

# Lions down Louisville in final preseason game

By Mike Still  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Enduring a 20-hour bus trip wasn't exactly how Bob Warming wanted to spend his team's last weekend before the start of the regular season.

## MEN'S SOCCER

Still, the Penn State men's soccer coach and his team made the most of its long and cramped adventure to Fort Wayne, Ind. on Saturday, securing a 2-1 exhibition victory over No. 20 Louisville.

The Nittany Lions scored early and fought back late to retain the lead and improved to 2-0 in the preseason. "It was one of those games where our guys just had to

dig in and defend well and just keep fighting in the game and they did," Warming said. "I was really proud of that."

Junior forward Corey Hertzog struck first for the Lions, fighting through two defenders and burying a shot after receiving a crossing pass from freshman Jordan Tyler.

After falling behind early in the Lions' first scrimmage against Hartwick on Aug. 21, scoring first and making a statement was something co-captain Andres Casais was glad to see from his team.

**2**  
Penn State  
**1**  
Louisville

"Our team showed a mental toughness coming out," Casais said.

"We scored in the first 10 minutes and held our lead."

Penn State relinquished the lead before the end of the first half, allowing a Louisville goal off a corner kick to tie the game at 1-1.

But to tie in the second half Hertzog broke the deadlock, finishing a rebound off a shot by junior Mackenzie Arment and lifting the Lions to a 2-1 lead with his second goal of the game.

Hertzog, who was held scoreless against Hartwick, was relieved to find the back of the net.

"It took a lot of weight off my shoulders going into the season," the junior said.

"It felt good to score the two

goals and then not go into the season without any."

Warming was excited to see Hertzog get the monkey off his back too, knowing how important the junior will be to the Lions' success this year.

"Once you become a good striker, one of the most important things is not getting satisfied and staying hungry for more goals," Warming said. "Corey's one of those guys that's always hungry for goals."

More importantly as a team, though, the Lions proved to themselves that they can win on the road against quality teams, Warming said.

Penn State's record on the road over the past four seasons was just 4-20-2 and is undoubt-

edly a concern for Warming.

This weekend's long bus trip will affect them this week, forbidding them from practicing on Monday due to NCAA regulations and leaving them with just two days to prepare for the season opener on Sept. 3.

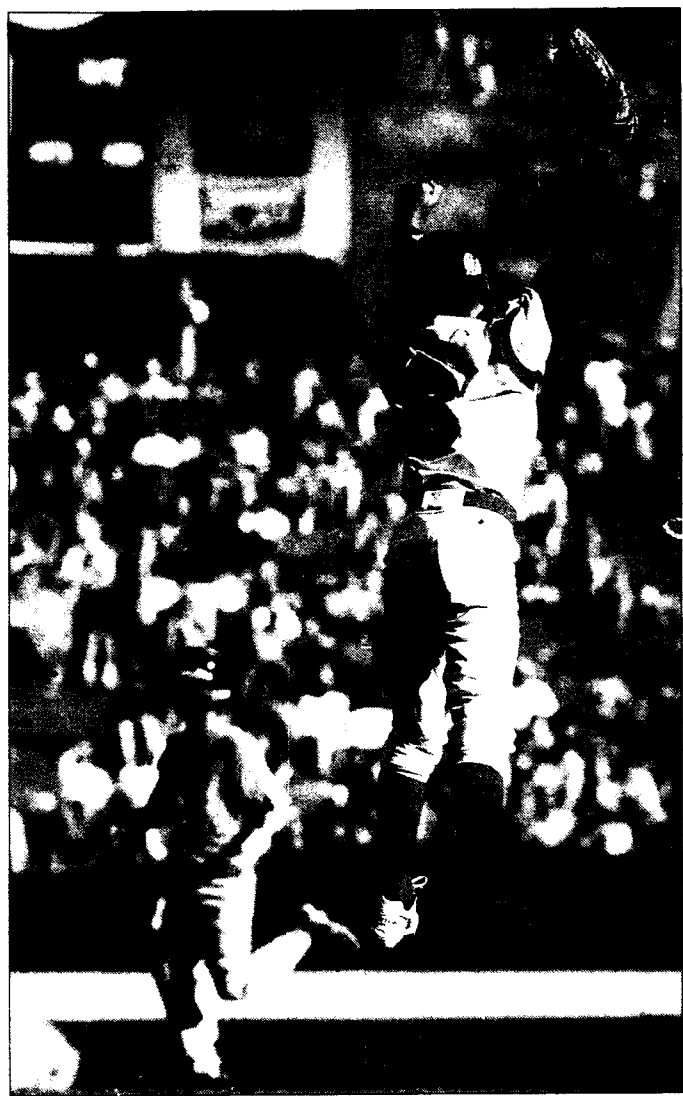
Despite the setback, the Lions know they'll need to be ready for Friday.

"Our mental toughness has to come through and we're gonna beat teams wherever we are," Casais said.

"As long as we're wearing our Penn State uniform we're gonna battle it out, no matter where we are or how uncomfortable it is."

To e-mail reporter: [mas5860@psu.edu](mailto:mas5860@psu.edu)

## ON TOP OF THE WORLD



Matt Slocum/Associated Press

Japanese center fielder Ichiro Ogasawara (8) celebrates his team's 4-1 victory against Hawaii in the Little League World Series.

# Kuchar takes Barclays title

Doug Ferguson  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PARAMUS, N.J. -- Matt Kuchar's fortunes took quite a turn Sunday, and so did his golf ball.

Kuchar beat Martin Laird in a playoff at The Barclays with a 7-iron out of the rough that rolled toward the back of the 18th green, then caught enough of the slope to turn back toward the hole and stop 30 inches away for a birdie.

It was a stunning conclusion to the first FedEx Cup playoff event.

Kuchar closed with a 5-under 66, and it didn't look as though it would be enough. Laird had a one-shot lead and needed two putts from just inside 25 feet for the victory, when he ran his putt 7 feet past the hole. He missed the par putt, setting up the playoff.

The timing could not have been better for Kuchar.

His first victory of the year came two weeks after he made his first Ryder Cup team, and the win can only give him a shot of confidence. Kuchar moved to No. 1 in the FedEx Cup standings by winning the first playoff event, giving him a good shot at the \$10 million prize. And his third career win is likely to move him to a career-best No. 10 in the world ranking.

"Even if I had shut it down without a win, I would have felt it was a great year," Kuchar said. "To win, it's an incredible year."

Tiger Woods continues to make progress, which in this case

means he gets to keep going.

Woods, who started these playoffs at No. 112 in the standings, closed with a 4-under 67 to easily make the top 100 who advance to the second round next week at the Deutsche Bank Championship. Woods tied for 12th, his best finish since June, and moved up to No. 65.

Laird, who recovered from a shaky start, looked just as shaky at the end, especially with his putter.

He was tied with Kuchar when he had a 20-foot eagle putt on the par-5 17th, only to roll it nearly 8 feet beyond the hole. He made that birdie putt to take the lead, then repeated his mistake on the final hole in regulation.

This time, the comeback putt never had a chance. Neither did Laird in the playoff after Kuchar's shot stopped so close to the cup. Laird hit out of the rough to about 50 feet and made par.

"Obviously, not the finish I was looking for," Laird said. "But I'm very proud of the way I played today. "I was kind of battling all day, and probably holed two or three of the biggest putts I've ever holed just to be where I was."

The only consolation for Laird was being safe through next month in the playoffs. He was at No. 95, hopeful of advancing to the second round, and his runner-up finish puts him at No. 3 and virtually guarantees he'll be among the top 30 at the Tour Championship who compete for the \$10 million prize.

Steve Stricker closed with a 66 to tie for third with Kevin

Streelman, whose parents grew up in this neighborhood and whose grandparents are buried in a cemetery next to the seventh hole. Two years ago at Ridgewood, Streelman narrowly missed a playoff. He also was on the bubble, starting at No. 102, and moved up to No. 18.

Rory Sabbatini had the low round of the day at 64 and tied for fifth.

The other big winner Sunday was Andres Romero of Argentina. He made back-to-back double bogeys to fall well outside the top 100, then made a stunning charge with four birdies over his last five holes. Romero holed a 40-foot putt on his final hole to finish at No. 100 in the standings and advance to Boston.

"After the double bogeys, I figured it was lost," Romero said. "I knew I had to make birdies to have a chance."

Woods thought he had a chance, despite starting the final round nine shots behind. Practicing a drill on the putting green to keep his eyes over the ball, he took that to the course and played another solid round.

It wasn't nearly enough — he finished five shots behind — but he was encouraged by his play heading into next week at the TPC Boston.

"I haven't won all year," Woods said. "But this is a week that I was very close. I felt that if I would have putted better for all four days, I would have been right there. Looking forward to next week."

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