



Mackenzie Arment (right) fends off an Akron forward during the Lions 2-1 overtime loss to the Zips Wednesday night at Jeffrey Field.

# Lions fall to Zips

By Mike Still  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Brendan Birmingham's outstretched fingertips were inches away.

Akron's Michael Nanchoff sent the penalty kick just past the Penn State goalkeeper and just inside the right post, lifting the Zips to a 2-1 victory with minutes remaining the second overtime, their first on the road at Penn State since 1988.

After 107 minutes of hard-fought soccer, the Nittany Lions came up just short against No. 1 Akron in front of a packed crowd at Jeffrey Field Wednesday night.

"To put out an effort like we did tonight, it's tough to go down that way," sophomore defender Brian Fogue. "We played our hearts out the entire game...the entire game, and were so close. But to drop in the fashion, it hurts."

The decisive penalty kick came in the 107th minute when Birmingham came rushing out of the net to stop an advancing Akron forward, Darlington Nagbee.

Birmingham got a piece of Nagbee, taking him to the turf and prompting the referee to award the Zips the penalty.

Throughout the match, Birmingham kept the Lions alive with vital stops en-route to a career-high six saves.

"That was an incredible performance by him," Fogue said of Birmingham.

"He doesn't come up with a few of the saves and it's 3-1, 4-1. So I'm very proud him."

Wednesday's marathon match was only made longer due to a 30

## MEN'S SOCCER

2

Akron

1

Penn State

# Hertzog stands up to test

By Andrew Robinson  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The best players step up and play their best when their team needs them most.

Corey Hertzog answered the call Wednesday night.

In a season where he's provided his fair share of huge plays and critical moments, Hertzog played his best game of the year in the Nittany Lions 2-1 double overtime loss to Akron. The junior striker scored his 12th goal of the year in the fifth minute, then continued to play hard for the entire 120 minutes he played.

"Corey looks happy again."

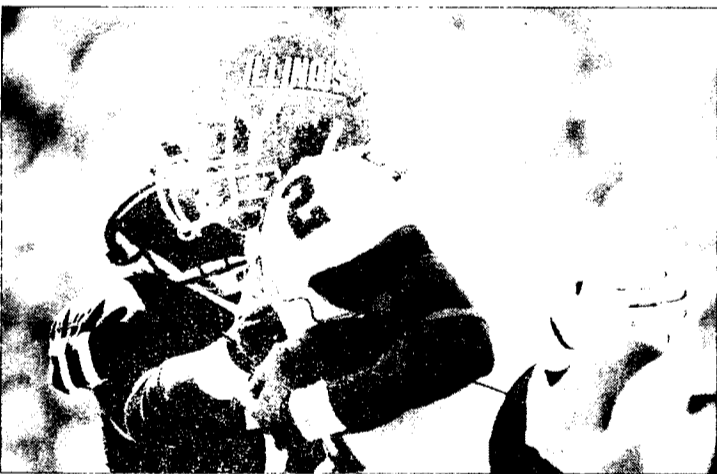
Penn State coach Bob Warming said, "I think Corey's had the weight of the world on his shoulders in some ways, the pressure of being the goal scorer and everything else. We've had a couple of good talks, about the pros and everybody else after him and he just looks like the happy guy that loves soccer again."

Hertzog's work wasn't just evident on the field. The striker has been a huge promoter of the team and the far bleachers were packed with students he and his friends who started the "Jeffrey's Den" fan section asked to come out.

It only took five minutes for See HERTZOG, Page 12.



Corey Hertzog (11) controls the ball during Wednesday's loss.



Khairi Fortt (11) attempts a tackle last week against Illinois.

# Freshman Fortt seeing more time

By Andrew J. Cassavell  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Kevin Jones was so impressed with Khairi Fortt's performance Saturday, he watched it twice.

After watching the freshman linebacker record 11 tackles in his debut against Illinois on tape — Jones, Fortt's coach at Stamford High School, sent his former player a text saying,

"It's only gonna get better."

Fortt was one of the few bright spots in Illinois' homecoming thrashing of the Nittany Lions last Saturday. He got his first start because of a pair of injuries and filled in well at weakside linebacker.

"He looked like he belonged out there," Jones said. "He didn't look like just a lost freshman. From the standpoint of coming and being an 18-year-old kid See FORTT, Page 12.

# Team looking for improved serving

By Bryan Loy  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

There are 180 square feet for a player to land a volleyball in for a successful serve on the opposing side's court.

This past weekend, the No. 9 Penn State women's volleyball team struggled to find that area, as 12 service errors hindered its ability to gain momentum in a loss at Indiana.

Coach Russ Rose and the Nittany Lions (13-4, 3-3 Big Ten) know the team will need to limit those errors if it wants to win upcoming matches.

"It doesn't make a difference who you're playing," Rose said. "If you have one ace and 12 errors you shouldn't expect to have success."

Against Indiana, the Lions were the better hitting and blocking team statistically, but Rose said they gave away a lot of points on their serves.

Though the Hoosiers (14-4, 2-4) had seven service errors themselves, they countered those mistakes with seven aces.

The loss to the Hoosiers wasn't

the only time Penn State's service game has faltered. For the season, the Lions have 86 service aces, but 116 errors.

However, a larger abundance of errors than aces doesn't necessarily mean the team will struggle.

Last season, the Lions had 173 aces and 242 errors en route to their undefeated, national championship year. Meanwhile, the 2008 championship team — which also went undefeated — had more than double the amount of service errors (337) as aces (156).

Senior libero Alyssa D'Errico — who is second in the Big Ten in aces — said there's a fine line See SERVING, Page 12.



Rose

# Rugger Henneman thriving

By Gre G. Fernandez  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

This time last year, senior full-back Lisa Henneman was getting acclimated to her new teammates, learning a new system and trying to learn a new position.

A captain for the USA U-20 national team, the fly-half had transferred to Penn State from

Bellevue College, a small junior college outside of Seattle, Wash.

Henneman was asked to change positions, moving to full-back. Henneman has performed well thus far in her new role, with her latest achievement coming in the team's last game on Oct. 2 against rival West Chester, where she scored three tries in the 39-8 victory.

Coach Pete Steinberg said ever since her breakthrough game See HENNEMAN, Page 12.



Henneman (right) eluding danger.

NHL  
Philadelphia vs Tampa Bay  
7 p.m., Versus, CSN

Q: Bobby Cox became manager of the Braves in 1990, who was the Braves manager before Cox took over?

Wednesday's Answer: Tony Fernandez hit .245 as the New York Yankees shortstop in 1995.

## Gonzalez replaces Cox

The Braves didn't even wait 48 hours to introduce Bobby Cox's replacement.

No need. Fredi Gonzalez was Atlanta's manager-in-waiting almost as soon as Cox announced that 2010 would be his final season.

In what was nothing more than a formality, Gonzalez took over Wednesday as the team's new manager, succeeded the fourth-winningest skipper in baseball history.

Gonzalez said he's not worried about following in Cox's large footsteps.

The Braves' manager since 1990, he led the team to an unprecedented 14 straight division titles and the 1995 World Series championship.

## McNeill signs extension

Chargers left tackle Marcus McNeill has the long-term deal he sought all along.

McNeill agreed Wednesday to a five-year contract extension through 2015. It's believed to be worth \$48.5 million, with \$24.5 million guaranteed.

It took a holdout, a team-imposed suspension and having his pay slashed for this season to get to this point, but McNeill said it was worth it.

Because this is an uncapped season, McNeill was a restricted free agent even though his original four-year contract expired after last season. When he didn't sign his \$3,168,000, one-year tender by June 15, the Chargers reduced the tender to 110 percent of his 2009 salary, or \$630,000.

McNeill sat out training camp and the first two games before signing the tender.

## Nice moment for Bucs' fans

Thousands gathered in Pittsburgh's Oakland section yesterday to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Bill Mazeroski's legendary game-winning home run which lifted the Pirates to victory over the Yankees in Game 7 of the 1960 World Series.

The throng congregated around the remnants of the old Forbes Field wall not far from the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning to listen to the game broadcast together, and celebrate the victory at exactly 3:36 PM, when Maz's shot became the greatest in the history of baseball on that infamous fall day.

Walk off? Game 7? World Series? It doesn't get any better than that.