

Nittany Lions 7-4 record is impressive; they face Notre Dame November 17

by Anthony Hahn

With the college football season already half over, Joe Paterno and The Nittany Lions have sanded down the rough edges and look like a team with potential and a good chance to finish the season with a winning record.

Throughout the season, the offense has done an excellent job of putting points on the board. This was evident in the Lions' second and third wins against Temple and Syracuse.

Tony Sacca, the Lions' quarterback, has effectively moved the ball via the passing attack, while Leroy Thompson and Gary Brown have continuously

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hot-tempered hood who refuses to take any bull and prefers to speak through violent actions.

DeNiro, as always, gives a spectacular performance. His character is kind of a "father figure" to Henry and professes that loyalty is a main function in the mob. He shows this in a number of scenes, displaying grace and style. DeNiro always seems to be at home in a Scorsese film.

The movie spans three decades, in which Henry becomes involved with drugs, adultery, murder, and, in the end, betrayal to save himself.

A large part of the credit belongs to Scorsese and his flawless direction. I can't think of another director who can put such passion and excitement on the screen. Scorsese likes to keep the camera moving, especially around violent circumstances.

On a morbid note, Scorsese has a knack for showing blood exploding out of people's heads. He makes the flow poetry in motion. As a matter of fact, I think the whole movie is poetic; a masterpiece.

found gaping holes in defenses to run through. Against Rutgers, Thompson scored four touchdowns to lead his team to a 28-0 victory.

Although the Lion defense kept the first two games close against the Texas Longhorns and the USC Trojans, misfortune took away two victories. Since then, however, the gridgers have kept their poise on the field and have won over impressive teams.

Gary Brown, who spends some time in the backfield running the ball, is an even larger threat when he is returning kicks. Along with his speed, Brown has displayed a fancy running style that causes many defenders to miss him, allowing Brown to pick up huge chunks of yardage when it looks as though he will be tackled.

Thompson, Penn State's running back, is another major weapon in the offense scheme. Thompson demonstrates his talent by running from the backfield. Using speed along with his ability to break out of a defender's grasp, Thompson is an important ingredient in a Lion victory.

Just as the offense is able to put points on the board, the defense has stopped the opposition from doing the same. On a number of occasions, big plays from the defense have stopped scoring drives and have caused offense miscues.

Possibly the biggest game of the season will occur on November 17 as the Lions face the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame in an away match. In order to win, the offense must have a big game. The defense must help the offense get more opportunities to score by coming up with turnovers.

Looking ahead to another important game, Penn State will be playing the University of Pittsburgh over Thanksgiving break in a home game. If the two teams continue to play at the levels they are at now, I predict that fans will most likely see Penn State winning the game by at least one touchdown.

When examining the season as a whole, the Lions look like a team that is capable of victory. If they continue to play consistently, a winning record is inevitable. As of now, Penn State looks to be headed toward a 7-4 season.

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