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TONIGHT'S BEST TV BET

NFL: Baltimore at Cincinnati NFL Network, 8 p.m.  
For complete listings see Page B2

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Altoona Mirror

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED FOR THE PAST 16 YEARS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS SPORTS EDITORS



# Eyes for the Irish

## Bellwood-Antis star Campbell verbally commits to Notre Dame

BY BUCK FRANK

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**B**ellwood-Antis High School junior Alli Campbell has already won a state basketball championship.

Two years from now, she'll be in an excellent position to possibly be part of a national collegiate championship.

Campbell, the reigning Altoona Mirror and PIAA Class 2A player of the year, committed on Monday night to take her game to South Bend to play for the defending national champion Notre Dame Fighting Irish and Hall of Fame coach Muffet McGraw beginning in 2020.

"I texted Coach McGraw Monday night," Campbell said Wednesday. "I asked her when it would be a good time for me to call her, and she replied, 'How's now?' Talking with her is so easy and comfortable. I proceeded to tell her I would love to play for her, and she was very happy and excited. We both were."

The verbal commitment capped off a whirlwind two-year recruiting journey that had nearly all the top programs in the nation interested in the 6-foot guard/forward who is on pace to become the all-time leading scholastic scorer in Blair County history.

Monmouth was the first school to offer Campbell a full ride in October 2016, and many followed, including 2017 national champion South Carolina. She ended up with more than 35 Division I scholarship offers.

Campbell said the hardest part of the

recruiting process was telling schools she was not committing to their program — schools such as Penn State, Stanford, Duke, Pitt, Boston College, Michigan and Michigan State.

But, ultimately, she said she's at peace with her decision to attend Notre Dame.

"From the first time I stepped on campus last fall, I loved it," Campbell said.

McGraw, a Pottsville native, has won 800 games in her 31 seasons with the Irish, including two national championships (2001 and 2018) and eight Final Fours.

Campbell said there was no sense putting off her decision because she knew she found the perfect fit.

"The coaching staff is amazing. The academics are second to none. The opportunity to play for a Hall of Fame coach is once in a lifetime," she said. "After watching them fight through all of their adversity last season, I feel extremely proud, excited and honored to become a member of the Notre Dame family."

See **Campbell**/Page B2

Mirror photos by Gary M. Baranec, photo illustration by Nick Anna

As a sophomore, Alli Campbell led Bellwood-Antis to the 2018 PIAA Class 2A championship this past March. She drew college offers from across the country and made an unofficial visit to Notre Dame in June, where Irish coach Muffet McGraw showed her the 2018 national championship trophy. This week, Campbell verbally committed to join the ND program in 2020.

H.S. FOOTBALL

## Lions hope home still a big help

BY JOHN HARTSOCK

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The Altoona Mountain Lions have enjoyed a scheduling perk — four straight home games — to begin this football season.

Altoona coach Nick Felus believes that the home cooking gives his team a lift.

"We try to instill in the players the notion that they're playing for the city of Altoona and this community," Felus said. "We have a really good student (cheering) section, and the community support has been unbelievable."

"We try to focus on what we need to do, and go 1-0 each week, and not concern ourselves as to whether we're playing a home or away game, but it definitely helps," Felus said of his team's four straight games at Mansion Park to begin this season.

The Mountain Lions, now 2-1 after two straight victories, conclude the season-opening home stretch with a 7 p.m. kickoff against unbeaten Chambersburg (3-0) Friday night at Mansion Park.

"They're a very well-coached team," Felus said of Chambersburg, which will kick off the Mid-Penn Conference schedule for the Mountain Lions. "On offense, they have some very good skill-position players, and their ability to make big plays on offense is something that we have to be ready for and prepare for."

Behind senior tailback Mitchell Lawhead's three touchdowns, the Mountain Lions defeated Pittsburgh

See **Football**/Page B6

PIRATES

## Bucs play all nine from Curve

Wednesday was a historic day for the Curve, as for the first time ever, the entire Pirates starting lineup for a game was made up of former Altoona players.

For their game in St. Louis, which resulted in a 4-3 win, the Bucs' starting lineup consisted of: 2B Adam Frazier, CF Starling Marte, 1B Josh Bell, RF Jordan Luplow, 3B Kevin Kramer, LF Pablo Reyes, SS Kevin Newman, C Jacob Stallings and P Jameson Taillon.

There was a game in Baltimore last year in which all nine starting position players for the Pirates were Curve alums, the first time that had ever occurred. But that game came with an asterisk, as the designated hitter was David Freese, who never played for Altoona.

The Curve recently completed their 20th season, and Wednesday's milestone will go down in team history as a unique achievement.

It's very rare for a major league team to have a starting lineup entirely of homegrown prospects, simply because of free agency and trades. But finally, after 20 years, it happened to the Curve.

"Such a great day for our organization," Curve manager Michael Ryan said. "To sit on the couch and watch all nine in today's lineup contribute was amazing. Knowing each player was from our system was an absolute thrill to see. Huge day for our scouting and player development."

— Cory Giger

PENN STATE FOOTBALL

## Series with Notre Dame stirs special memories

**W**ell, for openers, it wouldn't be Kent State, Saturday's opponent.

Pitt's been ruled out by mutual agreement, but there are still plenty of options left for me.

Two in particular stand out: Notre Dame and Alabama.

Until entering the Big Ten in 1993, the Nittany Lions played both annually beginning in 1981 for the better part of 10 years. The Notre Dame series went for 12 years while Alabama ended in 1990.

Though the Lions had played each in bowl games — Alabama in the Sugar Bowl for the national title in 1978 — they had not met in the regular season in the modern era until '81.

The relationship with the Crimson Tide was terrific and brought Bear



Neil Rudel

PSU, 31-16.

The Lions repeatedly had the ball inside Alabama's 5, and despite having a great offense, they couldn't score. Bryant tipped his famous houndstooth hat to his defense after its goal-line stand, and he was later carried off the field.

Bryant held an informal press conference at the team hotel in Burnham on the Friday before the game, and I will never forget that — his deep voice and his overall presence.

See **Rudel**/Page B2

Bryant to State College in 1981, when The Bear tied Amos Alonzo Stagg's record of 314 wins by defeating



**Question: Excluding Pitt, what's been your favorite non-conference series?**

## Rivalry with Syracuse one-sided but memorable

**A** rivalry suggests both teams have a pretty good chance of winning, but if you look at the history of Penn State football, that has never been the case with most of its old Eastern cohorts.

The Nittany Lions pretty much destroyed them all. They're 38-2-1 all-time against Maryland and 20-4 against Boston College. They've gone 34-2 against West Virginia since 1956, including winning 27 in a row at one point. It's much closer vs. Pitt — 52-43-4 — but we're excluding that rivalry here.

As for national rivals, Alabama and Notre Dame bring back a lot of fun memories. But I let Neil, who's been around for most of the great battles, handle those.

As a lifelong Syracuse basketball fan, it's a natu-



Cory Giger

ral for me to pick the PSU-Cuse rivalry as my favorite. It's the one I know the most about, and I'm certain in saying this: It

hasn't been much of a rivalry for a long time.

Penn State leads the all-time series, 43-23-5, but the Lions are 21-2 against the Orange(men) since 1971.

There are, however, two games that stand out to me.

I became a Syracuse hoops fan at 11 years old, when Pearl Washington hit a half-court shot against Boston College in 1984. Loving the basketball team so much, I also followed the football program closely and was a big fan, as well, for many years.

See **Giger**/Page B2



**WARMING UP**

**PAUL LILLY'S DAILY TRIVIA**

Who was the last MLB pitcher to win 20 games in four straight seasons?  
*(Answer below)*

**TV/RADIO LISTINGS**

**Television**  
**AUTO RACING**  
4:25 a.m. (Friday)  
ESPN2 — Formula One, Singapore  
Airline Singapore Grand Prix, practice

**BOXING**  
8 p.m.  
ESPN2 — Pablo Cesar Cano vs. Russian Madiev, super lightweights, at Las Vegas

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**  
7:30 p.m.  
ESPN — Boston College at Wake Forest

**EQUESTRIAN**  
7 p.m.  
NBCSN — FEI World Equestrian Games, at Mill Spring, N.C. (same-day tape)

**GOLF**  
5 a.m.  
GOLF — LPGA Tour, The Evian Championship, first round, at Evian-les-Bains, France  
9:30 a.m.  
GOLF — LPGA Tour, The Evian Championship, first round, at Evian-les-Bains, France  
12:30 p.m.  
GOLF — European PGA Tour, KLM Open, first round, at Spijk, Netherlands  
6 p.m.  
GOLF — Web.com Tour, Albertsons Boise Open, first round, at Boise, Idaho  
10 p.m.  
GOLF — Asian Tour, Shinhan Donghae Open, second round, at Incheon, South Korea

**MLB BASEBALL**  
7 p.m.  
MLB — Regional coverage, L.A. Dodgers at St. Louis OR Oakland at Baltimore  
10 p.m.  
MLB — Regional coverage, Seattle at L.A. Angels OR Minnesota at Kansas City (joined in progress)

**NFL FOOTBALL**  
8:20 p.m.  
NFL — Baltimore at Cincinnati

**Radio**  
**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**  
6:05 p.m.  
WAYC-AM (1600) — Penn State Coach's Show  
**LOCAL**  
4 p.m.  
ESPN Radio 1430 WVAM — Sports Central with Cory Giger

**COMING UP**

	Sun. vs. Chiefs 1 p.m.	Sept. 24 at Bucs 8:15 p.m.
	Sat. Kent State Noon	Sept. 21 at Illinois 9 p.m.
	Sat. vs. Ga. Tech 12:30 p.m.	Sept. 22 at UNC 12:20 p.m.
	Fri. at Brewers 8:10 p.m.	Sat. at Brewers 7:10 p.m.

**YESTERYEAR**

**50 years ago — Sept. 13, 1968:**  
The Bishop Guilfoyle High School freshman team beat Windber Junior High, 20-14, in football action at their Pleasant Valley Field. **Tom Wesner** scored two touchdowns, one on a **Dave McConnell** pass and one on a run.

**25 years ago — Sept. 13, 1993:**  
**Todd Malligan** won the cross-country race for Altoona Area High at the 28-team California (Pa.) Invitational, the first time an Altoona runner had won the event in coach **Lee Baranik's** 13 years. It was his second cross country win of the season.

**10 years ago — Sept. 13, 2008:**  
Down only 3-0 after the first three quarters, Altoona Area fell to Cumberland Valley, 15-8, in high school football action at Mansion Park. The Mountain Lion touchdown came on a throw from **Cory Becker** to **Michael Treese**, a 63-yard pass-run. Altoona had won its first two games, over North Allegheny and Chambersburg.

— Compiled by Tim Doyle

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**SPORTS DESK HOURS**

The Mirror sports desk is staffed from 5 p.m. until 1 a.m. daily, including Saturdays and Sundays. Voice-mail messages left on 946-7461 will be checked regularly.

**DEADLINE TO REPORT SCORES**

The deadline to report scores is 8:30 p.m. for afternoon events and 10:30 p.m. for evening events. Coaches are asked to call from the road, rather than waiting until they get home. The Mirror cannot guarantee publication of reports not

**TRIVIA ANSWER**

Dave Stewart of the Oakland A's (1987-90)

# Boise State gets big chance this week

**By RALPH D. RUSSO**  
*The Associated Press*

The ceiling for teams outside the Power Five in the College Football Playoff race seems to be set pretty low — as any Central Florida fan will be quick to point out.

Maybe Boise State can bust through it this year. To do so, Saturday's game at No. 24 Oklahoma State will be crucial for the 17th-ranked Broncos.

Boise State's trip to Stillwater is one of three games matching ranked teams in week three of the season, along with No. 4 Ohio State against No. 15 TCU in Arlington, Texas, and No. 7 Auburn hosting No. 12 LSU.

The Broncos have mashed their first two opponents (118-27), a good start for the preseason favorite in the Mountain West. Quarterback Brett Rypien might be leading the best Broncos team since coach Chris Petersen's BCS busters.

Could the Broncos, or any team outside the Power Five, make a serious run at a playoff spot? Well, UCF went undefeated last season but never did better than 12th in the selection committee rankings, much to the chagrin of Knights athletic director Danny White and American Athletic Conference

**AP COLLEGE FB PICKS**

Commissioner Mike Aresco.

The Broncos might have a better chance, though much is dependent on beating Oklahoma State — and the Cowboys then playing well the rest of the season.

The weather is doing UCF no favors. The Knights' game at North Carolina this weekend was canceled in anticipation of Hurricane Florence. Last year, UCF had a game against Georgia Tech washed away. Though considering how poorly North Carolina has played so far, UCF's strength of schedule might be better off without the Tar Heels.

**The picks:**

**No. 1 Alabama (-21) at Mississippi:** The Ole Miss receivers, including preseason All-America A.J. Brown, will test the Tide's inexperienced secondary — but 'Bama might score 70 ... **Alabama 42-24**

**Georgia Southern (+33) at No. 2 Clemson:** Tigers tune up for Georgia Tech's triple-option next week with Georgia Southern's ... **Clemson 49-14**

**Middle Tennessee (+33) at No. 3 Georgia:** Bulldogs have scored at least 40 in both games this season. The last time they reached 40 the first three games was in 2011, when they did it in five straight ... **Georgia 52-14**

**No. 4 Ohio State (-12½) vs. No. 15 TCU at Arlington, Texas:** Can the Horned Frogs' fast, but not particularly stout, defense stop the

Buckeyes combo of J.K. Dobbins and Mike Weber? ... **Ohio State 35-17**

**No. 5 Oklahoma (-17) at Iowa State:** Last time the Cyclones won two straight against the Sooners was 1961 ... **Oklahoma 38-14**

**BYU (+21) at No. 6 Wisconsin:** Cougars are averaging 4.68 yards per play (113th in the country) and the Badgers (allowing 4.37 ypp) are no team to figure out problems against ... **Wisconsin 38-14**

**No. 12 LSU (+9½) at No. 7 Auburn:** From 2004-06, the average score in this series was Auburn 12, LSU 10. Feels like one of those ... **Auburn 15-9**

**Vanderbilt (+14½) at No. 8 Notre Dame:** Irish will need some offense this week to match experienced Vandy QB Kyle Shurmur ... **Notre Dame 28-23**

**No. 10 Washington (-6) at Utah:** Utes couldn't generate much offense against Northern Illinois last week; these Huskies will be even tougher ... **Washington 24-16**

**Kent State (+34) at No. 11 Penn State:** Flashes are led by QB Woody Barrett, a former four-star recruit who transferred from Auburn ... **Penn State 49-14**

**Louisiana-Lafayette (+32½) at No. 16 Mississippi State:** Bulldogs RB Kylin Hill is averaging 10.04 yards per carry and looking a little Saquon Barkley-esque for coach Joe Moorhead, the former Penn State offensive coordinator ... **Mississippi State 45-10**

**No. 17 Boise State (+2½) at No. 24 Oklahoma State:** Wrong team is favored ... **Boise State 28-21**

**SMU (+35) at No. 19 Michigan:** Another chance for the Wolverines to get some offensive rhythm before Big Ten play ... **Michigan 51-14**

**San Jose State (+41½) at No. 20 Oregon:** If the first three opponents (Bowling Green, Portland State, San Jose State) com-

bined their rosters, they'd probably still lose to Oregon by four touchdowns ... **Oregon 56-13**

**No. 21 Miami (-10) at Toledo:** Rockets offense made the Hurricanes work in South Florida last season ... **Miami 34-21**

**No. 22 Southern California (+3½) at Texas:** Feels like one of those Legends of Rock concerts where the bands are famous, but way past their prime ... **Texas 24-23**

**No. 23 Arizona State (-4½) at San Diego State:** Who had Herm Edwards as the best new hire in the Pac-12 South with Chip Kelly and Kevin Sumlin? Liar ... **Arizona State 21-14**

**Twitter requests**

**Boston College (-6) at Wake Forest,** tonight: With Florida State struggling, second best in the ACC Atlantic — behind Clemson — is up for grabs ... **Boston College 28-24**

**Rutgers (+3) at Kansas:** Jayhawks looking for first two-game winning streak since 2011 ... **Rutgers 20-17**

**Missouri (-7) at Purdue:** Boilermakers have buried themselves with turnovers (minus-4) and penalties (90 yards per game) in 0-2 start ... **Upset special: Purdue 31-28**

**Duke (+6½) at Baylor:** Blue Devils lost starting QB Daniel Jones and star CB Mark Gilbert to injuries; Bears looking for 3-0 start ... **Baylor 28-23**

**Houston (-1) at Texas Tech:** Cougars will try to add a victory against the Big 12 to the one against the Pac-12 they got last week ... **Texas Tech 35-31**

**Last week:** 17-2 straight; 11-8 against the spread.

**Season:** 33-7 straight; 23-16-1 against the spread.

**Upset specials:** 2-0 (straight up).

**Best bets:** 2-0 (against the spread).

## Hurricane impacting ACC slate

**By AARON BEARD**  
*The Associated Press*

RALEIGH, N.C. — While safety concerns at Atlantic Coast Conference schools are being addressed ahead of Hurricane Florence, the storm's significant impact on this week's schedule will have a lingering effect on scheduling obstacles, monetary implications and bowl considerations once it passes.

The list of canceled games include No. 13 Virginia Tech's home game against East Carolina, No. 14 West Virginia's trip to North Carolina State and No. 18 UCF's game at North Carolina. Virginia has moved its Saturday home game against Ohio to Nashville, Tennessee, with the Category 3 storm forecast to come ashore along the Carolinas' coastline late Thursday or early Friday, bringing strong winds and heavy rain throughout the region.

The schools with canceled games left open the possibility of trying to reschedule them for later in the season, but there's no guarantee that will work.

"What's led up to this point has been the health and safety considerations, not just for the teams but the fans and the state and the region," said Michael Lipitz, North Carolina State's deputy athletic director for internal operations. "That just becomes the overriding consideration to get to this point, and so we'll deal with it. We'll deal with what's next. We'll figure it out."

There certainly aren't many easy options for rescheduling games.

The best chance would come if the teams share an off week, but that's not an option here. There's also the weekend of Dec. 1 after the scheduled completion of the regular season, though that could conflict with conference championship games.

In addition, there's the possibility of scheduling a different opponent that might also be looking to replace its own weather-impacted date, such as Nebraska and Iowa State — both of which lost Week 1 home games due to severe weather that swept through the Midwest.



The Associated Press

**Virginia Tech coach Justin Fuente and quarterback Josh Jackson had their game against East Carolina postponed.**

"It's just a lot of moving parts and it's a lot of conversations with your counterparts around the country trying to figure out what makes the most sense for everybody," Lipitz said. "And in this circumstance, because you're already in the season, that can change week to week. It's a little different than scheduling years in advance."

Virginia Tech coach Justin Fuente said Wednesday that adding a second off week to help deal with cancellations or postponements would be "worthy of consideration." Because as former Wake Forest coach Jim Grobe put it: "There's really no wiggle room now the way the schedule is."

"You go 12 games and a (league) championship game is 13, and then you want an open date," Grobe said. "And then you've got the bowl season coming and some of those bowl games are sooner than later. ... There's a lot to think about. It's not easy. I've got a feeling that some of these games just won't be made up, you just won't be able to do it."

That could lead to other obstacles to resolve.

Start with the ECU-Virginia Tech game, which was knocked from the Saturday schedule when

East Carolina announced it wouldn't travel to Blacksburg due to "significant imminent safety concerns" that included "perilous travel conditions before, during and after the storm."

Last year Florida Atlantic got stuck after a weekend game at Wisconsin and couldn't make it home for several days because of the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

In a Wednesday email to The Associated Press, Virginia Tech athletic director Whit Babcock said that the cancellation or rescheduling of that game has not yet been addressed but will be "in a timely manner." The contract between the schools calls for either team, if unable to fulfill its obligation to play, to pay \$250,000, and that also has not yet been addressed, Babcock said.

Teams also might ultimately need those lost games to improve their postseason positioning, too.

Look no further than last year, when Florida State's September game against Louisiana-Monroe was postponed due to Hurricane Irma. The Seminoles rescheduled it for the first weekend in December, which ultimately allowed them to get to six wins and become bowl eligible for the 36th straight season.

## CAMPBELL: Star player still just a junior

(Continued from Page B1)

She also received some encouragement from Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic graduate Mary Forr, who was part of the Notre Dame women's program for four years and was a walk-on player during the 2010-11 season.

"While talking to Mary Forr about her experiences at Notre Dame, I could feel her passion and love for the university in every word she spoke," Campbell said. "She didn't have one bad thing to say about Notre Dame. If anything, she gave me so much insight, not only into the basketball program, but also into the lasting effects of receiving a Notre Dame education."

Campbell said Forr was not the only one who helped in her decision. She said an outpouring of support from family, including parents Travis and Erin, friends, teammates, coaches, trainers and the community helped to uplift and encourage her through the process.

Bellwood-Antis coach Jim Swaney was among them.

"I think Notre Dame's a great choice for Alli, because it was her No. 1 choice," Swaney said. "It's where she wanted to go. Academically and athletically, it's hard to go wrong with Notre Dame. They recruit the best of the best. I don't think it's a far stretch to say it's one of the top five women's programs in the country, and I know Alli had her goals set on going to a big-time school. I couldn't be happier for her."

Campbell's commitment will allow her to focus on her high school studies the next two seasons while trying to lead the Lady Blue Devils' quest for more success. Just 16 years old, Campbell has already scored 1,345 points at Bellwood-Antis.

She will be teaming with another Division I recruit, Sakeria Haralson, a junior who committed to Monmouth, for the next two seasons.

"I definitely have some goals to accomplish (in high school) — maybe a couple of more gold medals," Campbell said. "I've never been more motivated to get better. I know what I need to work on, and I will work harder than ever these next couple of years, for sure."

## RUDEL: Irish series always fun

(Continued from Page B1)

The Mirror was an afternoon paper then, and I was able to cover the noon event and call in a story in time for the press run at 12:40 p.m. (Though the flexibility was nice, newspapers are even better in the morning.)

Bryant coached two more seasons, broke Stagg's record and wound up with 323 victories — a mark Joe Paterno eventually shattered.

During the series, Penn State and Alabama both won on the other's field, and two more games were scheduled 20 years later, between Paterno and Nick Saban that the Tide won.

As much as the Alabama series was cool, though, my favorite non-conference game was Notre Dame.

The Fighting Irish obviously were a national team with a history like no other program — particularly prior to the 1980s.

Notre Dame also had a huge following in Altoona and Blair County, which made the series and rivalry all the more meaningful.

A couple of personal mentors,

such as Ron Hoover and John Conlon, were diehard Irish fans, and local contingents made the trip to South Bend each time the Lions visited.

One such group of Irwins, Hites and Detwilers was hosted by the late Ed and Maureen Smithe in 1992 at a plush club in South Bend that overlooked Notre Dame Stadium. It was the last scheduled game between the teams (won by the Irish the next day, 17-16, on a touchdown pass to Jerome Bettis and subsequent 2-point conversion).

I was invited and was touched that near the end of the evening, Ed Smithe rose to offer a toast on how much he'll miss the series because of the friendships and the tradition of attending together.

It underscored how football — like no other sport — brings people together and how it's about more than the game.

Which is why the Notre Dame series would be at the top of my list of non-conference games.

Other than Pitt, of course.

*Rudel can be reached at 946-7527 or rrudel@altoonamirror.com.*

## GIGER: Cuse has some legends

(Continued from Page B1)

So, when 1987 rolled around and quarterback Don McPherson and coach Dick MacPherson had the Cuse rolling, it was a game against No. 10 Penn State on Oct. 17 — my birthday — that validated the Orangemen as a legitimate contender.

McPherson threw an 80-yard TD pass on the first play from scrimmage to Rob Moore, igniting a rout in which Syracuse led 41-0 before winning, 48-21.

Joe Paterno went to the Syracuse locker room after the game and told the players, "You're a great team, and this was a great victory. Keep the national championship in the East."

That was the Cuse's first win over PSU since 1970, and it followed up the next year with a 24-10 win at Beaver Stadium.

The series went on hiatus after 1990 but resumed in 2008, when PSU visited Syracuse. That was a memorable trip, and not just because the Carrier Dome, which believe it or not didn't have air conditioning, was burning up (I can still hear Neil complaining about it).

Syracuse honored legendary running back Ernie Davis that day, with the movie of his life story, "The Express," premiering. Another Syracuse legend, Jim Brown, was in town that week but didn't attend the game against Penn State.

The Lions destroyed the Orange in the game, 55-13, but it was so memorable because of the great college football history on display.

Penn State also won at home in 2009 (28-7), the last time Paterno faced Syracuse, and at The Meadowlands in 2013 (23-17). That was the last time the two teams played, and probably will be for a long time.

Syracuse's program has been in shambles for a while, which is a shame for a school with such a rich tradition. And despite what Neil believes, that has nothing to do with the Cuse's decision not to join Paterno's proposed Eastern conference in the early 1980s.

*Cory Giger is the host of "Sports Central" weekdays from 4 to 6 p.m. on ESPN Radio 1430 WVAM.*