


THE LINEUP

SPORTS ON TV

NBA
 Memphis at Philadelphia
 7 p.m., CSN
 Orlando at Boston
 8 p.m., ESPN
NCAA Basketball
 2K Sports Classic
 5 p.m., ESPN2

ON THE WEB

For full stories:
 psucollegian.com

W. CROSS COUNTRY

Lions head out west for championships

After winning the Big Ten and placing fourth at regionals, the Nittany Lions will be in Indiana Monday for the NCAA national championship race.

MEN'S SWIMMING

Talented Cavaliers await Penn State

Sophomore Brian Alden, who is 3-0 in the 100-yard-freestyle this season, puts his record on the line this weekend when ACC record-holder Scot Robison and his Virginia Cavaliers come to McCoy Natatorium.

Senior teammates similar in qualities

Ben Ryan and Dan Fimbianti, both seniors, have lived together since freshman year and share a notable amount of similarities both in the pool and on dry land.

W. SWIMMING

Lions' foe's talents help team's focus

As a historically dominant Virginia squad chalked full of young talent heads to Penn State this weekend, the Nittany Lions have been preparing both mentally and physically.

Divers' practices move to gymnasium

This season, the Nittany Lion divers have spent much of their practice time on the gymnasium floor perfecting their flips into foam pits instead of the pool.

FENCING

Brother-sister duo unite as teammates

Hailing from Lafayette, Calif., siblings Doris and David Willette have both donned the blue and white as Penn State fencers and their bond as family and teammates has gotten stronger.

OUR THOUGHTS

MLB

Shortened playoffs an overdue decision

Commissioner Bud Selig said Thursday he would like to cut down the number of off days for teams in the playoffs. It's about time, Bud. The Yankees and Angels played eight games over 20 days leading to the deciding game in the ALCS. The Yankees routinely played 19 games in 20 days in the regular season. Baseball is about being able to hit the field and win day after grueling day. A team shouldn't be able to use only three starting pitchers and keep them well rested through the playoffs.

TRIVIA

NFL

Q: What team has won the most Thanksgiving Day games?
 Wednesday's answer: The Saints, Bengals, Panthers, Jaguars, Ravens and Texans have never played on Thanksgiving Day.

Shooting woes doom PSU

By Andrew Robinson
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

While the UNC-Wilmington Seahawks came out hot and never cooled off, Talor Battle and the Penn State men's basketball team couldn't get their shots to fall.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Nittany Lions dropped their opening round game of the Charleston Classic to the

Seahawks 80-69 Thursday afternoon. Battle led all scorers with 29 points, but shot just 8-for-23 from the floor.

"We were horrible on both ends of the floor, I'm not trying to sugarcoat it," Lions coach Ed Chellis told the Penn State Sports Network. "Defensively, the first

half we were atrocious. They did anything they wanted to do. We gave them confidence. They made some shots."

Overall, the Lions shot poorly from the floor, headlined by 1-for-8 efforts from center Andrew Jones and freshman guard Tim Frazier. However, the Lions stayed



Battle

in the game by converting their foul shots, finishing 22-of-27 from the line.

The Seahawks made 10 of 17 3-point shots, while Penn State hit only five of 21 for a 23.8 percent clip. Sophomore shooting guard Chris Babb exemplified the struggles, making just two of his 13 shots, 10 of which came from beyond the arc.

"Our perimeter guys didn't shoot the ball really well tonight," See **LOSS**, Page 12.

HANG TEN



Tom Ruane/Collegian

Freshman all-around gymnast Matthew Chelberg practices on the parallel bars Thursday at the White Building. Although the men's gymnastics team doesn't compete until Jan. 9, the team has started practice now. A key for the 2010 season will be replacing nine-time All-American Casey Sandy.

Shot at title starts Sunday

By Brendan Monahan
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Jarret Freeman sat on the mini-bleachers at Lorenzo Wrestling Complex with his teammates before practice and gazed ahead.

WRESTLING

While Freeman, listed as both a 133 and 141-pounder, sat leaning forward with his arms on knees, chatter arose among the other wrestlers.

Although the Penn State wrestlers know about the other talk buzzing around — the publicity that surrounds Cael Sanderson's new team — every day the wrestlers attempt to keep their focus on the mat instead. See **SPRAWL**, Page 12.



Peter Teschner/Collegian

Freshman Justin Ortega (top) grapples with Ed Ruth at practice Nov. 3. The wrestling team will take part in the Sprawl and Brawl Duals Sunday.

Lee twins to reunite after traumatic ordeal

By Ben Skalina
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

When the time came to choose colleges, Justin and Alex Lee deviated from the plan.

The plan was for the identical twins to go to college together and continue to play soccer together, as they had in high school at Col. Zadok Magruder High in Rockville, Md.

What happened was Justin fell for Penn State, Alex fell for Maryland, and the plan was scrapped.

MEN'S SOCCER

Things started swimmingly last fall as the twins adjusted to college life 199 miles apart.

Justin racked up 14 starts and played all 19 games at right back for the Nittany Lions. Alex played in 13 games for the Terrapins as they went on to win the national championship.



Lee

Eleven months after the Terps celebrated on the field in Frisco, Texas, the Nittany Lions gathered

in a cramped conference room in Rec Hall to find out their path to the College Cup. Three legs of the bracket flashed on the screen, but no Penn State.

The last quarter of the bracket was posted on the selection show.

There was Penn State, sitting pretty with a little numeral next to its name meaning the Lions had earned the seventh seed in tournament and a home game Sunday.

And who was right there, right next to Penn State, in the first-round game to determine the Nittany Lions' second-round opponent?

Maryland against Loyola (Md.).

A game the Terrapins should — and did — win.

The twins could play each other. Maybe not directly, as Alex was switched from striker to right back to replenish a back line ravaged by graduation. Mirror images. Same size, same build, same spot on the field, but different numbers, different colors.

Right? Well, not quite.

Go back to the night of Oct. 10, a typical early fall evening.

Alex was in Washington, D.C., with some teammates that Saturday, just a stone's throw. See **LEE**, Page 12.

Lady Lions thump Bison

By Audrey Snyder
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

LEWISBURG — It took a while for Tyra Grant to make her presence felt.

Sitting near the middle of the Lady Lions' bench wearing her blue warm-up shirt, the team's leading scorer could do nothing but watch.

As the Lions went back and forth with the Bucknell Bison, Grant sat with her hands on her knees. It wasn't until three minutes into the second half when Grant finally stepped on the court because coach Coquese Washington said she "decided not to play her."

While Washington said she would not elaborate on why Grant sat out the first half, the Lions (3-0) were able to quiet the crowd at the Sojka Pavilion and leave Lewisburg with a 77-62 win over the Bison (0-3) despite playing 25 minutes without the senior.

"Tyra is a threat for us because she scores a lot and she's a great player," junior Julia Trogele said. "I think they had to pay more attention to her at that point because she is our leading scorer so it opened up a lot inside."

While Grant helped lead the Lions on a 10-0 run that took less than two minutes to complete, the first half was sparked by an eight-point performance from sophomore Renee Womack. After having just four points entering the game, the guard said her team's defense helped spark her play.

The Lions out rebounded the Bison 24-21, but it was the team's play in the second half, which was aided by the addition of Grant, that helped created matchup differences.

"She's a scorer," Washington said. "It doesn't take her long to go out there and get some baskets. I thought she came off the bench and she responded to coming off the bench and being in a different role. She did what she does, which was make baskets and the defense has to be aware of where she is and that opens things up for other people."

After the Bison used a 2-3 zone for most of the first half and took away the Lions' post game, Grant. See **WIN**, Page 12.



Aggressive play by Penn State's guards neutralized Bucknell's tough forwards:
 psucollegian.com

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Penn State

Bucknell