### The Lion's Eye

December 10, 2008

### Eye Sports o n

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Next up for the Lions was a game in Wisconsin against the Badgers.

With the Lions playing the Wisconsin Badgers in the 7th week of the 12 week season, the Lions looked to move up more in the BCS standings. The Lions placed some worry on the Badgers, even though Clark threw another INT (interception). The game was pretty much over by the end of the 3rd quarter with the Lions leading 41-7. The Lions went on to win this game by a final score of 48-7. This win kept Paterno a game ahead of Bowden for the 3rd straight week.

The following week's game was big. This game was deemed the Homecoming game for the Penn State students. This game was against rival, the Michigan Wolverines. The Wolverines were not the team that they once were; they had lost the opening game to Appalachian State the year before and lost the opening game this season. The Wolverines turned out not to be a challenge for this powerhouse Penn State team. Joe Pa had suffered an injury to his hip and was coaching the players and coaches on the field from a sky box high above the field. The Michigan game saw more of the same from Clark and Royster, who had become dorm room names on campus and were dominant in most of the game thus far. The Lions dropped the Wolverines on death row, winning the game 46-17, and improving to 8-0 on the season, but left the Lions still in 3rd place. This win gave Paterno some breathing room in the winning fight. He was now two games up on Bowden because of the lost that the Seminoles acquired that week. Next week was a major test, the # 9 Ohio State Buckeyes.

The Lions traveled to the Horseshoe, the stadium that the Buckeyes play in, and played a pretty decent game against the Buckeyes. The Buckeyes were able to ground the Lions and keep them within striking distance of blemishing the Lions 8-0 record, but that was not to be the case. The game at the Horseshoe ended in a close one. The Lions squeaked out a victory in the end by a touchdown, 13-6. The Lions did not move in the standings for a second week in a row, and Paterno kept

that two game lead on Bowden. The team had off for the next week.

Following the bye week, the Lions headed to Iowa to play the Hawkeyes. This game was a disaster if any Penn State fan ever saw one. This game was well in hand for the Lions but they let it slip away. The Hawkeyes were able to do what the Buckeyes were not, and that was blemishing the Lions record. The final of the heartbreaker was 24-23 in favor of Iowa. The Lions knew that they needed to win that game and was unable to do it. They fell to 9-1 on the season, and they fell from 3rd to 8th in the standings. The team was now in contention to play in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena on January 1st, 2009.

Following the heartbreaker in Iowa, the Lions came home for their last two games of the season, first against Indiana and then the "seniors" game against Michigan State.

First was the Indiana game. The Lions came out of the heartless loss to the Hawkeyes with a mission, and that was to win their final two games. The Lions faced the Hoosiers from Indiana after the loss to Iowa, and destroyed the Hoosiers like that had been doing to teams all season long. The Lions were able to play their type of game and run the ball up and down the field as they pleased. The final of Indiana game was 34-7. The Lions were still in 8th place in the standings and Paterno was now two games ahead of Bowden.

The final game of the season was a home game against the Michigan State Spartans. All the seniors were to play in this game, as it was their last game at home in Beaver Stadium. The team won in 2008 Penn State fashion, 49-18, and went into the Thanksgiving break 11-1. The win solidified Paterno as the winningest coach, as after the final game of the season; he had a 3 game lead over Bowden.

The Penn State Nittany Lions are on their way to the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. Even though it would be nice to see them play for the championship, a Rose Bowl win is just as good. So root for those Lions over the Christmas break, on January 1, 2009.

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## 4:30 PM Lion's Den Commons Bldg. WE ARE PENN STATE!

CONTACT KARRIE BOWEN FOR MORE INFORMATION!