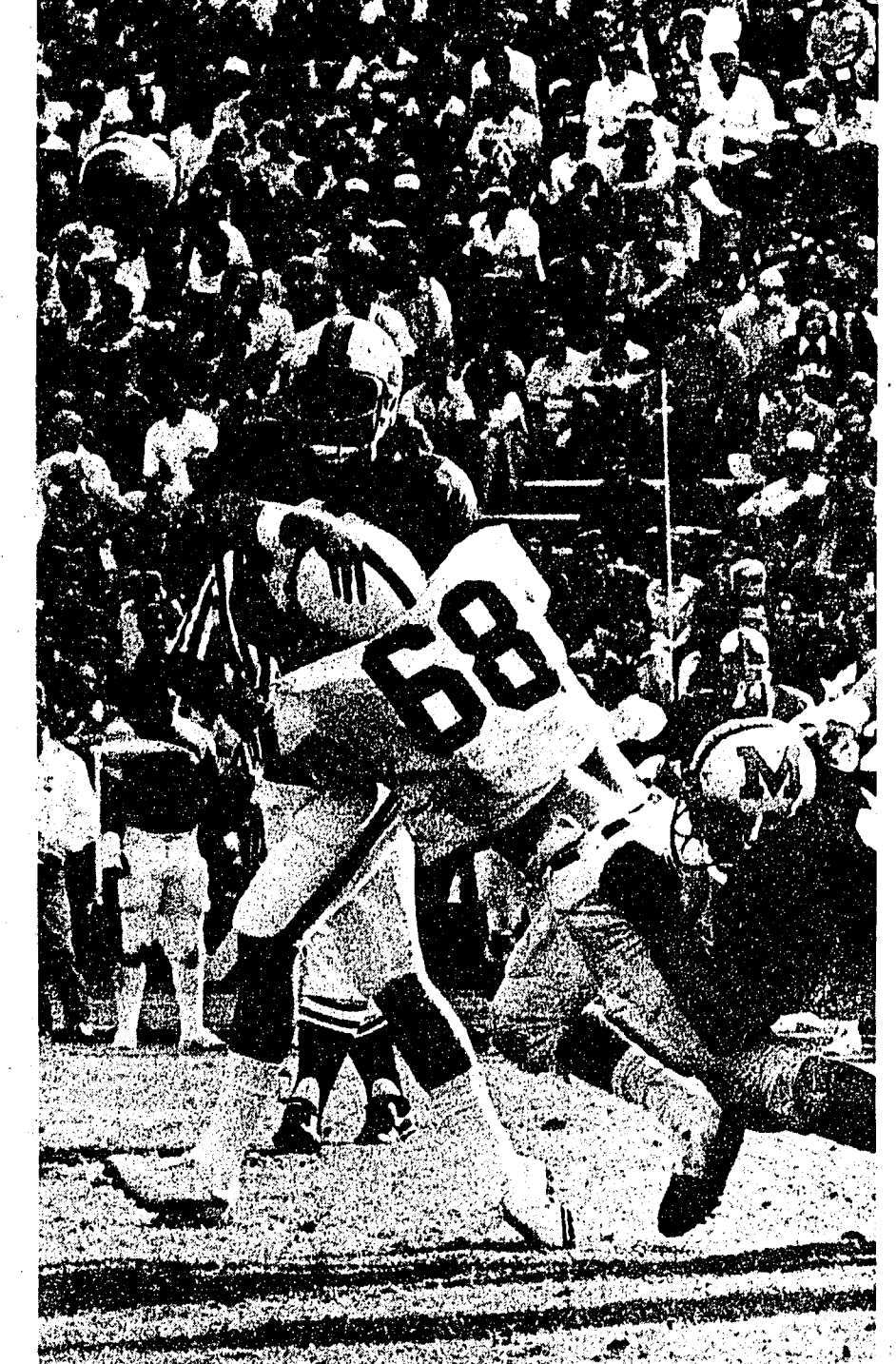


Joe Paterno congratulates Jerry Claiborne, the Maryland coach, after a hard fought game.

## Sleeping Lions wake up in time



Lion safety Pete Harris prepares to stop Maryland running back Charlie Wysocki.



Pete Kugler (68) attempts to bring down quarterback Bob Mikovich (10) of Maryland in Saturday's game.



A young Maryland fan has a lot of growing up to do before she'll fit into her outfit.

Photos by Rich DiSammartino and Rick Graff

## Maryland, not Lions, beat Terps

By DENISE BACHMAN  
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Maryland coach Jerry Claiborne is still able to say he has a perfect record against Joe Paterno and Penn State.

But it isn't a record anybody would want to brag about. After Saturday's 24-10 Terrapin loss to the Lions, Claiborne owns a perfect 0-8 mark against Penn State.

According to Claiborne and the Terrapins, their fate was determined on the first play of the game when Maryland suffered one of its eight penalties in the game. Terp quarterback Mike Tice was called for intentionally grounding the ball and was tagged with a 17-yard penalty. All told, Maryland was penalized eight times for 96 yards.

"I'd like to have a couple of those penalties back," Claiborne said. "Penalties hurt our opportunities quite a few times."

"It seemed like every time we got a good play or made a good defensive play to stop their drive, we'd pop up with a penalty."

The Terrapins agreed with their coach — Penn State didn't hurt the Terps as much as they hurt themselves.

"They (the Lions) weren't well-drilled," Terp defensive tackle Ed Gall said. "Technically, they were not as good as in other years. They just had a fumble and pass interception go their way."

"Tice, who didn't find himself glued to the ground Saturday like he did last year, echoed Gall's comments.

"Everybody thought they were a good ballclub," Tice said, "but they were no Pittsburgh, and they were no Carolina."

"They didn't move the ball real well until they got that one drive (80-yard touchdown drive). And I was only pressured twice — once on (Paul Lankford's) interception and when I didn't hit Eric (Siewers) over the middle before halftime."

The Terrapins were overflowing with confidence — partly because they found themselves even with the Lions on the scoreboard, 3-3, and partly because they felt they should have been on top at least 6-3, if not 10-3.

Maryland thought it short-changed itself once in the first half when Penn State's strong goal-line stand on first-and-goal from the three forced the Terrapins to settle for an 18-yard field goal.

"I think I should've scored," said Terp tailback Charlie Wysocki of his three scoring attempts. "I read the block wrong. I went up inside, and I should've taken it outside."

"But we were moving the ball on them pretty good. I could run the ball on their defense."

Claiborne cited another scoring opportunity the Terrapins didn't take advantage of.

"Right before the half, we had excellent field position on the pass," Claiborne said, "but then we had offensive interference. That really hurt us because we had a chance of going in ahead."

While the offense was optimistic about the second half, the defense was equally optimistic about holding the Lions' offense.

"We played the first half real intense," Gall said. "At halftime I felt sure we would just take it to them. Their offensive linemen had started to lean down a bit."

Safety Ralph Lary said, "The first half I thought we were playing good, and if we could hold them in the second half, I knew we could win."

But the Terps' first-half confidence didn't begin to compare to the confidence they felt the first time they got the ball in the second half. After they went up 10-3, the entire bench emptied in excitement.

"When we went ahead," Maryland defensive guard Greg Vanderhout said, "it was a different feeling. Against them it was something new to us."

Wysocki said, "Coach (Claiborne) just told us to be relaxed because when you're tense, mistakes happen. We just went out to play our game."

But Penn State didn't give the Terrapins a chance to play their game, countering with a 55-yard Booker Moore touchdown run eight plays after taking the Maryland kickoff.

"That was the biggest play of the football game," Claiborne said. "It brought them back into the ballgame and turned the momentum around."

"Our secondary overran him. They cut us off in our defense, and our halfback cut back behind him. Buf again, somebody — our linebacker or secondary man — should've made the tackle."

The touchdown didn't cause the Terrapins to push the panic button, however, but it did deflate them.

"When something happens that quick," Wysocki said, "it takes something out of you. One play can do it."

"Since they scored to tie it up, they had a little more momentum going. We were just worried about the ballgame and getting another score."

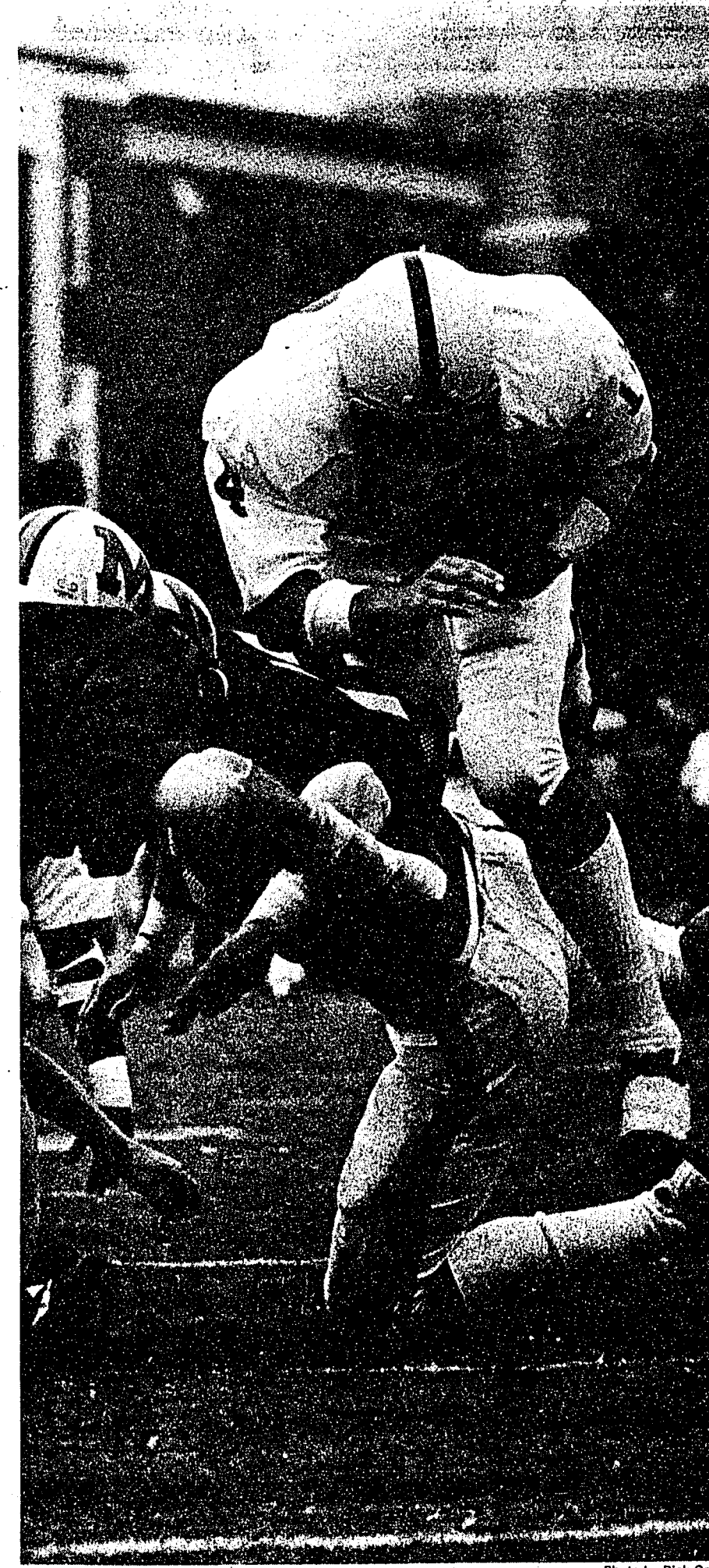
Lary said, "We kind of messed up a couple of assignments in the second half. Like that one long run — you just can't do that."

The Terrapins didn't score again, and before they realized it, they were behind by 14 points.

Still, defeat didn't enter their minds.

"Everybody felt good the whole fourth quarter," Tice said. "I felt good the whole game. Sure, I was taking a beating, but when you feel confident, you really don't feel the beating too much."

"Even when we were down 24-10 with three minutes left to go, we thought we could come back and win."



Penn State quarterback Todd Blackledge hurtles through the Maryland defensive line for a short gain in the Lions' 24-10 victory over Maryland on Saturday. Blackledge ran six times for 17 yards and completed five of eight passes for 63 yards and one touchdown.

## A half is enough for a whole win

By TOM VERDUCCI  
Daily Collegian Sports Writer

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Penn State's version of Jekey-and-Hyde football may be entertaining, but as Joe Paterno learned, it can be scary, too.

The Lions once again had to undergo a personality change — from a bumbling, fumbling team to a dominating one — in order to register a come-from-behind victory. This one was a 24-10 comeback over Maryland on Saturday in College Park, Md.

"The first half we played tough but we were erratic," Paterno said. "Maryland comes with eight guys all the time and you better be organized, cohesive, and you better be able to throw the ball. But if you can't do that, you're in for a long afternoon."

If the Lions had kept up their first-half antics throughout the game, it could have been a marathon of an afternoon. Penn State fumbled three times, lost one of them, and added an interception for good measure. Herb Menhardt's 44-yard field goal averted a total waste of the half and salvaged a 3-3 tie at intermission.

"It gets frustrating for guys," guard Sean Farrell said, "when they think they're doing a pretty good job and we're giving things away. The offensive line was getting a little ticked off."

The troubles spread to the defense. Maryland ran off 74 yards rushing in the first half and completed 7-of-11 passes for 63 yards and one touchdown.

"In the first half we gave them the impetus," linebacker Chet Parlavocchio said. "We let them come at us. We really underestimated them a lot and they woke us up quick."

Yet the Lions were even more bleary-eyed to start the third quarter. Freshman quarterback Todd Blackledge kept the ball on an option run — but not long enough. Before he hit the ground the ball popped loose and the Terps' Brad Sentz recovered on the Maryland 41.

Eight plays later, Maryland's Charlie Wysocki punted the ball over from the five for a 10-2 Terp lead.

That's when the Byrd Stadium crowd went wild, and so did Penn State.

The Lions scored a touchdown on each of their next three possessions and for all intents and purposes, the party and the game were over.

As Missouri found out last week, Maryland learned that the Lions can be as good as they are bad in a matter of minutes. That's something Penn State has come to expect, which is why no one seemed to panic.

"We weren't surprised at halftime," tailback Curt Warner said. "We were killing ourselves. The offense knew if we kept the ball we would score."

Freshman wide-out Kenny Jackson said, "We know when we can beat somebody. You can just feel it in the locker room within the guys. We never really get off to a good start — fumbles and things like that — but once the second half starts we get a little more composure, we relax and just go down the field."

The defense has also been a second-half unit: having allowed just 20 second-half points this year. Paterno said he thinks the pattern could be attributed to inexperience.

"What happened in the second half is an indication of how young we are," Paterno said. "We do have great potential but we are hurting ourselves. Young teams are going to make mistakes. It's tough to get them to concentrate for 60 minutes."

But while playing like cardiac kids has been successful, the Lions realize that someday an attack may be too severe to recover from.

"We can't keep coming out not ready to play in the first quarter," fullback Booker Moore said, "and come from behind to beat the type of teams that we've got to play."

"It's a big win," Farrell said, "but I definitely agree with Joe that we're a fair team. We're not really a great team or even that good a team because we're only by a second half team. We can only play one half well."

"That's what we did at Missouri and that's what we did here. I'm hoping we can knock that stuff off and play two halves and see what kind of team we really are."

