

## Spikes lose seventh straight game

By Jake Kaplan  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Remove the first inning and the State College Spikes' pitching staff pitched well enough to win Thursday night's game.

Consider the way the Spikes hit with runners in scoring position, however, and that first inning made all the difference.

The Spikes struggled to hit with runners in scoring position en

route to their seventh-straight loss, a 3-2 defeat at the hands of the Auburn Doubledays Thursday night at Medlar Field at Lubrano Park.

Though the Spikes (32-40) managed seven hits, they hit just 1-for-8 with runners in scoring position and left 11 runners on base. Both of their two runs were

scored after third baseman Kelson Brown led off the inning with an extra-base hit and came around to score on either a sacrifice fly or a ground ball out.

"I think we're pressing a little bit at the plate, trying to do too much," Brown said. "We realize that we've lost seven in a row and when we are in a close ball game with runners in scoring position, we just try to do too much when really we should be loose and just doing what we do normally."

State College starting pitcher

Tyler Waldron (4-7, 3.90) entered the game knowing he had pitched two great games earlier in the season against Auburn (34-38). He earned consecutive wins against the Doubledays on July 19 and July 24, pitching five and six innings of shutout ball in those two starts, respectively.

Thursday's first inning was a different story as three doubles and a single off Waldron later, and the Spikes faced an early 3-0 deficit.

Though Waldron said he was

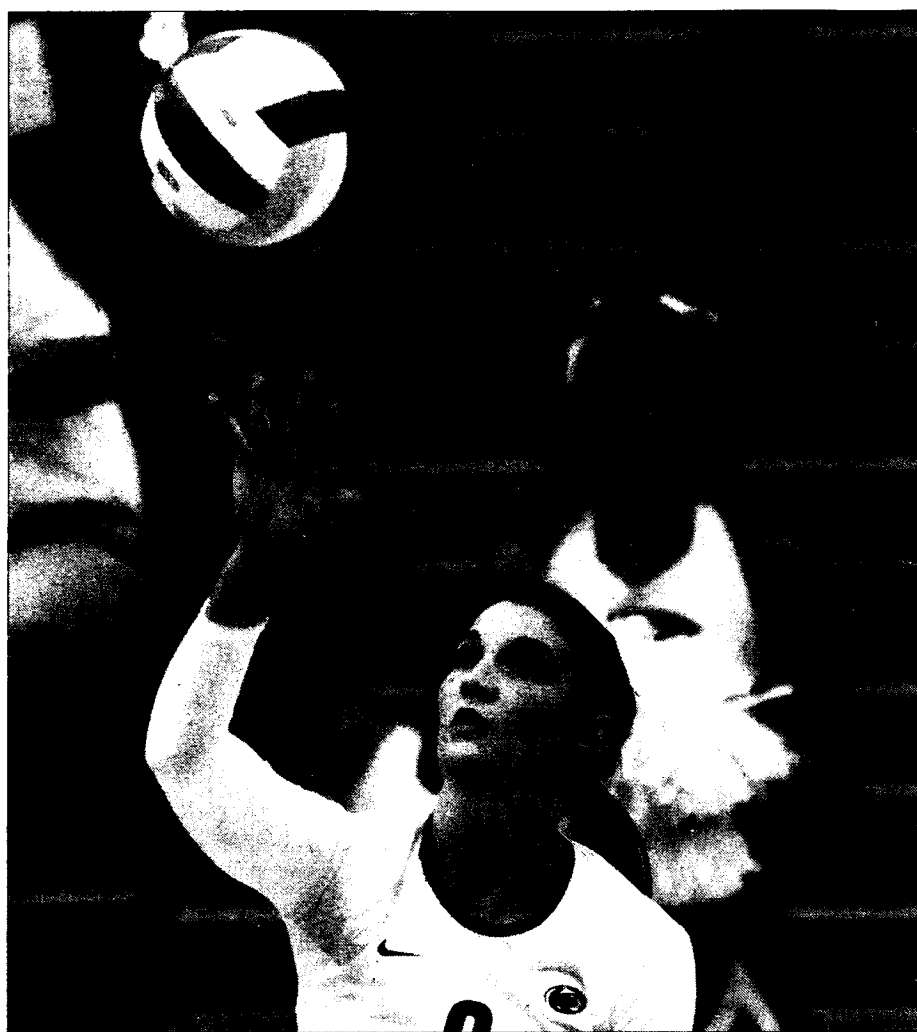
frustrated after the first stanza, he said he sat down with pitching coach Mike Steele, who helped him realize the first inning was over and he had to move on.

"Now what I have to do is come out and get to five and help my bullpen and keep us in the game," Waldron said.

That was exactly what he did in pitching four scoreless innings of

See SPIKES, Page 12.

For a story on the Spikes' Kelson Brown | SPORTS, Page 9.



Collegian file photo

Senior outside hitter Blair Brown serves in a game against Buffalo last season. Brown was an All-American last year and will be looked toward as a leader this season.

## Lions look toward Brown's leadership

By Emily Kaplan  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Everyone on the Penn State women's volleyball team looks up to Blair Brown.

Literally, everyone. "Even me," middle hitter Fatima Balza admitted. "I'm a senior, and I look up to her as a role model."

That's because Brown, a 6-foot-5 outside hitter, whose physical net presence and powerful swing earned her first-team All-

America accolades last season, is the most decorated player on the No. 1 Nittany Lions' squad this year — a roster that features nine freshmen.

So when Penn State takes on Seton Hall at 7 tonight at Rec Hall — kicking off the

See BROWN, Page 12.



To read scouting reports on this weekend's women's volleyball opponents, check out the Can You Dig It? blog: [psucollegian.com](http://psucollegian.com)

## Royster nearing rushing record

By Andrew J. Cassavell  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

By midseason, Evan Royster will likely be in the Penn State history books.

The senior running back is 481 yards from passing Curt Warner to become the school's all-time rushing leader, and barring any injuries, October seems like the best bet.

Royster's sight is on Warner's mark at a program steeped in tradition at tailback, a journey the fifth-year senior starts noon Saturday against Youngstown State. While the names and the history aren't lost on Royster, he sees the record simply as a sidebar to the 2010 season.

"It's not as much a priority as a benefit," said Royster, who is currently eighth all time with 2,918 rushing yards. "When it happens, it'll be great, but I kind of need to forget about it coming into the season. I need to focus on becoming a better player and making my team better."

Last year, Royster became one of only seven Nittany Lions to record multiple 1,000-yard seasons. He is in the top 10 in many preseason Heisman Trophy leaderboards.

Royster said the record can't leave his mind but he will have more

time to reflect after the season.

At Big Ten Media Days last month, a reporter began a question with, "When you can look back five years from now..."

"Even 50 years from now it'll be pretty awesome," Royster interjected. "It's exciting and it's something that I'm gonna take with me forever."

He added it will be "the greatest individual achievement of my life," but he wants "to get it out of the way so I can just get on with the season."

Royster won't be the only one in the backfield making history this year, as Robert Bolden will become the first true freshman to start a season at quarterback in the Joe Paterno era. The two backups at quarterback, sophomores Kevin Newsome and Matt McGloin, should also see time and have a combined 13 passes in their collegiate careers.

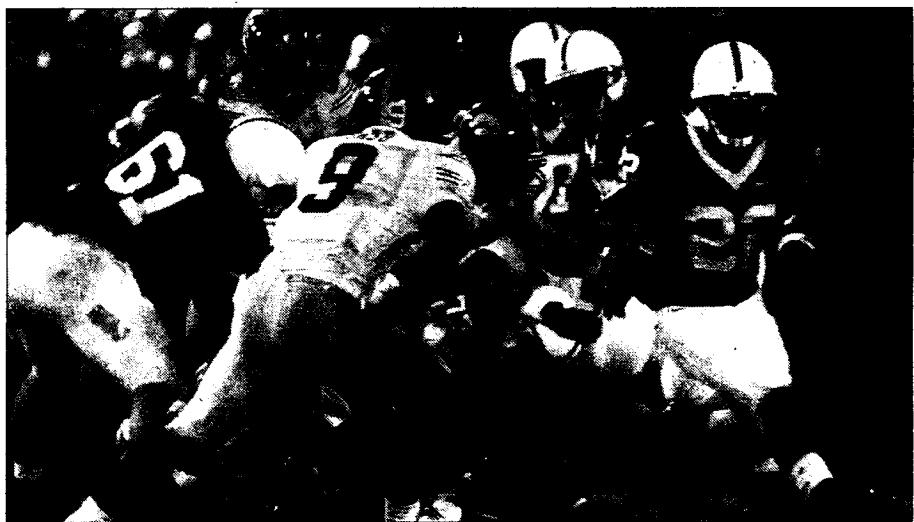
With the lack of experience under center, Royster said he expects to shoulder more of the burden on offense.

"It's important that I'm ready to take on

See ROYSTER, Page 12.



Watch The Daily Collegian football writers' Youngstown State preview video: [psucollegian.com](http://psucollegian.com)



Collegian file photo

Evan Royster (22) breaks away from tacklers during Penn State's loss to Iowa last season. Royster is 481 yards away from becoming Penn State's all-time leading rusher.

## Men's soccer team starting on road

By Andrew Robinson  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Matheus Braga has heard his coach drive one point home over and over again.

The Penn State men's soccer team has had its share of struggles on the road in the past four years, going just 4-20-2.

So it makes sense that this season's opening games would be played on the road.

This weekend, the Nittany Lions travel to Columbus, Ohio to participate in the Wolstein Classic.

After going 2-0 in the preseason, Penn State faces off against Buffalo Friday at 5 p.m. and the College of Charleston at noon on Sunday.

For Braga, a senior midfielder from Brazil, and his teammates, the dawn of a new season is something they have been awaiting.

"We're real excited, every time we have our first game it's the

See MEN'S SOCCER, Page 12.



To read a scouting report on Buffalo, check out the Blogging, Kicking and Screaming blog: [psucollegian.com](http://psucollegian.com)



Collegian file photo

Icers coach Scott Balboni looks on during a game against West Virginia last season.

## Icers prepare to fill roster

By Anthony Barton  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Wednesday at the Greenberg Ice Pavilion, more than 40 skaters will be vying for one of 28 Penn State Icers roster spots.

With returning players and freshman recruits, head coach Scott Balboni knows at least 37 skaters will show up, but he also expects a number of walk-on hopefuls.

"I'm trying to get [the players'] best ability out of them over the next two weeks to make sure that we put the best team of 28 guys together," Balboni said.

From last year's team, five seniors graduated while 25 Icers return for the tryout, although Balboni said players who were on last year's team are not necessarily guaranteed a spot on this year's squad.

See ICERS, Page 12.

## QUICK HITS (AP)

### Sabathia gets 19th win

CC Sabathia pitched one-hit ball for eight innings to earn his major league-leading 19th win, fill-in Curtis Granderson homered twice and the New York Yankees beat the Oakland Athletics 5-0 Thursday for a four-game sweep.

Sabathia (19-5) breezed on a steamy afternoon, nicked only by Mark Ellis' clean single leading off the second. Jonathan Albaladejo completed the combined one-hitter in the ninth.

Granderson hit a solo homer and a two-run shot as a replacement for Nick Swisher, who left after one inning because of a stiff left knee. Jorge Posada also homered a day after being ejected.

### USA routs Tunisia

With nothing to play for, the United States looked as if it didn't want to play.

Outworked and outthusted, the Americans led winless Tunisia by only four points early in the third quarter before turning the game into a rout over the final 15 minutes of a 92-57 victory Thursday.

Eric Gordon scored 21 points for the U.S., which had already clinched first place in its group and was more interested in getting through this one healthy — which it didn't do — than earning any style points.

"It happens," center Lamar Odum said. "These teams are pumped up to play against us. You're not going to always blow a team out in the first three or four minutes of a game."

The U.S. (5-0) next plays on Monday against Angola.

## OUR THOUGHTS

### Sympathize with Morgan

It's common baseball courtesy. Injure a player on the opposing team, and get ready to be plunked next time up.

The Marlins took care of Nyjer Morgan Wednesday by hitting him in the fourth. It was appropriate retaliation for Morgan separating catcher Brett Hayes's shoulder during a collision at the plate Tuesday.

So business was taken care of. But when Chris Volstad threw another pitch behind Morgan in the sixth inning of the game Wednesday, he was just challenging Morgan to 'visit' him at the mound.

Morgan may have been labeled the bad guy for this, but the Marlins could have ended it long before.

## MLB

Philadelphia vs. Milwaukee

7:05 tonight, myPh17

Pittsburgh vs. Washington

7:05 tonight, FSN

## TRIVIA

Q: Who was the last redshirt freshman QB to start a game for Penn State?

Thursday's answer: 2001