

Foul trouble leads to loss

By Alex Angert
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

With fewer than 30 seconds left in the first half, senior Steve Kirkpatrick had himself a wide open 3-point shot. But like a deer in headlights, he froze, passed up on the shot and opted for an off-balanced attempt that ultimately missed.

However, Kirkpatrick, who typically only plays in mop up time, should have never even been in that situation to begin with.

But with the Nittany Lions' in early foul trouble, coach Ed DeChellis was forced to mix things up in Penn State's 62-39 loss to Maryland as the Lions struggled to find an answer for Maryland's strong post presence.

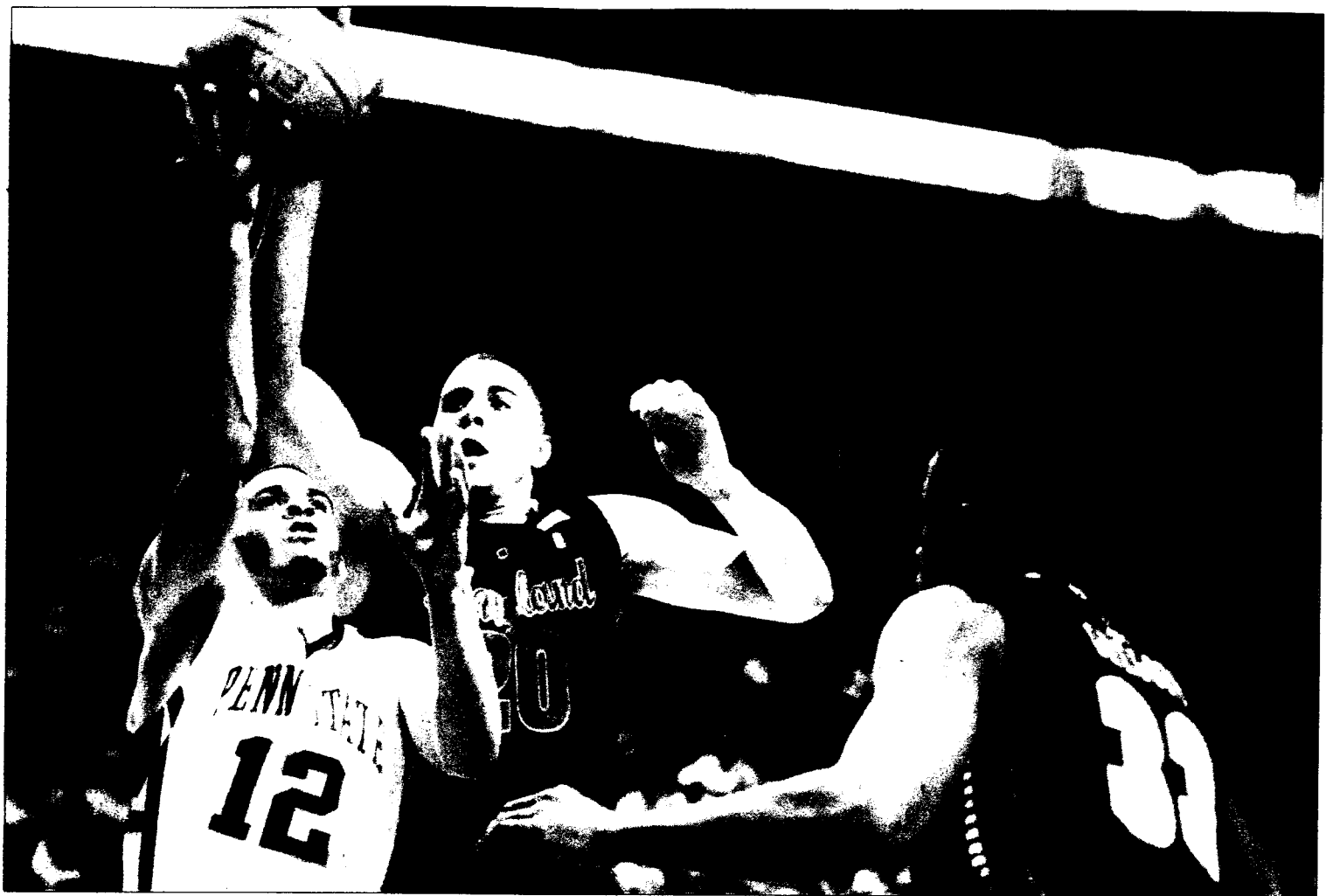
"We got into foul trouble early," DeChellis said. "In the first half they shot a lot of free throws. Part of the emphasis was to play hard without fouling but we didn't do that. We shot one in the first half and they shot nine or 10."

Nine minutes into the game, Jeff Brooks picked up his second foul of the game, sending the senior forward to the bench for the rest of the half.

Twenty-one seconds later, D.J. Jackson received foul No. 2 as well, this time to put Penn State over the limit. Maryland went to the line, hit both free-throws and took the lead.

At that point, seven of the Terrapins 11 points came from the charity stripe and from there on, they never looked back as the foul trouble took

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Steph Witt/Collegian

Talor Battle (12) goes up for a layup as Maryland's Jordan Williams (20) and Dino Gregory defend during the Terrapins' win Wednesday night.

Lions struggle, fall to Terps

By Emily Kaplan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Maryland left the door wide open. The Nittany Lions just couldn't capitalize — or make the wide-open shots.

The Penn State men's basketball team (5-2) missed a chance to make a strong preseason statement Wednesday night at the Bryce Jordan Center, falling to a vulnerable Maryland team 62-39

in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.

The Terrapins presented the Lions with plenty of opportunities, committing 17 turnovers, including 12 in the first half alone.

The electric BJC atmosphere aided Penn State, as well. There was a season-high 9,078 in attendance, including a student-organized whiteout. Some fans held handmade signs with messages such as, "We Believe" while others mugged the live ESPN camera crews with gaudy costumes and larger-than-life sized cardboard

cutouts of celebrities such as Justin Bieber and Betty White.

Yet the Lions simply couldn't build off any of that — and couldn't find the basket. They shot an unsightly 20.6 percent from the floor, including a 3-for-27 performance from 3-point range. Penn State attempted a season-high 68 field goals.

"It comes down to just putting the ball in the basket," senior co-captain Talor Battle said. "And unfortunately we didn't do that tonight."

The Lions' 39 points scored were the fewest since their 38-33 victory at Illinois in the 2008-09 season.

With Wednesday's loss, Penn State fell to 19-45 all-time vs. ACC teams and snapped its three-game ACC Big Ten Challenge winning streak. Meanwhile the

See **LOSS**, Page 10.

Rookies gain experience

By Andrew J. Cassavell
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The 2010 Penn State football season has a few defining characteristics.

The historic quarterback race, the major milestones achieved by Evan Royster and Joe Paterno, and the injuries that depleted both sides of the ball — injuries that played a significant role in Penn State's mediocre 7-5 record.

Those injuries, however, may be the first defining characteristic of the 2011 season. While players who entered the season at prominent positions stood and watched from the sidelines in street

clothes, their backups — many of them underclassmen — got vital experience they'll use next season.

Chima Okoli, who filled in for senior right tackle Lou Eliades after he went down in late September with a knee injury, said the experience he got this year has made the game easier for him.

"I feel like I moved into the role with a little more confidence," said Okoli, before looking toward next season. "I got one more shot at this thing so I'll try and keep it going."

Okoli, specifically, is a player who benefited from the playing time this season.

He came to Penn State as a

See **ROOKIES**, Page 10.



Chris Eimer/Collegian

Okoli (52) attempts a tackle.

Quilico happy with decision

By Ryan Loy
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After her freshman season at Boston College, Cathy Quilico found herself in a tough situation.

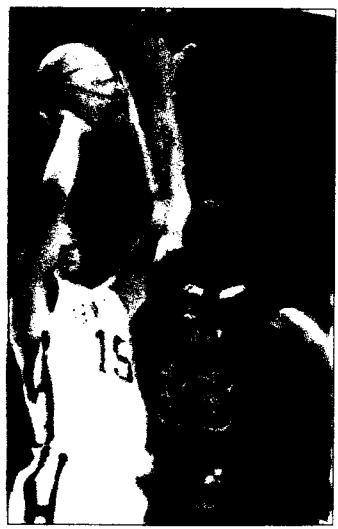
She had just finished a strong first season with the Eagles — leading the team with 479 digs — but she simply wasn't happy with the program.

The 5-foot-1 Quilico knew she wanted to transfer, but first she had to tell her best friend, Audrey Eichler. The two California natives and former club teammates went to Boston College together, and Quilico didn't know how to tell Eichler about her plans. Luckily for Quilico, she and Eichler thought alike.

"It was funny because I didn't know she had quit when we came back for second semester," Quilico said. "I was like,

See **QUILICO**, Page 10.

More coverage on women's volleyball | **SPORTS**, Page 12.



Steph Witt/Collegian

Jackson shoots Wednesday.

Nickson to face former team Thursday

By Ryan Loy
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After going 2-1 in the Caribbean Challenge in Mexico, the Lady Lions got to return home and practice in familiar facilities.

Tonight, sophomore co-captain Mia Nickson will return to an old home of her own when Penn State (6-1) travels to Boston College (6-0) for a 7 p.m. matchup with the Eagles as part of the ACC Big Ten Challenge.

Nickson played her freshman season as an Eagle before transferring to Penn State last season. As a freshman for Boston College, she averaged 1.6 points per game

and 2.0 rebounds per game.

Now a forward for Penn State, Nickson said she expects the game to feel a lot like practices from two years ago.

"I think the play will be pretty much how it was at practice when I was up there fighting for every possession when I was against Carolyn [Swords] and [Stefanie] Murphy," Nickson said. "A little game of pick up, pretty much, is what it's going to be like."

Penn State coach Coquese Washington said the height of Swords and Murphy — who stand 6-foot-6 and 6-foot-4, respectively — is the biggest concern of the Lions. Their size will test Nickson and the other Penn State forwards.

It was Washington who showed

interest in Nickson when she decided to transfer from Boston College. After having recruited her while coaching at Notre Dame, Washington again reached out to Nickson. From there, Nickson fell in love with the campus and Washington's vision for the program.

After sitting out last year because of transfer rules, Nickson is back on the court, and Washington said the 6-foot-2 forward brings a constant intensity to the team.

"Mia is the kid, you have to go. Mia don't hurt anybody. We're just walking through," Washington

See **NICKSON**, Page 10.

For coverage on Washington's press conference | **SPORTS**, Page 12.



Katie Silvis/Collegian

Mia Nickson (24) shoots a jumper.

PHILADELPHIA

SPORTS ON TV

NFL
Philadelphia vs. Houston
8:00 p.m., NFL Network

TRIVIA

Q: Before last night, who won the last basketball matchup between Penn State and Maryland?

Wednesday's Answer: Joe Mauer signed an extension in 2010 worth \$184 million.

Gymnastics teams give intimate showcase to fans

Students and fans of the Penn State gymnastics teams braved the cold weather Wednesday night when they got to meet the gymnasts and watch them perform.

The teams held a "Meet the Team" event for the first time at the White Building as part of an effort to galvanize student and community support and boost attendance at home meets in the upcoming season.

Gymnasts from both teams introduced themselves to the crowd...



Read the full story on the gymnastics teams' showcase for its fans:
psucollegian.com

OUR THOUGHTS

Moyer should call it quits

Let's give credit where credit is due. Jamie Moyer has been a solid big-league pitcher for almost 25 seasons. He has even remained effective recently, though he has been able to keep his ERA under 4.00 once since 2003.

Now going under the knife for Tommy John surgery, he has announced plans to return for the 2012 season, at 49 years old.

The surgery has been the kiss of death for pitchers in their 20s. There is no comparison here. He is the oldest recipient of the surgery to attempt a comeback.

We applaud his enthusiasm, but there may not be a market for his services when that time comes.