

# IOWA: First loss of season for Nittany Lions; Paterno remains hopeful

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two seasons of mediocrity after finishing No. 8 in the country three years in a row.

The Hawkeyes had lost four games this season by a total of 12 points — and they got beat last week by Illinois on a 46-yard field goal with 24 seconds left.

“We knew we had enough to win,” Iowa linebacker A.J. Edds. “But there weren’t a whole lot of people on the outside that thought we were the kind of team we know we are. We showed that today.”

Clark was 9-of-23 for 86 yards and Derrick Williams and Evan

Royster each ran for touchdowns to lead Penn State (9-1, 5-1), which had to settle for Kevin Kelly’s field goals on three different trips inside Iowa’s 20.

On a day where the wind chill dipped into the 20s, Penn State held the ball for nearly 36 minutes and ran almost twice as much as they threw it.

It worked for the first three quarters.

Penn State’s Tyrell Sales picked off Stanzi on the opening drive of the third quarter, and Kelly’s 25-yard field goal put the Nittany Lions ahead 16-7.

Iowa’s offense finally woke up, reeling-off a 73-yard drive that Stanzi capped by finding a wide-open Johnson-Koulianos

for a 27-yard touchdown pass to pull the Hawkeyes within 16-14 with 4:43 left in the third.

But Stanzi fumbled away the ball and Iowa’s momentum just two minutes later, giving Penn State the ball deep in Iowa territory after botching the snap. The Nittany Lions wasted little time turning Stanzi’s mistake into points, as Williams’ 9-yard touchdown run put Penn State back up 23-14 heading into the fourth.

Penn State held the ball for an astounding 23:34 and outgained Iowa 203-70 in the first half. But the Hawkeyes forced a pair of red-zone field goals, keeping Penn State’s lead at 13-7.

After falling behind 7-0 early

in the first quarter, the Nittany Lions put together scoring drives of 71, 75 and 78 yards — all powered by the running game. They had to settle for 24-yard field goal by Kelly on the first one, but Royster ran for a 2-yard score to give Penn State a 10-7 lead early in the second quarter.

Kelly drilled a 31-yarder into the with 55 seconds left in the first half.

Iowa forced Clark to fumble on the game’s opening drive, but the officials said he got it back at the Penn State 1. The Hawkeyes thought they had recovered the ball in the end zone, but they had to settle for a Nittany Lions punt and a short field.

Greene — with Iowa’s student section decked out in green shirts in honor of the nation’s third-leading rusher — made Penn State pay just two plays later, scoring on a 14-yard touchdown run that put Iowa ahead 7-0.

The Nittany Lions were shooting for their first 10-0 start since 1994 — incidentally, the last time Penn State went undefeated but didn’t win it all — but with home games against Indiana and Michigan State left, a Big Ten title is still Penn State’s to lose.

“Their balloon still isn’t busted,” Paterno said. “If we win the next two we’ll have an opportunity to go to a big bowl.”

# INDIANA: Win ties PSU with Michigan State for Big Ten first place

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Photo by MARK SELDERS/ Gopsusports.cstv.com

Deon Butler carries for a touchdown.

with 8:20 left in the third quarter before Clark hit Deon Butler on a slant from 6 yards out to push Penn State ahead 27-7 about five minutes later.

Bundled up in ponchos and slickers under a cold, off-and-on rain, the relatively subdued Penn State faithful could finally breathe a sigh of relief.

“I felt like in the second half they were coming with more pressure, they seemed like they had more enthusiasm,” said tailback Marcus Thigpen, who led Indiana with 72 yards on eight carries, including a 57-yard touchdown.

Linebacker Josh Hull led the way in an all-around effort with seven tackles and a sack, while defensive end Aaron Maybin added to his Big Ten lead with his 12th sack of the season.

“Honestly, I think it was Penn State’s game,” Indiana coach Bill

Lynch said when asked about his squad’s season-long struggles in the second half. “I think they’re a great defensive team.”

Indiana also had injury woes, missing three starters in the secondary. Hampered throughout the season by a sore ankle, quarterback Kellen Lewis struggled under withering Penn State pressure and finished 9-of-21 passing for just 57 yards and an interception.

Williams had a 39-yard touchdown catch over the middle to give Penn State a 7-0 lead, and he added a 36-yard scoring run on an end-around in the fourth quarter. The senior captain finished with 62 yards on four receptions, and 61 yards rushing on four carries.

Yet the Hoosiers still had designs on an upset after hanging tough through the soggy first half.

Thigpen bounced out from a crowd on a run up the middle and found two blockers around the edge to escort him untouched down the sideline for his long TD run that silenced the crowd and evened the score at 7-7.

But the second half has been a problem all year for the Hoosiers, who came into the game being outscored 163-68 after halftime, and Saturday was no different.

Butler finished with 56 yards on five catches. He broke the school’s career reception record of 167, previously held by Bobby Engram.

The win drew Penn State even with Michigan State for first place in the Big Ten. The Spartans were idle on Saturday.

# JoePa says he may need hip replacement surgery

By GENARO C. ARMAS  
AP SPORTS WRITER

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Penn State coach Joe Paterno may have hip replacement surgery following the regular season.

After the 34-7 win Saturday over Indiana, the 81-year-old coach said he would not be on the sidelines for next week’s season finale against No. 15 Michigan State. The No. 7 Nittany Lions can go to the Rose Bowl if they

beat the Spartans.

“I’m probably going to have to get something done with this thing as soon as the Michigan State game is over, the next day probably,” Paterno said. “I’m probably going to get a hip replacement or something like that, I don’t know.”

Paterno’s contract runs out this season, and he and university president Graham Spanier have tabled talks about his future until after the season ends.

They also have said a man who has had his job a record 43 years doesn’t need something in writing to stay on the job.

Paterno brushed off a question that the next game might be his final one at Beaver Stadium.

“No, haven’t even thought about it,” Paterno said to a few laughs before hobbling away.

Paterno got hurt in August, two days before the season started after trying to demonstrate an onside kick in a typical end-of-

the-week practice ritual.

He hasn’t been on the sideline since the Sept. 27 home win over Illinois. JoePa monitors practice from a golf cart and uses a cane to get around the stadium.

Defensive coordinator Tom Bradley said his boss never brings up the injury.

“We all worry about coach, but he gets mad at you if you worry,” Bradley said. “He wants you to stay focused on what you have to get done.”