SPORTS

THURSDAY, NOV. 11, 2010 | 9



Jenny Purvis takes a shot for Penn State in a game against Duke last month.

Team feels comfortable

8) Zach Fleagle UNITER WRITER

Two days and a host position are the first two rounds of in the finals. the NCAA to movement. the advant. bus bit PIELD home --- litere ા તે પ્રિય ratively. OCKEY After 19 weekends est in in Evanston. **both** time id bookey team is III., the Per al. et relief looking breathing forward to Freshme **Gryzwacz** Hoddie will be seeing their th mament exposure. The term cal scorer, sophomore Kelse - aew to the NCAA distait qualify a postseas year ago Amy said the competition and the fac tournames. the home i to the team. Senior 7 playing a to end her She sui the your :: readess in the tense atri-"You play in furt, you know how it play you can 🚋 get break: and said. Captain and said there Daneen 🖄

is a routine at home that can't be replicated on the road.

In 2007 Zug and Purvis were on the Penn Le Lions were awarded State team that lost to North Carolina 3-0

> She's been saying all season that the goal is still the same, make the finals and win

> This team, Coach Char Morett said, is different not just in skill, but experience.

Morett said the team's early contests against ranked teams weren't indicative on their ability, just a highlight on their immaturity.

"I wasn't worried when we were losing Papelis. Brittany to Connecticut and Virginia [early in the season], they were two very good teams. I thought what was more important to focus on was week to week improvement.'

Freshman Lauren Purvis said a home atmosphere brings more than just a familiar scene.

We've had a really good record at home first time in this and it will be really nice - I'm just excitset mentally, but ed," Purvis laughed.

Morett said she wants the freshmen to as excited about let the game come to them by relying on some home games - their more veteran teammates.

The older Purvis spoke for all of the sthat will help freshmen, believing their abilities will overshadow any nerves they might have leading up to th game.

"I think they know just from being ath-

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Pryor focuses on game

By Andrew J. Cassavell **COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER**

There aren't many similarities between Penn State's former walk-on quarterback Matt McGloin and Ohio State's Terrelie Pryor, a Jeannette native who was once the most-F0018-

prized recruit in the country.

How much they know about the other is just another thing they don't have in conmon

McGloin, like the rest of the college trans ball world, intensely followed Pryor's lege selection process in the spring of 20 But on a teleconference Wednesday, Prove was candid about how much he know McGloin before the last week.

"I never heard of him," Pryor so-"Besides hearing about he's started because we have pictures of him all even the place, besides that, I've never heart and him. Besides, I'm usually focused on a defense."

He said he had heard a lot about 11 Bolden, the true freshman whos McGloin took with solid performance each of the last three weeks.

When asked about the different between himself and Prvor. in term their backgrounds, McGloin deflected question, also trying to focus on this at end's game.

"I haven't really thought too much. that," McGloin said. "I don't really the single myself out. I don't want to since out.'

But McGloin said at the time. In constantly aware of Prvor's situation though he wanted to come to Penfrom the start. Pryor narrowed his en to four schools, Ohio State, Penness Michigan and Oregon before math final decision.

Eventually, on March 15, 2008. chose Ohio State.

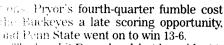
"I wanted to go with [Ohio State Jim] Tressel," said Pryor, who, for 1 time, was made available to the Pennemedia in the week leading up to the "I had a better feeling about him stand up guy, and to this day I trust trusted him when I signed here.

In terms of not choosing Penn 8 specifically, Pryor said he wanted a environment," rather than what College had to offer. In the past, ha described Penn State as "too countr"

Joe Paterno held no hard feeling s ing Pryor for the progress he has this season. He called Pryor "more the and more polished.'

"We tried everything we could be get him to come to Penn State." said. "I think he's got a little that maturity ... He's a little tougher a tough situations.

In 2008 during one of those total



The loss hit Pryor hard, but he said a 24mory at Beaver Stadium last season massed most of that hurt.

It: a way it is [a more important game] Im from Pennsylvania," Pryor "But now I look at it like just another ceme

Pryon said he is planning to return to Thus State for his senior season next year, basis all he wouldn't rule out a potential of heart. He said he feels he still to learn and he wants a national

or this week's game. Prvor said he's to play against Penn State defenordinator Tom Bradley, who was a its recruiting process. He said the still "very good friends" and text

is a mutual respect between and the Penn State coaching staff. complimented the class of Penn maches, and Paterno said he roots hen he watches the Buckeyes

- not out there trying to out-do anytraterno said. "He's just out there sent his lootball team to win. He's st of Lay a coach likes to see have a Loon't want him to have too much

m ad repeater ajc5238@psu.edu



or (left) looks to pass.



o de coeban

· Euckeyes.

The bulk Ohio State when they as

isn't the Buckeyes' main running threat. That title belongs to Herron, Ohio State's leading rusher whose nickname is doubt tans think of "Boom." Herron classifies himself as a Farrelle Pryor downhill runner.

He hits each hole quickly and has the uncanny ability to make swift cutbacks in the open field, but Saine - whom Herron calls lightning fast — may be the quickest of the three.

Detainse faces run threat

anyour own bed. letes that it's a do-or-die situation." Purvis re you want to said.

Prvor. one thread . GOTBALL three-heads sching attack. It tite fit Pryor's 100 solution are running backs Dian and brandon Saine. The three ents are Ohio State's leaders in m ottempts with a com**bined** 267 (1) leves 378 carries. mate s main role is The Pen slowing dow rushing attack. Last Saturday a Northwestern, the Nittany Liousan the Wildcats backstatted out running field and el. gaps in the They hope and learn be Core running quarterbacks alan Scheelhaase, Michigar Cobinson and Northwester in their first five Big Ter-Penn State Robinson and are similar runners. while Pryor league of his own because he telt fast. Linebacker Chris Colas. can beat a Aside the said he play * Pryor in the 2008 U.S. Army A took a Pryon a Mauti said it's tough - run.' to defend because this long arms.

Pryor has taken notice of the play.

"Hats off to Boom and all the guys in the backfield," Pryor said. "They're carrying us. We're jumping on their back and riding with them.

The Lions don't plan on playing Ohio State's running game any different than how they handled Northwestern. Colasanti believes each defender has to play his responsibility and hit the gaps quickly, and Mauti said the Lions are looking forward to a that momentum the challenge.

"I don't think you're a football player if you don't want them to run at you," Mauti said. "They're going to try to ground and pound us.

The Buckeyes average 211 rushing and Mike Mauti said yards a game, but Herron said the Buckeyes will keep Penn State guessing.

All three threats have quickness on their side. Colasanti said each runner attempts as season. Pryor has to break outside the tackles, and the goal is forcing the Buckeyes to run east to west or sinh State, Mauti sideline to sideline.

"It's November," Herron said. "It's the Bowl. in which he Big Ten. We're going to have the ability to

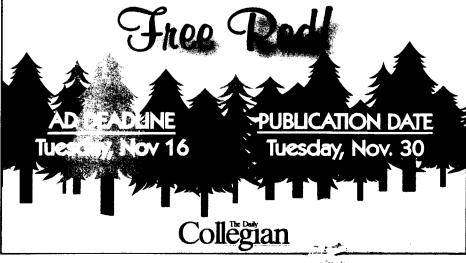
Pryor is a solid located player, but he

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