

NCAA FOOTBALL

PSU football: quarterback questions still linger for Paterno

continued from front page.

quarterbacking options. True freshman Paul Jones, once regarded as one of Penn State's "future" projects for quarterback, is also in the mix, though many expect him to redshirt his freshman year.

Finally, former walk-on Matt McGloin rounds out the four-headed beast that is the Penn State quarterback crisis, though he faces long odds in winning the starting gig.

Another problem that arose for JoePa and his team was forcing to red shirt running back Brandon Beachum after he tore the ACL in his right knee last November. Fortunately he



Four big names for Penn State: (left to right) Penn State Quarterbacks Robert Bolden, Paul Jones, Matt McGloin, and Kevin Newsome.

will still have two years of eligibility left after the season, and senior running back Stephon Green will be forced to pick up the slack.

However, one big setback is still the offensive line for

the Lions. It is extremely difficult to judge any quarterback if they get no protection from the line, part of the reason the QB decision is such a hard one to make. And also the running game

will go no-where without any push from the young O-line.

Special teams were under a lot of scrutiny after the two disappointing losses last year to Iowa and Ohio State,

specifically in returning punts and kick-offs. A few talented sophomores have come out of the woodwork though and show some promise for the problem.

Wide receiver Justin

Brown had the most success from last season in his limited opportunities, but all eyes are on the 5'7" 160 lbs.

Devon Smith who is being regarded as one of the fastest players in the sport. Durability issues are always a concern for someone so small, but more times than not, quickness and smarts will outdo most linebackers in the open field.

With a few things going their way, and a little bit of luck in problematic areas, the Penn State Nittany Lions could make for a promising season. Penn State always attracts a certain level of attention. They could certainly turn some heads by defeating #1 Alabama early on in the season.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Basketball athletes: Unity after Brazil trip

"When you put all that together the kids really gain an appreciation for the beauty of Brazil and the different cultures."

Dave Niland
Head coach

continued from front page.

tremendous place in a lot of different ways."

Not only did the team help the local children with their English, but the players and coaches also held a clinic introducing the children to their drills and workouts. The challenge of not speaking the

same language did not discourage them from doing a great job.

"That to me was the most significant part of the trip in a lot of ways because we were able to interact a lot and see some things that you just don't see in this country," said Niland.

Though the team didn't

want to leave, they came home with a better understanding of the country and its culture.

"Overall it was the perfect trip, we not only got better as a basketball team but we became closer friends and better people," said sophomore Adam Palcic.



Adam Palcic, contributed photo

The men's basketball team were amazed by the beauty of Brazil and were able to travel around the countryside.

MEN'S SOCCER

Chance of a lifetime: players get perspective

"Clinics were great, I definitely feel like we had a positive impact on the kids. It's weird to think, but they don't see Americans that often."

Zach Herd
Senior defenseman

continued from front page.

often. Hanging out and kicking the ball around with the kids was awesome. At all the clinics the kids hung around after and watched our games. They would surround our bench, watch our every action, and ask us for everything we had. It didn't matter if it was our dirty socks or a new soccer ball, they would take anything you gave them." The team was able to

grow closer after spending such an amazing trip together, and that chemistry will help them on the field as the men look to win the AMCC this year.

With such a strong returning team, and a great group of freshmen, the men will only look to improve off of the success they achieved last year.

After winning the ECAC, the men have their goals set to go on to the NCAA tournament.

The Lions finished with

a mark of 18-5-2, setting a school record for wins. After being ranked number one in the preseason polls, all of the Behrend men realize that the unity gained on this trip can help them win.

"Our team is definitely closer after spending tens of days together in Brazil," said Herd. "Memories we made together this summer will never be forgotten and will be a common bond we can share for the rest of our lives."

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