

Wrestling

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It took the redshirt freshman a bit longer than Alton to finish his match, but after leading 8-3 following the first period, Taylor wasted no time in the second period, pinning his opponent at the 3:33 mark of the match.

Taylor's pin gave the Nittany Lions a 15-7 lead heading into intermission and sent the packed crowd at Rec Hall into a frenzy.

"We have a real good relationship and I've known him since I was little," Alton said. "I was real pumped when he got the win and when he pinned his guy on the mat it was a great feeling."

Taylor and Alton, training partners and future roommates next year, have formed an immediate bond this season.

Sharing the common bond of the pressure and effort it takes to compete at such

a high level, the teammates have learned to feed off one another, keeping each other motivated to compete at their best.

"He's one of my good friends," Taylor said. "We both have high expectations for this year, similar goals, similar personalities."

In practice, one will never let the other slack off, Alton said. Seeing his teammate relax only encourages the other to push him harder.

Though it's still early in the Lions' season, with both Alton and Taylor sitting at 2-0, the two are determined to achieve their high expectations.

"I was talking to Andrew earlier [Sunday]," Taylor said.

"And I said, 'Today we need to step up. We need to get some bonus points for the team.' And we went out there and we did that."

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Men's basketball

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its 98-70 season-opening loss against Western Kentucky, DeChellis said rebounding is key in tonight's game.

"They're very fast and very athletic with guys who can score," DeChellis said in his press conference.

"If they make shots, they're kind of a team that starts to feel pretty good about themselves and they can play that well and will be a hard team to defend."

While the Hawks may not have had much to feel good about after their loss to Western Kentucky, Penn State did after Friday's win, picking things up after half-time and clicking as a team.

With another home game tonight

against St. Joseph's, the players aren't getting caught up in the win Friday night.

"You get the win, you celebrate and then the next day that win is over," senior Jeff Brooks said.

"You can't play back. You have to go get the next one."

Brooks added this is the only way the Lions can mature as a team as it is necessary to not dwell on wins or losses this season and preparing for the next opponent.

With another chance to protect their home court tonight, D.J. Jackson is hoping for another good turnout so the Lions can feed off the crowd and take care of business at the BJC like they did Friday.

"I think we have about 18 home games and if we can really win a majority of those or even all of them, it's really going to put us in a good position to get in the NCAA tournament," Jackson said.

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Football

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shoulder on the first series against Ohio State but still played out the first half. This year, Mauti returned from an ACL tear in his right knee that kept him from competing last season and suffered a high-ankle sprain that sidelined him from the Illinois game Oct. 9, a 33-13 loss.

"It can happen any time," said Rich about his son's string of injuries.

"For Michael this year, it's kind of been a couple different things. It just kind of happens in waves ... It's just frustrating because [the Lions] really had it going, and they had a shot on Saturday. Then, he's got to watch from the sidelines, so it makes it frustrating for him."

A potential upset at Ohio State at the half turned into Penn State's worst loss of the



Mauti

season with a 24-point margin.

After Iowa, Penn State couldn't avoid a letdown the next week. Over a month later, the Nittany Lions don't want the same result to happen again.

There are differences in the two scenarios.

Illinois has been more competitive than Indiana this season. Indiana is winless in Big Ten play, while Illinois has three wins against conference opponents.

Illinois was a home game. This Saturday, Penn State travels to Landover, Md., for a neutral-site

game with the Hoosiers.

Learning to bounce back is the main focus for this young team.

"We got to get it dead and buried and look forward and learn from it," quarterbacks coach Jay Paterno said.

"I think this team has had enough resolve that we've had some adversity, and we've come back from it."

That adversity came after the Illinois loss, the Lions' second defeat in a row.

Penn State won three consecutive games afterward, but none

came against a ranked team.

Penn State has one more opportunity against a ranked opponent, though the contest will occur on home territory. Michigan State enters Happy Valley on Nov. 27 for the regular-season finale.

"Learn from mistakes, that's the only thing we can do," senior middle linebacker Chris Colasanti said.

"We can't hang our heads. We just got to learn from it and get better."

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McGloin

From Page 8.

Hoosiers are winless in Big Ten play and surrendered 83 points at Wisconsin last Saturday.

Quarterbacks coach Jay Paterno says there are two directions a quarterback can go after a difficult loss. He is confident where McGloin is heading based on what he's seen from him all season. Despite being passed over in the summer in favor of fresh-

man Rob Bolden, McGloin kept working and eventually won the job.

"You can either keep fighting and get better, or you fold your tent," Paterno said. "And he's not gonna fold his tent. We've got two more games to play. We've got two more games to show some people what we're made of."

The confident demeanor McGloin showed the last three weeks didn't change after the loss.

Now, McGloin is eager to prove he can rebound from the first

adversity he's seen this season.

"We get to face another tough opponent in Indiana, and it's another road game," McGloin said. "Monday we'll see how we respond and hopefully we'll be able to come out with the same confidence as the last couple weeks."

The game isn't a true road contest, as the two teams will meet at noon at FedEx field in Landover, Md.

In the last month, fans and media alike have used plenty of

descriptions for McGloin's wide range of emotions on the football field. But senior wide receiver Brett Brackett said his ability to handle those emotions will be the key to him getting back to form.

"[He'll respond] the same way he responded to throwing four touchdowns last week," Brackett said. "As a quarterback, you've got to be even keeled. Whether you're throwing touchdown passes or throwing interceptions. Whatever is happening, the quarterback has got to be even keeled. Matt is that

kind of guy, and I expect him to be that way."

Derek Moye, who has been McGloin's favorite target since he took over, agreed with Brackett.

Even though McGloin is a former walk-on with only two starts, Moye said no one on the team sees him that way. To them, he's a fiery veteran leader.

"I'm not worried about him," Moye said. "Every quarterback throws interceptions."

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NCAAs

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Cardinals, 2-1, in their final pre-season game in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Cost said he thought the Lions might not get a seed, but once they were announced as the No. 15 seed, both he and redshirt senior Andy Parr said they were happy with their placement. Parr, who was injured during the tournament last year, will get to enjoy his

first NCAA game in his final season.

"It feels great to be healthy this time of year and to be in the tournament," Parr said. "I'm really excited to be on the field and to try and keep this season going as long as possible."

With seven losses this year, the Lions worried their body of work would force them to play Thursday — only a few days after playing three times in a four-day span. But they got their bye, most-

ly thanks to a schedule that saw them play 10 teams that qualified for the NCAA tournament.

First-year Penn State coach Bob Warming said he was proud of the way his team handled this season, one in which he moved players out of positions they had been entrenched in for several years.

"All they've done is just go out and try to do their best," Warming said. "so you can't be any happier as a coach than with guys who have to get way outside their com-

fort zone to do what we thought was best for the team and for the program

For the team's five seniors, the back-to-back bids is something they can take pride in after going 7-8-4 and 5-11-2 in 2007 and 2008. Warming said the team is on its way back to national prominence and the seniors are responsible for a lot of the turnaround.

While last year they lost their first NCAA game since 2005, the Lions are hoping to string a few

wins together and make a run to the College Cup in Santa Barbara, Calif. in December.

"It's gratifying, we've been working really hard to turn this thing around," Cost said. "To get back to the tournament last year and to do it again this year, and have a bye each time is awesome. It's a testament to all the guys who have worked hard the last four years to turn this thing around."

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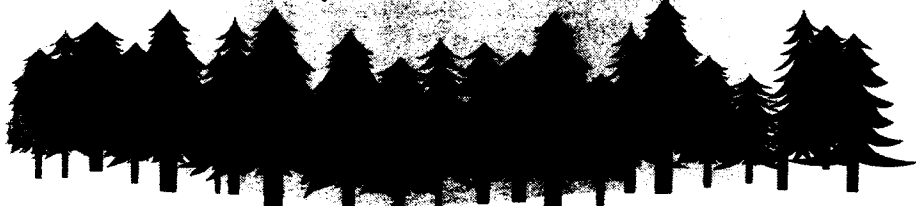
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