

the daily collegian sports

Blue-blood fans should learn to see Red

Penn State football fans are so loyal they probably bleed blue. But something must have choked off their blue blood supply to the larynx region.

Penn State football fans are too quiet. They sit stoically as if they were at an opera.

It's worse than that. Even Pavlovitch gets an occasional standing ovation and a few "bravos."

Surely there must be another place where so many people can gather in the face of so little excitement, yet remain so unenthusiastic. There must be, but none come to mind.



Penn State football fans are a breed apart. Call them Homo quietus if you like. The species typifies a quiet life, a fetish to throw stones and to leave the wild, savage world and the domesticated, older type characterized by a sleepy disposition.

They're certainly not on the endangered list — 84,000 show up on Saturdays at Beaver Stadium — but they are only "seen" around.

With so many fans, Beaver Stadium should quake. But it doesn't even quiver.

"I don't want to put the rap on our fans," says sports promotion director Frank Fisher, "but our stadium has been a quiet place."

Harris Jones, assistant in athletics, describes the Penn State fans as "subdued. It takes a bomb under the stadium to get them out of their seats."

Football coaches are clear of controversy when he says, "Our fans are fine. They might not be as enthusiastic as Nebraska's, but that might be a unique place."

But Joe, wouldn't you at least like them to be a little louder?

"We all know, we all like some things to be different."

Beaver Stadium is the fourth-largest stadium on a college campus in this country. Yet many stadiums are much louder.

Florida Stadium at North Carolina State is just 45,600. I was there in 1979 for the Penn State-N.C. State game, and those people were twice as loud as the Beaver Stadium fans.

The 60,000 fans at Texas A&M's Kyle Field stand and cheer the entire game.

The 50,000 at Missouri's Faurot Field can be deafening. And the 73,000 at Nebraska's Memorial Stadium shake the ground underneath your feet.

Penn State fans can learn a lot from the Cornhusker fans.

Lesson No. 1 is dress for the game. If you don't wear the red and white colors of Nebraska, you may find yourself wearing the black and blue of Penn State.

"Surely we are at Nebraska's would not care about coming out to the stadium without their red overalls," Fisher says.

"Here, the color has not caught on. I've looked. We don't have that."

Maybe blue is not as vibrant a color as red, but in bunches, it is impressive. The gathering Penn State fans at Nebraska proved that.

Lion fans should also learn something from Nebraska's "Go Big Red" cheer. To hear 73,000 people yell that inison was thrilling. Why can't the 84,000 at Beaver Stadium all cheer at the same time?

That's what the cheerleaders want to find out.

"We're trying to do it," says the Nittany Lion mascot, Roy Scott. "We want everyone to do the 'We are...Penn State' cheer. We tried it the past game for the first time. It can catch on."

"We tried it before in past years. It never caught on, though."

The most important lesson Penn State can learn from Nebraskans, however, is general cheerfulness. I mean loudness. Madness. Mayhem.

The Penn State students often create some hysteria, but the alumnus and general public just don't want to cheer for some."

"Certain fans," Fisher says, "get upset if the guy in front of them gets up and starts yelling or waving a shaker. They don't respond to the cheerleaders, who are trying to be helpful."

"Really, it has been a very quiet stadium. It's not something I can put my finger on."

Jones offers his theory:

"There's just a lack of the Eastern football fan in that he's supposed to be so sophisticated," he says. "Cheering is childish and sophomoric. It's not cool to cheer. You're supposed to sit there and be sophisticated."

Scott says many fans treat the game as a social event.

"They come to meet all their friends," Scott says. "They're interested in the game, but it's not really the main focal point of everything. Some just watch the game for what it's worth."

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Expos hold off Phillies for playoff victory

Astros go 2 up on Dodgers, A's on Royals; Yanks win opener

By RALPH BERNSTEIN

Associated Press Writer

MONTREAL (AP) — Montreal manager Jim Fanning said patience at the plate was the key to his team's opening-game victory over the Philadelphia Phillies in the National League East Division championship series yesterday.

Fanning, who took over as manager Sept. 8 when Dick Williams was fired, said his hitters "laid off" Phillips' pitcher Steve Carlton's low breaking pitches.

A pair of low, 200-hitters — Tim Wallach and Chris Speier — combined for the go-ahead run in the second inning of a struggling Carlton as the Expos posted their 3-1 triumph and gained a 1-0 lead in the best-of-five series. The second game will be played tomorrow at Montreal.

"Our players have hit again," Carlton many times, and they all remember his stuff," Fanning said. "If they did anything to help themselves, it was laying off of the Stetson on which he gets so many strikeouts."

Fanning refused to describe the opening-game victory as pivotal. "It's only one of what could be five," he said.

Fanning was a little upset that Montreal didn't score more runs.

"We had so many opportunities and couldn't take advantage of them," he said.

Fanning said he took out where Steve Rogers is the best in the league. Phillips on base, he layed out and the relief pitcher didn't believe Rogers had lost his stuff and was having trouble with a blister on the index finger of his pitching hand.

Rogers agreed with his manager. "I'm always disappointed when I don't do well," Rogers said. "I think my mistakes had vastly diminished. I had run out of gas. And I had the blister."

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The Phillies' Keith Moreland stares at the third base bag after being picked off on a throw from Expos catcher Gary Carter to third baseman Larry Parrish in the fourth inning of yesterday's NL East playoff game in Montreal. Moreland also homered in the second inning.

Photo by AP Wirephoto

Phillies manager Dallas Green said Carlton just wasn't up to his top performance yesterday.

"He (Carlton) doesn't often get beat," Green said. "He wasn't the same Steve Carlton, but he pitched a good baseball game."

Philadelphia manager Pete Rose, who had two hits, said the Phillies just didn't deliver in the clutch. He also said two base running mistakes were costly — Keith Moreland getting caught off third in the fourth and

Lennie Smith being picked off first in the eighth.

"We have to hear down and give Steve (Carlton) another chance," Rose said.

Montreal catcher Gary Carter said the best pitch Rogers threw in the game was his breaking ball.

"Rogers proved he could win big ball games," Carter said, referring to criticism over the years that Rogers couldn't win the big one.

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second when Wallach, a .223 hitter in the regular season, led off with a double to center and raced home on a single by Speier, who hit .325 during the series.

Rogers, who posted a 12-8 season record, was the winner. The only run off the Expos' right-hander was a leadoff home run by Jones in the second inning.

Carter was forced at second by Jones' drive on a 2-2 pitch just outside the left field wall, scoring White, who had stolen second.

Despite his departure from the Steelers, Bahr said, "I had two good years."

He said owner Art Rooney is a "class" individual in "class organization."

"I'm with a different organization now," Bahr said, "so there are different feelings about this game. I just

going to try my best to help the Browns."

"I was thrilled," he said of the Browns offer. "I knew the job with San Francisco was only temporary until Clegg was healthy."

Coming into a new situation, Bahr said, he would have preferred to arrive "just after a player has retired."

Nevertheless, he said, "I want to make the best of it and try not to make the same mistakes as my predecessor."

"The best way to make a long career is to look at it one game at a time, because if you look too far down the road, you're gonna stumble," Bahr said.

Bahr said his departure from the Steelers, Bahr said, "I just have to keep things in perspective."

With the 49ers, Bahr made 2 of 5 field goal attempts.

But of the three he missed, one was blocked and the other two were attempts from more than 40 yards.



Photo by AP Wirephoto

Los Angeles catcher Mike Scioscia (left) blocks the plate on a scoring attempt by the Astros' Cesar Cedeno in the fifth inning of yesterday's NL West playoff game in Houston. The Astros won the game 4-0 when pinch hitter Denny Walling delivered a two-out, run-scoring single in the bottom of the 11th inning.

Astro 1, Dodgers 0

Houston (AP) — Pinch hitter Denny Walling's two-out, line-drive single into right-center field in the 11th and pinch back-to-back singles by Garner and Tony Scott.

The Dodgers wasted excellent scoring chances in the second, third, sixth and seventh innings as Nickro continually hopped around the bottom of the 11th inning, carried the Astros over Los Angeles yesterday and gave the 4-2 edge in the NL West Division "playoffs."

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Nickro were locked in a tense duel until Nickro left after eight innings. Reuss was replaced after nine innings in work in which he allowed only five hits.

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Change a must for Beaver Stadium fans

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"You need a lot of people to cheer. Generally, people do want to cheer, but sometimes they're not," said Penn State fans and no good college football fans.

They're terrible. They have the fourth largest stadium and the second-best team in the nation. Based on the amount of vocal support they give, it's not the best in the Beaver game field and the best intramural football champion.

Some people, Paterno included, don't even think fan support is an important issue.

"I think it's making a mountain out of a molehill," Paterno says.

But the Penn State fans' lackluster attitude needs to be changed. It is an insult to both the school and the players.

They've passed out shakers, installed a scoreboard with a message center, and this Saturday they'll unveil the new flip card section and distribute 20,000 "Luv Ya Lions" placards.

"We keep beating them over the head and hope something happens," Jones says.

"I hope they choose the more active role. A change has to be made."

At the University of Nebraska, the cheerleaders start "We are...Penn State," or they can join in. They can tell the one loud person in their section to sit down and shut up, or they can stand up and yell themselves.

They can sit for the opening kickoff, or they can stand. They can shrug when the cheerleaders start. "We are...Penn State," or they can join in. They can tell the one loud person in their section to sit down and shut up, or they can stand up and yell themselves.

They can keep hammering away, too, and not put a dent in the Penn State fans.

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in the world.

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