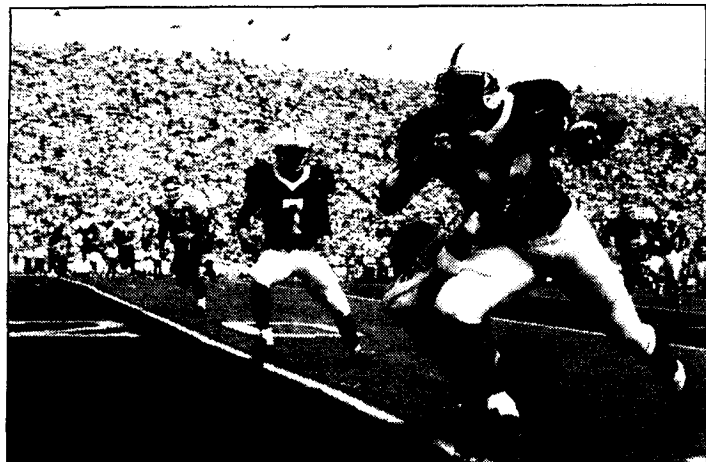
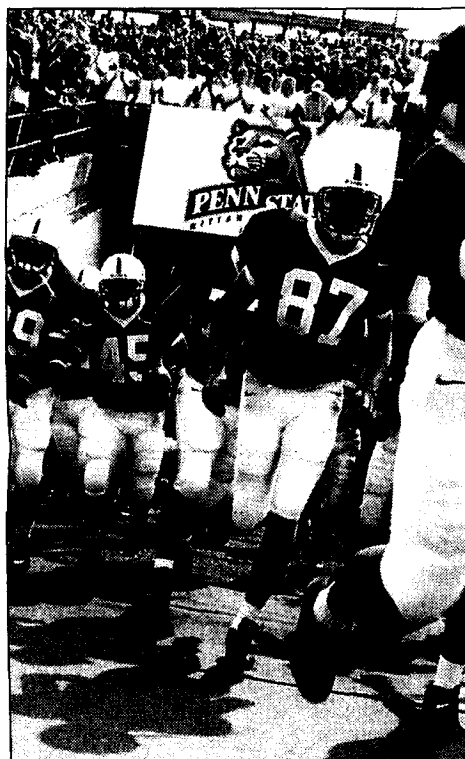
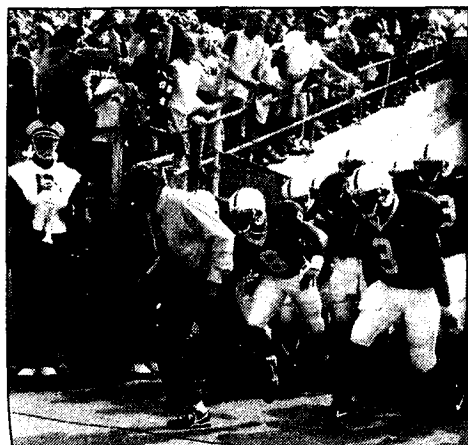


# Life in the Promised Land?



Capital Times Sports Writer Eddie Capozzi fulfills his childhood fantasy and photographs the famous Penn State Nittany Lions from the sidelines during the Louisiana Tech home game on Sept. 9.



**By Edward Capozzi**  
*Capital Times Sports Writer*

As a boy growing up in New York, I was in awe of Penn State football. I remember sitting on my parents couch watching Penn State trample everyone. I saw John Cappelletti win the Heisman; I saw the Lions win the National Championship in 1982. I even worked with Todd Blackledge on ABC's *College Football Today*, and he was a great guy. I saw Kerry Collins go on to the NFL and become great.

Now, I come to Penn State as a student and the Lions are terrible. What happened? Am I bad luck? Or are they just that . . . terrible. I can understand Penn State losing to USC; USC has a good team. But Toledo and Pitt? I don't think so. They used to kill those guys. Thank God they beat Louisiana Tech. I hope that doesn't become the high point of the season.

This week Penn State takes on

unbeaten Ohio State. If they lose and go 1-4, their season is history.

As a matter of fact, this could be their worst season in history under Joe Paterno. They started terribly in 1976, but had an easier schedule and managed a 7-5 season. In 1988, Paterno had his only losing season at 5-6. The Lions could be well on their way to surpassing that record by the end of the Ohio State game. And it gets worse. They still have to play unbeaten Michigan State and Illinois, not to mention Purdue and Michigan. Their only hope may be against the winless Hawkeyes of Iowa.

But who knows, I'm going to support Joe and the boys and maybe they'll turn this thing around. At least I got to see them destroy Louisiana Tech. Believe me, it's more fun going to the game when they win. Hopefully, I'll get to see another winning game before the year is out.

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