

# SPORTS

## Nittany Lions dismantle OSU Offense

By Christine Newby  
sports editor  
cen5056@psu.edu

Arriving in Columbus, Ohio, the number three ranked Penn State Nittany Lions faced the number six ranked Ohio State Buckeyes in a much anticipated and crucial game in the Big Ten Conference last Saturday night. Penn State defeated Ohio State by a score of 13-6.

With the victory, Penn State increased their chance to be in the BCS National Championship game on January 8, 2009.

The matchup proved to be a defensive battle and a low scoring game.

Penn State kicker Kevin Kelly put the Lions up first when he made a 31 yard field goal attempt.

Ohio State answered back with two field goals from kicker Aaron

Pettrey, who completed a 41 yard field goal in the second quarter and a 36 yard field goal in the third quarter.

At the end of the third quarter, the score was 3-6 in favor of the Buckeyes.

Penn State's backup quarterback, Pat Devlin, was called upon in the fourth quarter due to an injury to starting quarterback Daryll Clark.

The fourth quarter was dominated by Penn State as they scored ten points. Devlin led the Lions down the field for two scoring drives.

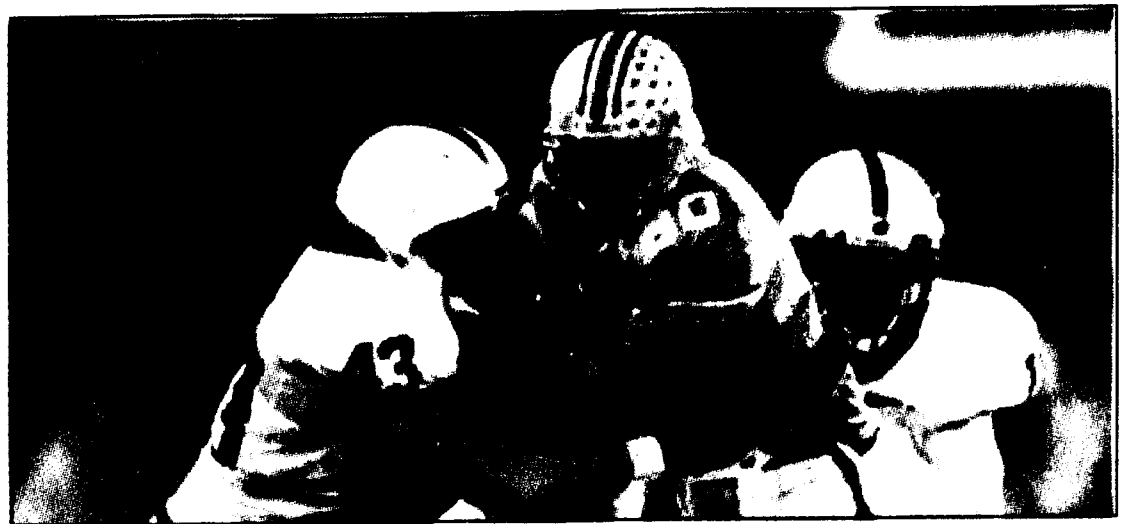
"How many times have I told you Pat Devlin is a heck of a quarterback?" said head coach Joe Paterno, according to ESPN. "We're lucky to have two quarterbacks."

A one-yard touchdown run by Devlin and Kelly's extra point made the game 10-6.

Kelly's 35 yard field goal with 1:07 remaining in the game was the final score making it 13-6.

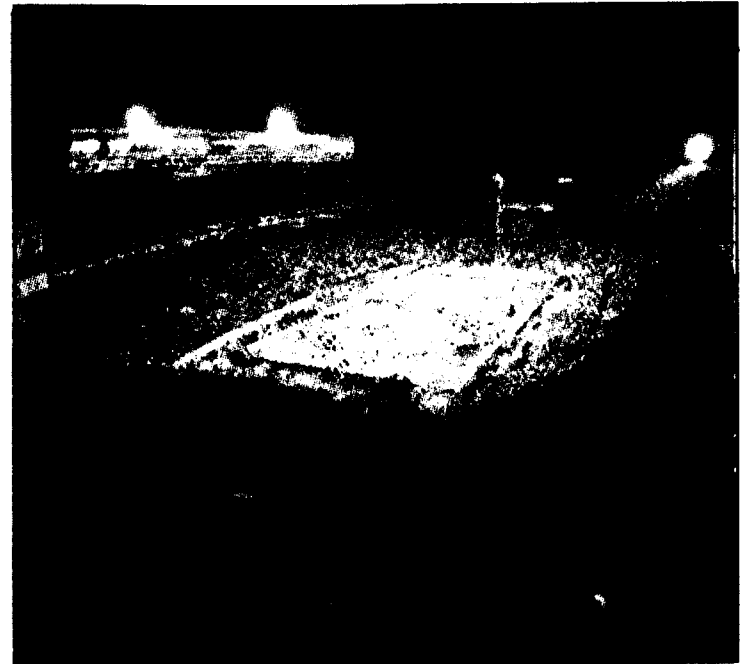
Two key turnovers by the Buckeyes were important to the Lions win.

"One turnover was the ball-game," said Paterno on ESPN's



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Linebacker Josh Hull pairs up with a teammate to bring down Buckeye wide receiver Brian Robiskie



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

(Top) Eager fans look on during pregame festivities at Ohio Stadium  
(Bottom) Evan Royster breaks a tackle during a run against Ohio State

website.

Penn State took advantage of the first turnover by Ohio State quarterback Terrelle Pryor when Devlin added a touchdown.

Early in the fourth quarter, Pryor fumbled the ball when Penn State defensive back Mark Rubin hit the ball out of his hands.

"I just didn't want to let him get the first down," said Rubin, according to ESPN. "I tried to square up and push him back. I'm not going to lie: I just happened to get my hand on the ball and was able to bounce it out."

Penn State linebacker Navorro Bowman recovered the loose ball.

"I was saying we need a turnover, we need a turnover," Bowman said on ESPN.com. "We got one and that's what I believe got us the victory."

Pryor was upset with himself about the turnover.

"I can't explain this," Pryor said, according to ESPN. "I just didn't hold the ball. I saw the end zone. It was there and the ball just fell out. I thought I was on my way to a touchdown but I just lost the ball. As soon as I fumbled it,

I knew they would score."

The second Buckeye turnover came when Pryor threw a long pass into the end zone with seconds left in the game. Penn State cornerback Lydell Sargeant sealed the win with an interception.

"I've never faced adversity like this," said Pryor in an interview with ESPN. "When you turn the ball over twice, it's on you. I gave them the ball and put pressure on the defense again. I feel the loss is on me."

Not only did the Nittany Lions take on the Buckeyes, but also were challenged by the red sea in the Ohio Stadium.

According to ESPN.com, Penn State beat the Buckeyes in Columbus for the first time since joining the Big Ten in 1993.

Before the recent game against the Buckeyes, Penn State was 0-7 in the Horseshoe as their last victory came in 1978.

According to the Penn State University athletic website, the game had the seventh-highest number of viewers ever for an ABC primetime regular season college football telecast.

Data from ESPN said that 7.35

million TV households watched the PSU vs. OSU game. According to ESPN's data, the game drew a larger audience than Game 3 of the World Series, which was seen in 6.99 million TV households.

The Nittany Lions are 9-0 overall and first in Big Ten Conference with a record of 5-0.

With just three games left in the regular season, Penn State needs to stay undefeated if they want any shot at the National Championship.

Their next game is Nov. 8 at Iowa.

The Nittany Lions finish off the season at Beaver Stadium against Indiana on Nov. 15 and Michigan State on Nov. 22.

**Next game:**  
**Nov. 8**  
#3 Penn State @ Iowa  
8:30 p.m. on ABC

## Enterprise Rent-A-Car Athlete of the Week: Carissa Johnston

By Nick Blake  
sports editor  
npb5041@psu.edu

This week's ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR Athlete of the Week is junior Carissa Johnston. Johnston is an outside hitter for the Lions and has played a huge role in two games against

Medaille and Mt. Aloysius this past week.

Johnston was born in Pittsburgh, but moved to Cambridge Springs, Pa when she was six.

She wasn't a volleyball player her entire life. "I started playing when I was in seventh grade," said Johnston.

She didn't even think that she would

play volleyball after high school. "I didn't expect to play in college. One day the Behrend coach contacted me and asked me to play," said Johnston.

However, playing volleyball wasn't the only reason that she came to Behrend. It was for the education as well.

Johnston is a General Arts and Sciences major, she is in the "4+1" program. This program allows students to get their degree from Behrend, then go to another school and continue education without losing their Behrend degree.

"I knew some people who were in the 4+1 program, so I knew that I could get a good education," said Johnston. "After I'm done here [at Behrend], I'll go to Mercyhurst for two more years."

Johnston recalled her first two years as a member of the volleyball team. "It was a different atmosphere my freshman year," said Johnston. "We were kind of just thrown in and we ran with it."

After losing a number of upper classmen, her sophomore year was one where she became a leader.

"We lost a lot of our leaders, and even though I was still learning, I had to teach the freshmen that were coming in," said Johnston.



**Carissa Johnston**  
**Volleyball**  
**Junior**

**"We know we can beat anyone."**

- Carissa Johnston, Junior

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Johnston's favorite experience of this season, so far, was the win against Frostburg. "The thrill of beating Frostburg was great," said Johnston. "We just stuck to our game plan and I can remember scoring the final point and how exciting it was," she continued.

After Johnston is done with her education, she will continue playing volleyball.

"I'll always be playing," said Johnston. "Someday I want to be a coach."

The Lions clinched the regular season title on Wednesday night against Pitt-Bradford. With one more regular season game left on Saturday, the Lions are getting ready for the postseason.

"We take everything one game at a time," said Johnston. "Every practice is a focus for the next game," she continued.

Johnston knows that the Lions can't take any team lightly.

"We know that we can beat anyone, but if we don't play to a high enough level, anyone can beat us."