

Sports

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Badger goalie Marc Behrend, center, watches action. At right, UW defenseman Jan-ake Danielson (2) and Harvard's Rob Wheeler (18).

Cheers for the Badgers

Four scenes will help you to understand Wisconsin's great victory in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Hockey Tournament.

Let me describe them for you:
Scene one: At the poolside of the Holiday Inn in Grand Forks, N.D.

It was 5 p.m., 2½ hours before game time. The word had spread. I do not know how. There were no public address announcements. But everyone knew. The band would be there. There would be a pep rally.

Starting "On, Wisconsin." Mike Leckrone in the lead, almost like a drum major, the Wisconsin band pranced onto the apron of the pool.

How many pep rallies do you have at poolside of a Holiday Inn? Two fat



Glenn Miller
Sports Editor

"Stomp, boom, ah. How about them Gophers?" chanted the band. The crowd loved it.

What a crowd! It must have been 1,000 people in red standing in that horseshoe around the pool, facing the band. Such noise and such color! A drum solo started it off, with Leckrone egging his drummers to play louder.

The fare was the band's standard: "Cheer, boys cheer..." "If You Want to Be a Badger..." "On, Wisconsin" a few more times. All of this was punctuated by "Let's go, red!" from the crowd every time the band paused.

The news of Minnesota's defeat at the hands of Providence had been heard. So the band rubbed it in. Leckrone was loving this, hamming it up shamelessly as he orches-

trated the enthusiasm. The band included athletic director Elroy Hirsch. Hirsch returned the salute.

Of course, it came to the magic moment when the band thumped into the Bud Song. Hirsch danced the polka with a cheerleader.

I have seen a lot of pep rallies in my time. Some of my early pep rallies were on the lower campus, where the library now stands, when Hirsch was a football player. But this was the loudest, most boisterous pep rally I have ever seen. When I cover sports, I do not stand aside in a dispassionate manner. I cheer as loudly

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Coach Jeff Sauer expresses himself during the championship game. Center Tim Sager (33) is at left.



Jim Johansson (11) and Dave Maley (20) crawl into the stands to celebrate with Badger fans.

— State Journal photos by Joseph W. Jackson III