

Big Ten: Lions need to push to get into decent bowl game

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To his credit he has put a number of passes right on his receivers, but many have been dropped. Look for Kevin New-some the true sophomore to get a start if Bolden stumbles again against Minnesota.

Quarterback rating: B-

This was supposed to be the year of Evan Royster. He was supposed to easily pass Kurt Warner as the all-time leading rusher in the first three games, and continue onto a great senior campaign. Well, six games are in the books and Royster is still over 100 yards short of Warner's rushing record. Not only has he struggled to put up the productivity he is being outperformed by the underclassmen Stephfon Green and true freshman Silas Redd. As a unit, the trio is responsible for only two touchdowns of the four rushing touchdowns on the season.

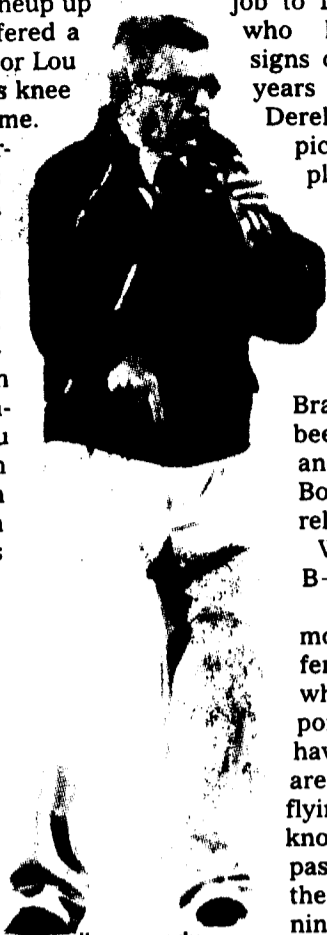
Running backs: C

Then there was the biggest question mark going into this year, the offensive line. To this

week, there still hasn't been the same starting lineup up front. The line suffered a big blow when senior Lou Eliades blew out his knee in the Temple game. The biggest embarrassment was watching Adrian Clayborn and the Iowa defense absolutely manhandle them in Iowa City. They have struggled all year to open up holes for the running backs. You have to give them some credit; Bolden has only been sacked 6 times this year.

Offensive line: C

Then comes what was supposed to be the staple of the offense. The receiving core had the whole unit returning and was going to put up big numbers with Bolden at quarterback. Well,



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senior Graham Zug lost his job to Devon Smith, who has showed signs of promise in years to come.

Derek Moyer has picked up his play after a slow start and has showed he can be a reliable receiver. Brett Brackett has been a surprise and may just be Bolden's most reliable target.

Wide receivers: B+

Well now move to the defensive, and what a disappointment they have been. Gone are the days of flying around knocking down passes and laying the wood to running backs. Despite only allowing

18.5 points a game and a ton of injuries resulting the Lions defense has played exceptionally well.

The defensive line was full of pre-season Big Ten players to watch. Besides the play of Ollie Ogbu, there has been no push into the opposing teams backfield. Jack Crawford was quiet all year and is now out indefinitely with a foot injury. They also lost another defensive end; Eric Latimore is out indefinitely, also, with a wrist injury. This line is young and hopefully can improve and finish Big Ten play on the right note.

Defensive Line: C

Well for one thing this year's team doesn't live up to the saying of, "Linebacker U." In the week leading up to Iowa, it looked like Tom Bradley had finally found the linebacker core he has been searching for.

This consisted of Nathan Stupar, Chris Colasanti and Khairi Fortt. Then came injuries and the line backing depth chart was depleted. On the depth chart of this week there are four of eight healthy.

The linebackers have struggled in pass coverage all year and have been dominated in the run game.

Linebackers: B-

Then comes the third and final part of the defense- the secondary. After a slow start, the secondary starting intercepted passes like it was nothing. They too are being setback by injury and suspension. They lost promising freshman, Derrick Thomas, to suspension and have played average.

The safeties have been hit the biggest by injury. This week the team announced Nick Sukay would miss the remainder of the season after tearing a pectoral muscle against Illinois. Drew Astorino is about 75 percent and is as healthy as he wanted to be after having shoulder surgery. Andrew Dailey, who was filling in for Astorino, got knocked out of last weeks game with a shoulder injury.

The secondary is now down to redshirt freshman Malcom Willis and Stephen Obeng-Agyapong. Neither one has ever started a collegiate game.

Secondary: B

The special team won the game against Temple in week four and has been reliable for Joe Paterno all year. Collin Wagner is 13 of 15 on the year and a perfect 9 of 9 on extra points.

He is on the Lou Groza watch list for best kicker in the country. Anthony Fera has picked up his punting productivity and has been able to pin opponents deep in their own territory. The kickoff and punt coverage's have forced turnovers, but the offense just cannot cash in.

Special Team: A

With games against #10 Ohio State, Michigan, #17 Michigan State and an Indiana team that is playing well right now, the Lions are looking at a 4-6 season.

The Lions haven't seen that record since the early 2000's. Well, it will be an interesting finish to see if the Lions will make a bowl game appearance. The last time Penn State didn't make a bowl game was 2004 when they went 4-7.

Team: season ends early for Lions in tight tournament

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tournament, I thought we had the best team," said sophomore Zach Polanski. "I still feel we have the best team; we just weren't our best on those two days."

All three players agreed on the fact that the mistakes made could have been minimized. They said that things just were not going their way.

"If we could've practiced more, we would

have had a better chance at winning," Bowen said. "These kids are dedicated to their work and don't miss classes for practice or matches. We had a good season overall. We won three tournaments, and I am proud of them for this team with the limited amount of practice that we had."

Neiswonger is also very proud of the team even though they didn't win.

"We still have a great future ahead for this program and I am sure this team will get another AMCC title soon."

Dunleavy: sparks water polo team to fourth win

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collected 29 saves, two field blocks, ten steals and two goals

"I've gotten a better awareness of what's going," Dunleavy said. "I've learned how the game unfolds."

Dunleavy has noticed significant improvement in his team. He believes the number one most improved factor in his team is the team's unity.

"The team got close and we're better friends," said Dunleavy. "Having more trust in each other helps during the games."

Dunleavy is confident with himself and his team. He knows the potential they have and is eager for the remainder of the season.

Dunleavy also swims for the Behrend swim team during their respective season, and he was part of their AMCC winning team last season.

"We're getting better and we'll keep getting better in the rest of the season," Dunleavy said.

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