



EMERALD COAST CHAPTER NEWS



Winter Newsletter -1999

Message From the President:

Well, what can be said about this football season? What arguably promised to be another championship run early on became a major bust at the end of the season. It was pretty hard to equate the dominating team that destroyed #3 Arizona to start the season with the one that struggled like it did against our final three opponents. Lots of fingers being pointed in many directions by many fans, but I don't think any of us will know exactly what went wrong. However, we've still got a significant challenge coming up against a quality Texas A&M team December 28th in San Antonio, and the team has emphatically stated they intend to finish 1999 on a winning note. Personally, I think they will!

We've embarked on what I consider an extremely worthwhile civic project - providing assistance and mentorship at a local elementary school by 'adopting' a classroom. Not surprisingly (at least to us Penn Staters), we're the first alumni organization to ever commit to such a project in Northwest Florida. Presently, we have a dedicated - although small - contingent volunteering their time and energy....we need more of you in order to be able to pair up one-on-one with each of the students in the class. Please give consideration to adding your time to this endeavor. Of all the potential 'charity' type things I can think of, none can make more of a difference than helping future generations learn and grow. Information on volunteering is contained below. It's not only "WE ARE", it's also "WE CAN"!

We've got several get-togethers in the works for the coming year. In April we're looking at a cookout, possibly combined with a pool party (more to come on that via postcard next year). Of course, we'll continue our annual combined picnic/golf/social coming up in June - and thanks to some quality input, will be doing the tee times early on so it won't be so hot, and the duffers can enjoy more of the picnic. There's also our annual membership meeting coinciding with the first football game of the new millenium (we may again be playing a pre-season game, so specific date is open right now).

Have a truly fantastic holiday season, and a safe and enjoyable New Year! GO LIONS!!!!

Stan Allsopp '70

Highlights of the Last Board Meeting

- Elected present Board members and officers.
- Discussed several community support endeavors and fund drives. Identified C.A. Weis Elementary as the school to 'adopt' for support.

Dues Reminder – Just a reminder if you haven't paid your 99-00 dues please do so. We're the closest we've ever been to 100 paid members!!! If you're not sure if you're paid up, please give Tonie a call or send an email (see below for number/address).

++ *SPORTS SHORTS*

While some might say a 9-3 football season is not good, to most of the nation that's a very successful one. Quite a few other Penn State athletic teams are doing just great too! Here's a couple notes on status as of this writing:

- The 12th-ranked Women's basketball team just upset undefeated & #6 Auburn
 - The #1-ranked 31-1 Women's volleyball team, after winning the Big Ten title once again, swept the NCAA regionals, and is in the national semi-finals.
 - The men's basketball team is 6-1 and getting ready for the grueling Big Ten schedule.
 - The #3-ranked Women's soccer team lost a heart-breaker to eventual repeat national champ North Carolina in the NCAA semi-finals.
 - The 8th-ranked men's soccer team lost the NCAA regional final to Indiana, finishing 19-4-1.
 - The Div-1 Icers Men's ice hockey team (11-3-1) is currently ranked #1 in the ACHA.
 - The Women's field hockey team finished the season 17-5 & a #6 ranking, falling to UNC in the NCAA Regionals.
-

Nittany Tip:

The Alumni Association webpage is now hosting an "Alumni Store"? There's over 200 items (so far) on the site to browse and buy. Great site! Visit <http://www.alumni.psu.edu/marketplace/default.html> and check it out!

C.A. Weis Elementary School

We currently have 8 volunteers; Amy Crosswaite, Darlene Zampino, Cyndi Samuel, Tonie Allsopp, Mark Dodson, Tim Hauck, Stu Watt, and Stan Allsopp. This is a classroom of 12 children who are emotionally handicapped. Thursday, December 16 we hosted a party for the children and purchased books for each of them.

The teacher would like to take the class on a field trip next year, but funds must be raised for the bus and entrance to wherever they decide to go. (Escambia Co. can't ask parents for money) We can consider this our Community Service project. All of us are welcome ANY TIME to attend any field trips or volunteer in the classroom. If you would like to help, even for one hour a month, please call Darlene Zampino or Tonie Allsopp. If you can't help in school and don't expect or want to help with a fund-raising project, please feel free to donate money toward this worthwhile cause. These children crave attention and affection and are very excited whenever we come into the classroom. I think you will all find this to be a very

rewarding project for our club, so I hope you will consider getting involved. Also, thank you to Gene Gentzel, who has been a volunteer at Washington High School. I can tell you that the School District greatly appreciates our involvement.

I too would like to thank all of you who have given of your time. I find it is very rewarding and go in 2-3 times a week. There's always something to do or someone to help. Tonie Allsopp

Items for Sale:

We still have Penn State Bags at \$3.50 for a pkg. of 5 and TY Lions(yes, the same guy who makes Beanie Babies) . These are larger than the Beanie Babies, quite cute and only \$10 each. I think we have 4 left. We probably have about 5 packages of bags remaining from Pensacola. Tom Hancock has some for sale in the Niceville/Crestview area. Call Tonie for bags and Lions (941-0920).

BOWL GET-TOGETHER

Come join in and cheer our Lions on in their gridiron battle against 8-3 Texas A&M! Kickoff is at 6:30PM December 28th. Kooter Brown's West is the spot. This is the only game this date, so the spotlight will be on the Lions and Aggies. The game is already sold out - the first time EVER the Alamo Bowl has sold out, and also the first bowl game this entire post-season that has sold out (including the national championship game in New Orleans!) Should be a great game! Come on out and support our Lions!

Did you know?

- Penn State has been voted the #1 athletic program in the country by The Sporting News, the only school to receive no lower than an A- in each of four categories. Criteria for evaluation included: "Do we play fair?" (incidents of probation, etc.-PSU received an A); "Do we rock?" (fan support, event attendance, etc.- PSU received an A); "Do we graduate?" (self-explanatory-PSU received an A); "Do we win?" (PSU received an A-). By the way, the Big Ten's 9 schools in the top 20 nationwide by far is the tops of any conference (no surprise there!)
 - Three football players received consensus All-American status: Linebackers LaVar Arrington and Brandon Short, and Defensive End Courtney Brown.
 - Coach Joe Paterno's squad this year has a 100% graduation rate among the seniors, the only Div-1A school of 114!
 - With Bonnie Bremner and Lauren Cacciamani of the Women's volleyball team being named consensus All-Americans and also GTE Academic All-Americans, Lion athletics has garnered a total of 11 GTE Academic All-Americans for fall sports, more than any other school nationwide!
-

Have a new idea? ... Want to help?... Here's who to contact!!

The Board:

Stan Allsopp '70 - President ... Phone 850-678-2105... Email:
rsallsopp@mindspring.com Phone 850-941-0920... Fax 850-941-0416

Andrew Flock '87 - Vice PresidentPhone 850-994-5423 ... Email:
aflock@pen.net

Tonie Allsopp '82 - Treasurer/Membership ...Phone 850-941-0920 .. Fax: 904-941-0416 Email: alallsopp@aol.com

Tom Hancock '60 - Secretary ... Phone 850-932-2256 ... Fax: 904-479-4932 Email:
tomjean@gnt.net

Darlene Zampino - Student Affairs Chair ... Phone 850-968-2421 Email:
dzamp52064@aol.com

Mark Dodson - Community Service Chair... Phone 850-477-6646 Email:
mdodson2@compuserve.com

Jack Landy - Publicity Chair...Phone 850-433-8741

Area Points of Contact:

Pensacola... Stan Allsopp... Phone 850-941-0920...Fax 850-941-0416. Email:
rsallsopp@mindspring.com

Ft Walton Beach ... Dave Fraser... Phone 850-862-7690 ... Email: dofx@aol.com

Mobile Volunteer?

Panama City ... Cyndi Samuel ... Phone 850-235-1060...Email: cyndi@l-1.net

Niceville /Crestview Tom Hancock ... Phone 850-678-2105... Email:
tomjean@gnt.net