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• MEADVILLE,



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strident anti-intellectualism of his time and place to become an artist. His contact with books and ideas, with liberal political philosophy and Freudian concepts sharply contrasted with his surroundings of racism and intolerant religiosity. As Clayton writes, Cash "was an intellectual, a critic, a prober, a thinker passionately absorbed in his subject. The South was mysterious and irrational, ensnared in an 'ancient pattern' of racism, hedonism, puritanism, religiosity, and violence. To pursue that mystery, to get to the bottom of it, to plumb that 'collective unconscious,' and to do so in an engaging style that would attract readers was an extraordinarily difficult task."

Without any laborious erudition, which would have appalled Cash himself, Clayton has recreated this tragic life with candor, ease, sensitivity and a masterful gathering of research materials. The approach is Boswellian. The subject draws closer to us with each of the 11 chapters revealing Cash from a variety of perspectives. All the facts of Cash's short life are here, admirably assembled. Clayton has intelligently organized the biographical data and his meticulous field investigations, including interviews with Cash's relatives, to yield a moving narrative. Like Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, this biography is plotted, Cash's life reconstructed through the eye of the novelist who cares deeply about his subject. Each chapter has its own stylistic motif appropriate to the mental and

psychological phases of development of W.J. Cash's intellect and career. The biography opens with an elegiac reverie, "Of Men and Monuments," which places the reader at Cash's graveside and concludes by returning to the Sunset Cemetery in Shelby, N.C. Thus the tragic theme that pervades the life is sounded at the beginning and end with the many sides of Cash's character coming alive between the two post-mortem vignettes. With its Arnoldian title, chapter two, "Light Over a Darkling Land," follows young Cash's intellectual awakening at Wake Forest College and his initial liberalizing experiences with books and thinkers. Chapter three, "Years Shrouded in Shadows," depicts Cash's search for a better social and moral ideal than the "savage ideal" of southern narrow-mindedness. The progressive theme of these two chapters is self-enlargement and moral awakening. Cash reads Conrad, Mencken, Hardy, Shakespeare and Spengler, along with such forbiddens as Darwin and Marx. *The Mind of the South* is already fermenting in his consciousness. The anecdotal chapters, "Editing a Country Newspaper" and "The Camaraderie of the Newsroom," catch the mood and conditions of smalltown southern journalism and local racist politics. They also reveal Cash's humane attitudes toward race. The core of the biography is chapter 10, "The Mind of the South in History," which Clayton has positioned as a rational sequel to the moving

chapter, "Rendezvous with Fate," an account of Cash's final days and suicide in Mexico City in 1941. With his book's singular power of personal narrative, Cash had perhaps written the novel he had always longed to write.

The Mind of the South expressed both a Gibbonian thesis and a deep moral concern for the survival of a civilization against that society's own stubborn delusions and tendency to destruction. According to Clayton, W.J. Cash's contribution to the historical understanding of a region, a time and a folk-mind is on a Gibbonian scale in its grandeur and sad pessimism. "No historian has had the courage or audacity or ability even to try what Cash did. He tried because he was, in his soul, an artist, a writer in the grand tradition of Gibbon, Tocqueville, Burckhardt, and Macaulay. Cash tried to do what every true artist, every writer, seeks to do, that is to speak some great truth, to say what it is that makes a people distinctive." Such dedication to truth means that W.J. Cash's life was "about" something, was the ethical saga of a representative man in the Emersonian sense of the term. Like Cash's book, Clayton's book is a well-crafted and truthful account of a noble mind in an ignoble age. Readers who want a compelling view of the rise and fall of one of the most influential minds produced by the South should read this biography.

Clayton is Harry A. Logan Sr. Professor of American History at Allegheny, where the reviewer is professor of English.

SPORTS

Reliving the Moment

Just how big a deal was Allegheny's 21-14 upset of Lycoming in the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl, bringing the College its first-ever national football title?

Athletics Director Norm Sundstrom called it "the greatest athletics achievement in Allegheny's 175 years," and Sundstrom coached Allegheny's only other NCAA title-winning team, the 1983 golf squad. Plenty of evidence supports Sundstrom's claim, from the style in which the Gators won the game to reactions elicited locally and nationwide.

The Gators' electrifying comeback-behind, overtime win was perhaps the only fitting final chapter for their storybook season — just one last test of their

character and incredible will to succeed. The underdogs in each of their four NCAA playoff games, the Blue and Gold nonetheless turned back the likes of defending champion and top-ranked Dayton to reach the title contest. They were 9-0-1 on the regular season, but back in August were picked to finish a distant second in conference — let alone national — competition.

"This is a perfect example of what people can do when they believe in themselves and they believe in each other," said Allegheny Head Coach Ken O'Keefe. It also may be a quintessential success story in Division III sports, where, O'Keefe points out, "athletics are only an extension of the classroom. Young people are playing because it's fun and coaches can focus not on wins

and losses per se, but on helping our players reach their full potential on the field and off."

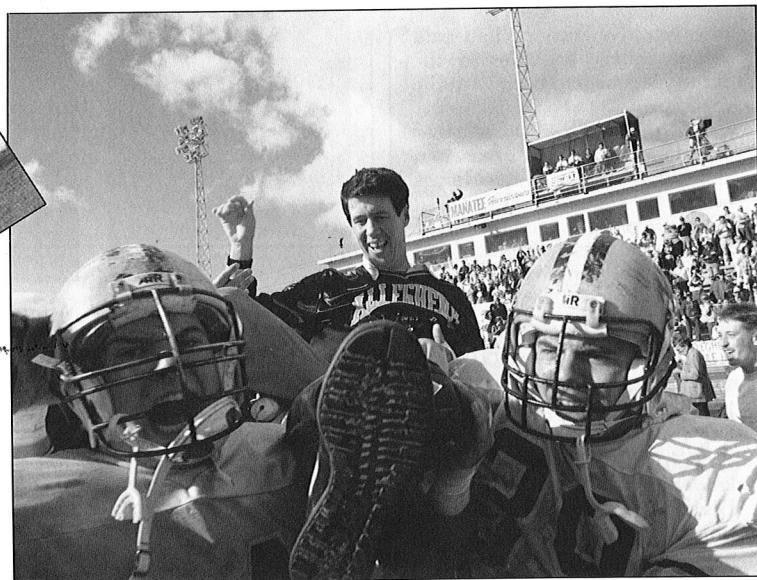
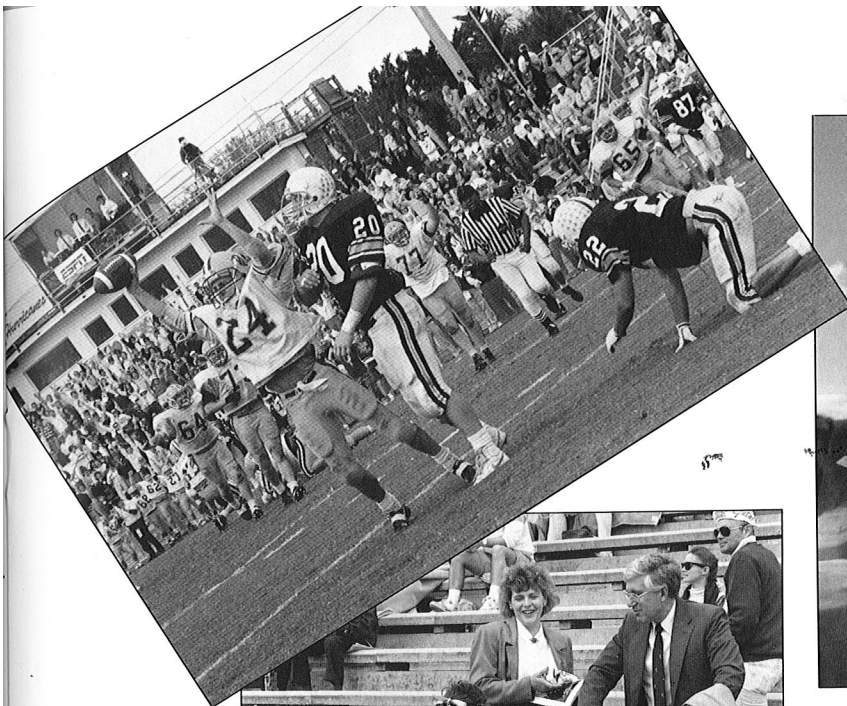
The contest, televised nationally from Bradenton, Fla., was "the most exciting game we've done all year," according to ESPN College Football Producer Brian Williams. For the few Allegheny faithful who missed the game, quarterback Jeff Filkovski '91 hit tight end Kurt Reiser '93 with a 15-yard touchdown pass on the Gators' overtime possession, then cornerback Tony Bifulco '92 ended Lycoming's turn with the ball with a fourth down-and-long interception, set up by a stunning second-down sack by linebacker Darren Hadlock '92.

Allegheny forced the overtime by battling back from a 14-0 halftime deficit on 16- and 12-play scoring drives covering 72

and 73 yards. The first drive was capped by a 10-yard Filkovski touchdown run late in the third quarter, while the second score resulted from a seven-yard Filkovski pass to Julio Lacayo '92 with 1:38 remaining in the game. Steve Boucher '91 kicked the critical extra points.

Halftime adjustments by the offensive line and defensive unit — both technical and emotional adjustments — meant new-found running room for tailbacks Jerry O'Brien '91 and Stan Drayton '93, improved pass protection for Filkovski, and near-total containment of Lycoming's potent offense.

Of course, the new tactics devised by the Gator coaches, noted one Bradenton sportswriter, should not have been surprising "for an institution whose sideline



Clockwise from top left: Julio Lacayo '92 scored the tying touchdown with 1:38 remaining in the fourth quarter; Victorious Head Coach Ken O'Keefe; Team members returned to campus atop fire trucks for a rally in Brooks Circle where hundreds gathered; O'Keefe displays the championship trophy; President and Mrs. Sullivan share a laugh with cheerleaders prior to the game in Bradenton, Fla.

banner stated, 'Allegheny 175: Celebrating Great Teaching.'

The response back in Meadville to the Gator win was immediate and enormous. Hundreds of students jammed North Main St., re-routing traffic and covering trees with streamers, then tore down the east goalpost at Robertson Field. One observer noted that few rest rooms anywhere on campus could have escaped severe tissue-stock depletion.

On Sunday, thousands more fans from the Meadville community, many moist-eyed with pride and joy, lined a parade route the length of town to welcome back the team. Some dozen police cars and fire trucks escorted and carried the Gators to a rally in front of Brooks Hall, where upwards of 500 students, parents, faculty, staff and other friends

cheered Sundstrom's presentation of the championship trophy to the team.

President Daniel Sullivan, just back from the game himself, also presented the game ball to the College and the Meadville community. "We are all justly proud of what the team has done," Sullivan said in a later interview. "We are right to be proud when this College does something of the highest quality in athletics, the same way we do it academically. It all flows from a very special kind of educational experience bringing very special people together."

Following the game in Bradenton, after emotional celebrations on the field, an estimated 600 Alleghenians had gathered at a nearby Holiday Inn in further recognition of the Gators'

achievement. Some fans had driven all night to reach Bradenton's Hawkins Stadium, while others had flown cross-country. Those in Bradenton included those Gator players not permitted to suit up for the game because of the NCAA's roster limit in post-season play. They were flown down by the College.

Elsewhere, Alleghenians gathered specially for the ESPN broadcast, or they carefully tracked the Gators' performance through other media coverage. Most observers noted how much respect the Gators were earning, players and coaches alike, for both the Allegheny football program and the College as a whole.

The media apparently were impressed:

• "(All-American senior center John) Marzka wasn't even

planning to go to college," noted ESPN sideline announcer Kevin Guthrie. "Now he's planning to go on and get his master's in psychology. He claims that coming to Allegheny has really changed his life."

• "Division III football is a breed of its own," wrote Bob McComas of *The Bradenton Herald* in an Allegheny team profile. "Student-athletes are just that, students first."

• And *Sports Illustrated* senior writer Doug Looney, in "More Than A Win," an article about the championship game that appeared in the magazine's Dec. 17, 1990, issue, wrote, "Last Saturday's game was a classic example of college football as it was intended to be." A *Sports Illustrated* researcher working with Looney on the article called it the

most positive story he had read about college athletics in the three years he had been with the magazine.

But perhaps Mike Gallagher of Erie's WJET-TV summarized the season best some 36 hours after the Stag Bowl kickoff: "Super young men and super young athletes — put them together and you get a national championship."

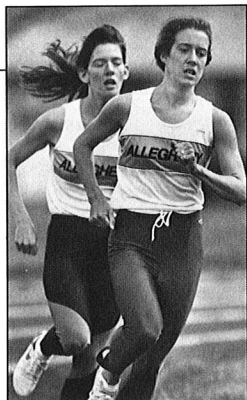
Fall Sports Recap

Volleyball (30-14, 11-2 NCAC): Coach Bridget Sheehan's Gators won their third straight conference title and landed a berth in the NCAA Division III playoffs for the third time in four years. Sheehan was named NCAC Coach of the Year and co-captain Molly Dietz '92 repeated as NCAC Player of the Year.

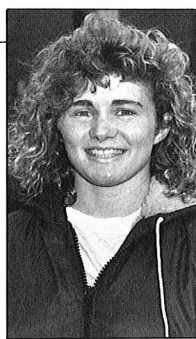
Women's Cross Country (1st place NCAC): Ralph White's Gators claimed their third straight NCAC and Mideast Regional titles en route to a seventh place finish at the NCAA Division III championships. Katie Tiedemann '91 placed 16th in the country to earn All-American honors.

Men's Cross Country (3rd place NCAC): Under the direction of George Yuhasz, the men's harriers repeated their 1989 success, again placing third in the NCAC meet and qualifying for the NCAA Mideast Regional Championship race. Colin Knisely '93 was an All-NCAC and All-Region selection.

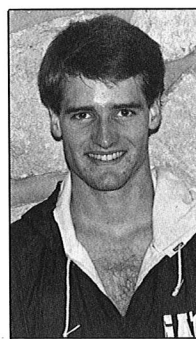
Men's Soccer (12-7-1, 3-5 NCAC): Marty Goldberg's soccer team rallied to win its final six games and eclipse the College record for wins in a season (11, set in 1989) and goals in a season (61).



Katie Tiedemann



Melissa Moody



Doug Tucker

Women's Soccer (10-8-2, 5-2-1 NCAC): Despite losing six starters to graduation, John Wilcher's team rallied for another winning season. Becky Smith '93 was an All-NCAC first-team and NSCAA All-American second-team selection.

Winter Sports Recap

Men's Basketball (18-9, 9-2 NCAC): Phil Ness' Gators were the NCAC's highest scoring team (84.4 ppg) for the second straight season as they repeated as runners-up in the North Division.

Women's Basketball (19-8, 9-2 NCAC): Ronda Seagraves guided the Gators back among the NCAC elite as her squad captured the North Division title. Senior point guard Ronnie Bohm led the team in scoring (16.4 ppg), assists (137) and steals (79) in earning All-NCAC first-team honors.

Wrestling: Competing only in tournaments, the Gator achievements were limited to individual honors under Coach John Wilcher. Gabe Oros '94 nearly qualified for the Division III national championships at 134 pounds, finishing third at the Eastern Regional Tournament.

Men's Swimming (3-4, 3rd place NCAC): With only one senior on this season's 17-man roster, Tom Erdos was pleased with the development of the squad. Doug Tucker '92 won both the one-meter and three-meter diving events as he took NCAC Diver-of-the-Year honors. The Gators placed 12th at the NCAA championships.

Women's Swimming (7-0, 2nd place NCAC): Coach Tom Erdos' Gators continued to show why they're among the nation's elite. Melissa Moody '91 won both the one-meter and three-meter events en route to being named NCAC Diver of the Year, and Kate Thoman '91 took the 500 and 1,650 freestyle and the 400 IM in earning NCAC Swimmer-of-the-Year honors. Thoman won the 400 IM and Moody the three-meter board in leading Allegheny to a fourth-place finish in the NCAA meet.

Men's Indoor Track (3rd place NCAC): Despite being short on numbers, Ralph White's Gator team finished an impressive third at the NCAC championships. Stanley Drayton '93 was the meet's leading scorer, winning titles in the 300-yard dash and the mile relay.

Women's Indoor Track (2nd place NCAC): Despite being

hampered by illness and injury, Ralph White's team turned in a solid second place finish at the conference meet. Jen Ugine '93 won the triple jump and took third in the long jump as she earned the NCAC's Outstanding Female Performer in the field. Lynda Kohl '91 took the two-mile title with a new meet record (11:04.4) and finished 10th in the 5,000-meter run at the NCAA Division III championships.

College Athletics At Its Best

Last fall, the women's cross country team captured its third straight North Coast Athletic Conference and Mideast Regional titles before placing seventh at the national championship meet. But the Gators' success didn't end at the finish line.

The NCAA recently honored the women for collectively achieving a 3.31 grade-point-average last fall, eighth-best in the nation. Of the 226 women's Division III cross-country teams, only Allegheny finished in the top 10 on and off the course.

Under Coach Ralph White, the Gators have recorded four straight top-10 finishes while maintaining at least a 3.1 team GPA. "My first priority with the kids is to help them become better people," says White. "Their achievements are an extension of that philosophy."

"Our girls know that talent-wise they aren't the fastest. They simply work harder than most to achieve success," White says.

Co-captain Katie Tiedemann '91 sets an impressive example. In addition to placing 16th and earning All-American honors last fall at the national meet, Tiedemann has earned straight A's for the past five marking periods.

CLASSNOTES

Please send your classnotes for the next issue before May 15. Classnotes printed below were received before February 20.

15 Dr. M. GUY MELLON, who served on the Purdue faculty from the time he received his Ph.D. from Ohio State Univ. in 1919 until his retirement in 1962, has spent an active retirement planning and supervising the construction of Purdue's East Chemistry building, and writing, especially on chemical literature. Among many other awards, Prof. Mellon has been awarded honorary degrees from Allegheny, Mount Union

College and Purdue. [338 Overlook Dr., W. Lafayette, IN 47906]

22 Congratulations to MARGUERITE BROWN LYTTLE, who celebrated her 90th birthday on Nov. 3, 1990. [111-9584 Manchester Dr., Burnaby, BC V3N 4R1]

23 Congratulations to HERSCHEL H. LOOMIS, who celebrated

his 90th birthday with members of his family in mid-February. [P.O. Box 20, Kennett Square, PA 19348]

31 Plan now to attend our 60th class reunion, May 30-June 2, 1991.

33 Dr. CHARLES M. KUTZ retired from his surgical practice in Brookville and was unanimously elected president of the American

College of Angiology. A 35-year member of the American College of Angiology, he also serves as a senior editor-in-chief of the College's Vascular Surgery Journal. The Sept. 1990 edition of this journal featured an article by Dr. Kutz, titled "Reoccurrence of Varicose Veins Following Surgery." Also a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Dr. Kutz is a member of the Pittsburgh Surgical Society, the Pennsylvania