

Eye on Sports

Penn State Football: A Midseason Summary

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Daryll Clark (left) and Joe Paterno (right) look to lead the Nittany Lions to a victory this Saturday against Minnesota. (Photos Courtesy of lloydvance.wordpress.com and examiner.com)

In early September, the Penn State Nittany Lions were itching to start the season with many new players and a new hope of a National Championship.

They started their season against the Akron Zips. Joe Paterno and the Nittany Lion's came out of the tunnel and onto the field hungry for their first victory. The Lions broke the game open in the first quarter of the game with a 14-0 score. The first touchdown of the new season was by halfback Evan Royster, who scampered into the end zone on a five yard run. By halftime, the Lions had gained control of the game with a 31-0 lead. The Akron Zips scored in the third quarter which led to a final score of 31-7.

The second game was against the Syracuse Orange. The Lions were ranked seventh in the country and were looking to continue their success. In the opening quarter against, Even Royster was able to break free for a 49 yard pass from Daryll Clark to place the Lions on top. In the second half, Clark was able to connect for 2 scores, one to Graham Zug for 20 yards, and one to Mickey Shuler for 1 yard. Penn State defeated Syracuse 28-7.

The third game of the Lion's season featured the Temple Owls. In the game, the Lions dominated for the third week in a row. Clark threw an early touchdown pass to Shuler for one yard. In the second quarter, Royster continued his impressive early season by scoring from seven yards out, putting the Lions up 14-3. Clark connected with Derek Moye to make it a 21-3 game at half. Joe Paterno's Lions completed another dominate second half and the final was 31-6. The Lions had made it to #5 in the BCS AP Poll after this win.

Game four was against the Iowa Hawkeyes, was one full of vengeance. Last year, the Hawkeyes crushed the Lions' hopes of a National title with a late field goal to win by one point. Heading into the game, the Lions were as psyched as the fans were for revenge. The entire stadium wore their "White Out" t-shirts as they celebrated the "All U" game in Happy Valley. The opening play for the Lions offense resulted in a touchdown pass from Clark to Chaz Powell. However, this turned out to be the only touchdown of the first half. The Lions added a field goal by Collin Wagner in the final seconds of the first

quarter. In the second quarter, the Hawkeyes crept closer, scoring a safety, and a field goal. The fourth quarter was owned by Iowa. The Hawkeyes blocked a punt and returned it for a touchdown, giving them the lead, 11-10. The Hawkeyes would later add to their lead with a touchdown and a last second field to win the game, 21-10.

The Nittany Lion's bounced back the following week with a road game against Illinois. The Lion's scored in the second half on a 52 yard run by Stephfon Green. Going into the third quarter, the score was 7-3. Illinois held the game close until the fourth quarter, where the Nittany Lions scored 21 points to win the game 35-7.

This past Saturday, Penn State played their sixth game of the season against Eastern Illinois in Happy Valley. The Blue and White were dominate throughout the entire game. Scoring 28 points in the second quarter, Penn State went on to defeat Eastern Illinois 52-3 and improve their season record to 5-1.

The Penn State Nittany Lions continues their season this Saturday against Minnesota.

Kicking the Season into Gear

By Christopher McSweeney - *Lion's Eye Staff Writer* - cem5053@psu.edu

Previously, Lion's Eye discussed how the Penn State Brandywine soccer team was working towards a goal. The results from the past few weeks have proved that each player believed in each other and the coaching style. The soccer team has recently won its last three games.

First, on September 26th, the team defeated Penn State Scranton, 3-1. This marked the first win of the season for Penn State Brandywine and a start of an impressive winning streak. Next, the team beat Penn State Wilkes Barre on October 3rd. The most recent victory came last Thursday with a shutout win over Penn State Schuylkill. These three victories are evidence that the team is switching it into gear and looking to finish their season strong. This also creates a sense of promise for the upcoming years of the soccer program.

The team has three games left to continue their win streak and keep alive the momentum they have built up over the course of the season. The first win was one that was long awaited and when asked about it, sophomore player, Andy McSweeney, stated, "It felt good, it was what we wanted all year, and we deserved it. We have worked hard and we want it to continue for the rest of the year." Andy is one player that has stood out this year. Heading into Thursday's match, Andy had scored four of the team's ten goals on the season, including two goals in a recent victory of Penn State Wilkes Barre. Other significant contributions have come from Justin Cattin and Ryan Collins.

There is just one home games left and one opportunity to see the Penn State Brandywine soccer team in action. The final home game of the season is Wednesday, October 14th at 4pm against Penn State Hazleton. The Lions also play Penn State Schuylkill and Valley Forge community college.

All of these games are very important and will play a great role in how the season plays out for the Lions. They are looking to finish strong but also looking to position themselves for a spot in the PSUAC playoffs. The top six teams from the Penn State athletic conference (PSUAC) make it to the playoffs and for a chance to play at main campus.

Support your Lions as they make a final push for a playoff spot!

Men and Women's basketball tryouts will be held on Thursday, October 15: Men 5 - 7 PM; women 7-9 PM.

-Walk-ons are accepted.

-Anyone interested must download and complete the three forms located on the athletics website:

<http://www.bw.psu.edu/StudentLife/Athletics/30700.htm?cn25>

-Everyone trying out for the team must have a physical prior to the session; physicals given in the last year are valid. School physicals are available Monday, 10/12 starting at 6 PM. Women 6 PM to 6:30 PM; Men 6:30 to 7:30.

-Please contact the appropriate coach if you plan to attend.

Coach Ross, Men's Basketball: sdr16@psu.edu

Coach Johnson, Women's Coach: lcj12@psu.edu

Courtesy of Coach Jim Gastner, Athletic Director

The Phillies' Three-Peat

By Karlo Radolovic - *Lion's Eye Staff Writer* - kar5165@psu.edu

The Philadelphia Phillies clinched the NL East for the third straight year, giving them an opportunity at repeating the World Series Championship. Similar to two years ago, the Phillies will be playing the National League wildcard team, the Colorado Rockies.

When these two teams met last in the playoffs, the Rockies embarrassed the Phils by winning all three games, sweeping the series. One would expect an exciting series as the 2008 World Series Champion Phillies will be looking for revenge as a part of another extended playoff run. With the taste of the success from a year ago still in their mouths, the Phillies are trying to earn another parade down Broad Street.

During the regular season, the Philadelphia Phillies had a lot of success from their key players. Ryan Howard led the team in runs batted in, 141, and also homeruns, 45. Newcomer, Raul Ibanez, made his name famous within the Philly crowds, while batting .272 with 34 homeruns.

However, the offense was not the only reason the Phils achieved a "three-peat." Down the stretch of the season, the Phillies' pitching rotation was one of the best in the league. The rotation, consisting of J.A. Happ, Cliff Lee, Pedro Martinez, Cole Hamels, and Joe Blanton, did their part in keeping the Phillies on their winning ways.

All the talk has been about the Brad Lidge and his situation this season. In the regular season, Lidge blew eleven save opportunities. However, "Lights Out" is looking forward to a fresh start in the postseason so expect to see him remain as the closer during the playoffs.



The Philadelphia Phillies celebrate after winning the National League East for the third consecutive year. (Photo Courtesy of zozone.mblogs.com)