

SPORTS

Penn State bounces back against Northwestern

By Tommy Phillips
staff writer

The Penn State Nittany Lions rebounded from their loss to Ohio State with a 33-7 win over the Northwestern Wildcats at Beaver Stadium last Saturday. The Nittany Lions were dominant on defense, allowing only 238 total yards to the Wildcats. Penn State outgained Northwestern by nearly 300 yards, which contributed as to why they were able to win in such a lopsided fashion.

After struggling against Ohio State in the passing game, Penn State quarterback Anthony Morelli turned in a great performance against the Wildcats, throwing for 288 yards with several long completions. Receiver Deon Butler was on the other end of most of those completions, catching 11 passes for a Penn State-record of 216 yards. Butler broke the mark for most receiving yards in a game set by former Penn State receiver O.J. McDuffie in 1992, which was 212 yards.

In the first half, Penn State struggled while inside the Northwestern 20-yard line. Running back Tony Hunt fumbled away the ball on Penn State's first possession. The Nittany Lions held on to the ball on their next three trips deep into Northwestern territory, but they were unable to convert on third down each time, settling for three field goals by kicker Kevin Kelly.

Northwestern scored its only points of the day after a Morelli interception deep in Penn State territory. The Wildcats were able to score a touchdown on a fourth down play from the one-yard line, pulling them within 9-7. However, Hunt scored a 1-yard rushing touchdown for the Nittany Lions, giving them a 16-7 halftime lead.

Penn State pulled away in the second half, with Kelly adding his fourth field goal of the game to make it a 12-point Nittany Lions lead. Hunt then scored two more rushing touchdowns in the third quarter, making the score 33-7 in favor of Penn State. Hunt finished with 137 rushing yards in the game.

Despite an injury to starting left tackle Levi Brown, the Penn State offensive line was able to put up a great performance, not allowing any sacks, while allowing Hunt to rush for three touchdowns. The Penn State offense put up 233 rushing yards on the whole. Although none of the offensive linemen who started against Northwestern had ever started a game before the season, they were still able to prevent the Wildcats from getting enough penetration to produce any sacks.

Penn State improved to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in Big Ten conference play with the win. The Nittany Lions will travel to face the Minnesota Golden Gophers Saturday at noon.

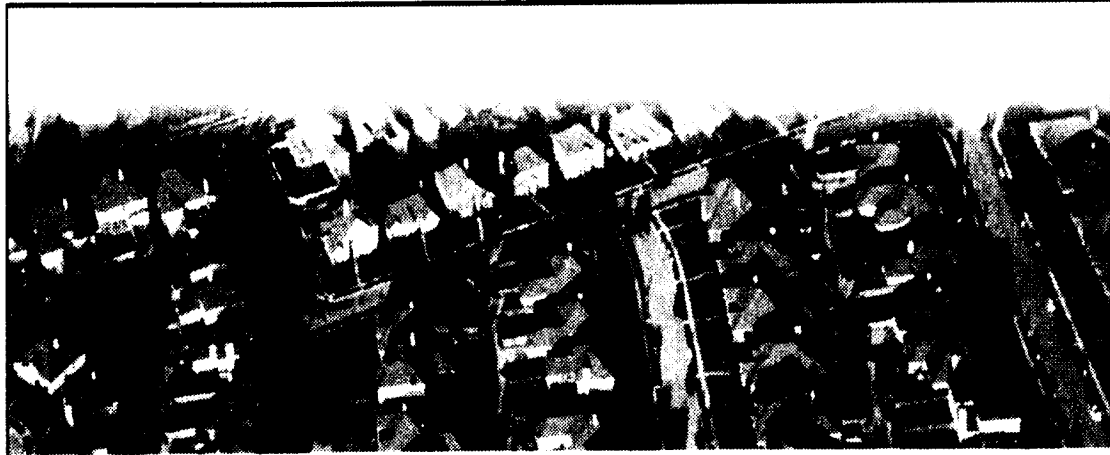


Jennifer Haight/THE BEHREND BEACON

Anthony Morelli lead Penn State to victory over Northwestern on Saturday to improve to 3-2 on the year.

The week ahead in Behrend sports

October 6	October 7	October 8	October 10	October 11
<p>Women's Tennis @ Bryn Mawr 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Women's Volleyball @ Gallaudet Tournament TBA</p>	<p>Cross Country @ Dickinson Invitational 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Women's Tennis @ Elizabethtown 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Women's Soccer vs. Pitt-Greensburg 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Men's Soccer vs. Pitt-Greensburg 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Volleyball @ Gallaudet Tournament TBA</p> <p>Golf @ AMCC Championships @ Lake Erie TBA</p>	<p>Women's Tennis @ Frostburg 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Golf @ AMCC Championships @ Lake Erie TBA</p>	<p>Men's Soccer @ Pitt-Bradford 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Women's Tennis @ Westminster 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Women's Volleyball vs. Fredonia 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Women's Soccer @ Pitt-Bradford 4:00 p.m.</p>



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