

## Lions

Continued from page 15.  
 "It's tough to tell on film," Paterno said. "They're obviously very quick. Whether they're quicker than Oklahoma or some other people, I have no way of knowing. In all the films I've looked at, they've been on Astroturf. All the films I've looked at have been in color. There's a tendency to be a little quicker on Astroturf and look a little quicker in color."

Being a black and white kinda team that plays on nonplastic grass, Penn State could come out of this game with a real team-speed problem to go with its plain brown image.  
 So since it had to be done, Alabama was made the favorite by six points. Meanwhile, the official AP prediction is calling for a 24-17 Alabama victory.  
 Maybe it's because Paterno has insisted that the Lions' passing

game was going to have to be on target for them to have a shot at the Tide. Against Syracuse it managed only 88 yards. Then again, it only attempted 15 passes.  
 After breathing the same air as Miami's Vinny Testaverde and other Heisman Trophy hopefuls, Penn State quarterback John Shaffer has come down to earth, statistically speaking.  
 Fortunately for the Lions, what's been lost in the air has been made up on the ground with the powerful running of fullbacks Tim Manna and Steve Smith. Manna has averaged 6.9 yards per carry, while Smith is the team's fourth leading rusher as well as its third leading receiver. Tailback D.J. Dozier, the team's leading rusher with 420 yards has yet to run for 100 yards in a game, but his third-string backup has, as Blair Thomas ran for 132 in just three carries last week.

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Other miscellaneous factors: Penn State's kicking game has been in a season-long rut as Massimo Manca has hit on only three of nine field goal attempts while the Tide's Van Tiffin has been nearly perfect hitting on nine of 10.  
 The Lions have never beaten Alabama in the Tide's home state in Penn State's history. As a matter of fact, nobody's beaten Alabama at Bryant-Denny Stadium since Vanderbilt did it Sept. 29, 1984.  
 Penn State hasn't even played on the road since Boston College Sept. 20. Just to be safe, the Lions are preparing for both the Tide and the crowd.

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## Series

Continued from Page 15  
 Perkins at the helm, Alabama returned to Happy Valley, this time undefeated and No. 3 in the country. The Lions, meanwhile, were struggling with a 2-3 record, but were riding a two-game winning streak.  
 Penn State roared out of the starting gates, and thanks to quarterback Doug Strang (three touchdown passes) and then freshman D.J. Dozier (163 yards rushing), the Lions led 34-7 going into fourth quarter.  
 But the Tide put on a furious comeback, scoring three fourth-quarter touchdowns to narrow the score to 34-28. A blocked field goal gave Alabama the ball with three minutes remaining.  
 Anchored by quarterback Walter Lewis, the Tide rolled down the field. With seconds remaining, Lewis found Preston Gotthard open in the end zone. Gotthard caught the pass, but officials ruled that Gotthard was out of bounds. Instant replays showed that Gotthard had been in and the touchdown should have counted.  
 Alabama was given one more shot when Penn State was penalized for being offensive. This time, Alabama ran wide and running back Kerry Goode was stopped cold by Greg Gattuso near the Penn State goal line.

The Beaver Stadium crowd went wild, and the Lions held on for the win.  
 Two years ago, the Lions were victims of a superb defensive effort by the Crimson Tide and lost 6-0.  
 So, the series continues tomorrow in Tuscaloosa as No. 2 Alabama takes on No. 6 Penn State. And if history is any indication, the game should be one of the more bizarre and competitive games of the season.  
 Chris Leder is a senior majoring in journalism and a sports writer for The Daily Collegian.

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### Flyers remain unbeaten with win

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Pittsburgh Penguins lost their chance at the record book last night but the Philadelphia Flyers kept theirs alive.  
 The Flyers, with Mark Howe scoring one goal and assisting on three others, broke the Penguins' seven-game winning streak with a 5-3 victory.  
 The Penguins fell one short of the season-opening record of eight consecutive victories, accomplished by the 1934 Toronto Maple Leafs and the 1973 Buffalo Sabres.  
 The victory left the Flyers undefeated in six games.  
 "We were really up for tonight's game," Flyers center Peter Zeehl said. "We want to break the streak."  
 "We're undefeated and hopefully we can keep it going," Philadelphia's Tim Kerr said.

## Booters face Notre Dame in must-win game

By STACEY JACOBSON  
 Collegian Sports Writer  
 If ever there was a time to watch a soccer game, this time is now. The Lions' regular season is nearing its end and each of the five games remaining is crucial.  
 Crucial games mean hard, enthusiastic play and Notre Dame is just the team to ignite that fire in the Lions. Penn State matches up against the Fighting Irish tonight at 7:15 at Jeffrey Field.  
 Notre Dame has a growing soccer program which has really taken off in the past five years. The school recently hired a new coach, Dennis Grace, who has extensively recruited both American and international players.  
 "This year they're starting to make a name for themselves," said Head Coach Walter Bahr. "They knocked off Connecticut and tied Akron, two teams usually in the national rankings. They have an aggressive team. They are coming in here with a good reputation and we expect to have our hands full."  
 Assistant Coach Barry Gorman, referring to the Lions' inconsistent play this season, said Penn State is capable of rising to Notre Dame's challenge if the right Penn State team shows up to play.  
 "There are three teams and we don't know which one is going to show up," Gorman said. "The team that played against Hartwick (a 2-2 Penn State win), the team that plays in patches and the team that stands around and spectates. We're hoping the team from (the) Hartwick (game) will reemerge and play for the next number of games."  
 Neither coach was pleased with the team's performance Tuesday in the Lions' 3-1 win over Delaware. At this



Penn State's Jan Skorpion maneuvers past a Navy defender in a game earlier this season at Jeffrey Field. Tonight, Skorpion and the Lions face Notre Dame at 7:15.

point in the season however, the coaches are no longer interested in critiquing — they are interested in results.  
 "I was unhappy with the way we played, but I had to be satisfied that we did get a victory," Bahr said.  
 "In practice yesterday, rather than

go over all our mistakes we said, 'We know we can play better than that. Let's just look at the positive and just continue doing the things that we know are the right things to do and continue from there,'" he said.  
 In the Delaware game, the Lions lost the services of fullback George

Kline for one game because of a red card violation. Kline will be replaced tonight by Simon Eccles, who played fullback for the first few games of the season.  
 The Friday night home crowd will be an advantage to the Lions, who enjoy playing in front of full stands.

"I know we can win, but you can never go into a match thinking that you're definitely going to win the match," Leap said. "You just have to think that you're going to play the best possible match that you can."

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