



VERSUS

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BUFFALO (1-1) (2-0) **PENN STATE**
BULLS **NITTANY LIONS**



BUFFALO BUFFALO



Graphic by Lucas Yendzelwski

HOW HAS RECRUITING CHANGED?

By **Andrew Deal**
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Over the past five years, the re-
cruiting landscape has changed
drastically with the adoption of
new rules and additional aspects
of recruiting for coaches to adapt
to in collegiate athletics.

Players have always had the
option to transfer schools, but in
the past, they had to sit out one
year before playing for their new
team. In 2018, the NCAA launched
the official transfer portal so ath-
letes could formally enter their
name to switch schools.

Since then, the transfer portal
has exploded. The NCAA elimi-
nated the rule forcing players
to sit out a year in 2021, but only
gave them one chance to transfer.
If an athlete transferred twice,
they’d have to sit out a year at
their second new destination.

“Recruiting is completely
different. It’s just a different
world now with NIL, transfer por-
tal,” associate head coach Terry
Smith said.

2024 is when the transfer por-
tal became what it is now, as
the NCAA dropped the require-
ment for a player to sit out if they
transfer twice. The transfer por-
tal has continued to expand year
by year.

Recruiting players became
even more difficult with the
threat of players transferring
after a season — the 2025 trans-
fer portal had over 3,000 football
players seeking new teams 2026.
Essentially, each coaching staff
has to re-recruit their entire roster
each offseason.

While it’s difficult for coaching
staffs, the transfer portal pro-
vides the opportunity for players
to get a fresh start. Penn State
wide receiver Chase Sowell has
now transferred four times and

said Tuesday the portal has been
a “blessing.”

“Obviously you get a lot of sto-
ries where it obviously doesn’t
go well,” Sowell said. “I’m just
blessed that you know that I got
the opportunity that I had be-
cause 2023 May, sitting in my
dorm, I thought football was over
for me, and I thought that’s just
what it was, and I was gonna ac-
cept it, but the transfer portal
gave me another opportunity and
kind of let me elevate myself.”

NIL and revenue sharing is
just another aspect of the chang-
es in recruiting. Players can now
directly earn money, making col-
lege athletics mirror professional
sports.

For example, 2027 Tennes-
see running back commit David
Gabriel Georges will reportedly
sign a 3-year deal worth around
\$2 million per year with the
Volunteers following his senior
year of high school. Additionally,
he’s guaranteed to wear No. 0 and
will have family travel benefits
for all games, according to On3’s
Hayes Fawcett.

Prior to 2021, that was unheard
of in college football. Now, it’s
becoming more common, with
current Michigan quarterback
Bryce Underwood expected to
make north of \$10 million dur-
ing his time with the Wolverines.
Those details all came together to
help persuade him to flip his com-
mitment from LSU.

“You have to be able to pay
these guys a certain amount of
money just to have a conversa-
tion with them. It’s just differ-
ent,” Terry SmithWith money
now involved, so are agents who
represent college athletes to help
them with decision making and
making the most money possible
for their representatives.

Agents make college football



Matt Cropp/Collegian file photo

Head Coach Matt Campbell and Pat Kraft walk off the field after the 2026 Blue-White practice at West Shore Home Field at Beaver Stadium on Saturday, April 25, 2026 in University Park, Pa.

even more like the NFL, and
they’re still very new to col-
legiate athletics. What used to
involve just talking to players,
their families and high school
coaches now pieces in agents,
resulting in an added need for
even more communication.

“Agents is probably the first
thing that comes to my mind,”
safeties coach Deon Broomfield
said. “It kind of still feels weird,
like, ‘Hey, you gotta talk to my
agents.’ That’s foreign.”

Another ripple in recruiting
occurred in the most recent
offseason. Collegiate athletics
adopted a five-for-five rule, mean-
ing every college athlete has five
years of eligibility from when they
first enroll in college or from their
19th birthday, whichever comes
first.

That can completely change
teams, but for Penn State, only
six players could be affected by it
after this season. From then on,
roster construction will be even
more complicated with this factor
now in consideration.

“The five-for-five deal is inter-
esting,” Broomfield said. “We’ll
see how that kind of affects
us moving forward, just num-
bers and that. But recruiting is
getting to know people and obvi-
ously making sure they’re the
right fit. And I think that part of it
has not changed.”

It also throws away the red-
shirt concept, which many teams
had to gameplan each week. Now,
coaches don’t have to worry about
which players appear in which
weeks to maintain their redshirt
status, which according to Terry
“is really good” for Penn State.

In some ways, the recruit-
ing process at Penn State has

stayed the same under Matt
Campbell and the new coaching
staff. There’s still “blue collar”
and “tradition” involved in the
recruiting process when looking
for “high character young men,”
according to Huggins.

D’Anton Lynn, who joined the
Nittany Lions as their defensive
coordinator this offseason, played
for Penn State from 2008 to 2011.
His recruiting process back then
was unlike anything that’d hap-
pen in this day and age, as no
money was involved.

“I felt like you know when
you’re getting recruited, go-
ing through the recruiting pro-
cess, what stuck out to that was
different about Penn State was
they had a standard off the field
that was just as high as on the
field, and it was very apparent,”
Lynn said.

But the standard that came
with committing to a school
like Penn State in 2008 has not
changed.

The Nittany Lions, and many
of the other top programs in the
country, can pitch playing for
Penn State by telling a player
they have the opportunity to play
for a team that has so much his-
tory and tradition involved within
the program.

Huggins is still looking for play-
ers “who love football” and “want
to sit in the first two rows of class,”
he said, which have remained the
same within the program no mat-
ter who the head coach was.

“Makes it really easy, because
I outline in every younger man’s
recruiting process what it is that
we’re looking for,” Huggins said.
“If that doesn’t align with what
we’re looking for, there is a means
to an end.”

If Penn State gets players like
that out of high school, edge rush-
ers coach Christian Smith said he
knows they’re not going to “come
to school just because of how
much NIL they’re getting.”

However, a difficult aspect of
pitching Penn State is the loca-
tion, which benefits other major
programs for top recruits. The
Nittany Lions are “in the middle
of nowhere” and surrounded by
mountains and no major cities.
Huggins said he makes sure he’s
as transparent as possible when
it comes to that, making clear the
potential geographical disadvan-
tage of Penn State.

“There’s one way in and there’s
one way out,” Huggins said. “I
don’t hide that in recruiting.
Yes, ‘We have an unbelievable
fan base,’ I said, ‘but at the same
time, too, if you ain’t handling
your business, can you handle
that as well?’ I think I address the
elephants in the room right on.”

The Nittany Lions have uni-
formity throughout the entire
coaching staff. The process starts
from Campbell and works its
way down, but it all stems back
to players being in Happy Valley
for the right reasons and working
together as one team to build the
best culture for the program.

“Coach Campbell’s philosophy
is, ‘We’re gonna get the right type
of human being that fits our cul-
ture, our kind of guys,’” Broom-
field said. “I think for us, we still
approach it from that manner,
and then we kind of gotta weed
through everything else.”

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BUFFALO BULLS

No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.
0	Kobi Blackwell	CB/Jr.	15	Sedrick Vessah	DE/Sr.	38	Dylan Cleary	S/Fr.	76	Nathan Natoli	OL/Sr.
0	Nino Hill	RB/So.	16	Elijah Holmes	QB/Sr.	39	Blake Sholder	K/Fr.	77	Jackson Davenport	OL/So.
1	SaVeon Brown	CB/So.	16	Caleb Oliver	DE/Jr.	40	Amari Snowden	LB/Fr.	78	Joe Crocker	OL/Sr.
1	Phillip Folmar	WR/So.	17	Jeremiah Watkins	WR/Jr.	42	Sam Stratton	LS/Jr.	79	Cam Davis	OL/Fr.
2	Jaylen Andrews	WR/Jr.	17	Logan Goodwin	DE/Jr.	43	Xair Stevenson	S/So.	81	TJ Sabatucci	TE/Fr.
2	Stevie Bracey	LB/Sr.	18	George Hill	LB/So.	44	Zach Bergmann	LB/Sr.	82	Terrell Richards	WR/Sr.
3	Patrick Clacks III	WR/Jr.	18	Jake Forburger	QB/Fr.	45	Stone Rozak	TE/Fr.	83	Jack Eskridge	WR/Fr.
3	Oliver Bridges	CB/Sr.	19	Matthew Hilty	LB/Sr.	47	Bryce Williams	S/Fr.	85	Aiden Howard	TE/Fr.
4	Messiah Burch	RB/Sr.	20	DJ Mangan	LB/Jr.	48	Joseph Stoever	LS/Sr.	86	Michael Gelatko	TE/So.
4	Ronnell Davis	S/Jr.	21	Bradley Ilunga-Bisselele	LB/So.	49	Aiden Anderson	DE/Fr.	87	Trevor Wilson	TE/Sr.
5	Mikey Crawford	CB/Jr.	21	Devare Mathis	RB/Sr.	50	Zach Pettitt	DE/Fr.	88	Rex Stinchcomb	DL/So.
5	Clint Walker	TE/Sr.	22	Donovan Rodriguez	CB/So.	51	Tyrone Davis	OL/Jr.	88	Aaron Clark	WR/Fr.
6	Miles Greer	S/Sr.	23	Xavier Leonard	S/Jr.	51	Anwar Witherspoon Jr.	LB/Fr.	89	Nick Leonard	TE/Jr.
6	Chance Morrow	WR/Sr.	24	James McNeil Jr.	RB/Jr.	52	Jack Garbolino	LB/Fr.	90	Ethan Stumpf	P/Jr.
7	John Keough	S/Jr.	24	Sayre Smothers	CB/So.	55	Thomas Barr	OL/So.	91	Henri Zeneli	DE/So.
7	Jason Wright	QB/So.	25	Terrance Shelton Jr.	RB/Jr.	55	Mason Nickel	DT/Jr.	92	Luke Yau Gayle	DT/Jr.
8	Jasaiah Gathings	WR/Sr.	25	Na’Rod “Flipp” Jarvis	LB/Fr.	56	Marco Cate	OL/Fr.	93	Andrew VanSlyke	P/Sr.
8	Ramari Taylor	CB/Jr.	26	Chase Enlow	RB/Fr.	58	Ben Fogila-Albrecht	OL/Fr.	94	Noah Wittmer	DE/Jr.
9	Keontez Bradley	CB/Sr.	26	Zae Jennings	S/Jr.	59	Gabriel Arena	OL/Sr.	95	Stantavious Smith	DT/Sr.
9	Alvin Jones III	WR/So.	27	Davion Coffee	CB/Jr.	59	Royce Rogers	DT/Fr.	95	Evan Pfeifer	P/Fr.
10	Jamiere Munson	S/Sr.	28	Shey Williams	WR/Jr.	60	Val Kondratenko	OL/Jr.	96	Charlton Goodell	DT/Sr.
10	Mark-Anthony Scott Jr.	WR/Sr.	28	Drayson Crane	CB/So.	62	Paul Clark	OL/Jr.	96	Zach McGowan	K/Sr.
11	Will Clark	DE/Jr.	29	Cardel Staples	CB/Fr.	64	Jacob Merritt	OL/Sr.	97	Christopher Climes	DL/So.
11	Dwayne Early Jr.	WR/So.	30	Jacari Bennett	DE/Jr.	66	Will Reed	DT/Fr.	98	Mason Naple	DT/Fr.
12	Jackson Small	CB/So.	31	Oliver Hautanen	K/So.	68	Mike Whalen	OL/Fr.	99	Cornell Evans	DT/Sr.
12	Qur'an McNeill	QB/Fr.	31	Drake Saltarelli	LB/Jr.	69	Jackson Bellamy	OL/Jr.			
13	Bobby Mays	WR/Jr.	32	Matthew Heininger	LB/Fr.	70	Robbie Westmiller	OL/So.			
13	Joey Cheshire	LB/Sr.	33	Jordan Owens	LB/Sr.	71	Caleb Watts	OL/So.			
14	Jonathan Rousseau	S/So.	34	Preston Lunsford	DE/Fr.	72	Jaden Maxey	OL/Fr.			
14	Tyrell Simmons Jr.	WB/Jr.	35	Malachi Ervin	DE/Fr.	74	Nino Francavilla	OL/Sr.			
15	Mason Cumbie	QB/Sr.	37	Jamarcus Jones	CB/Fr.	75	Ahmaan Thoman	OL/Jr.			

PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS

No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.
0	Chase Sowell	WR/Sr.	15	Joshua Johnson	CB/Fr.	37	Jeremy Washington	RB/Fr.	75	Pete Eglitis	OL/Fr.
0	Jahmir Joseph	CB/So.	16	Donte Nastasi	CB/Jr.	38	Nathan Tiyce	P/So.	76	Hunter Albright	OL/Fr.
1	James Peoples	RB/Jr.	17	Josiah Zayas	CB/Fr.	39	Ty Blanding	DT/Jr.	77	Owen Aliciene	OL/Fr.
1	Ikenna Ezeogu	DE/Sr.	18	Max Granville	DE/So.	39	Jashaun Green	S/Sr.	78	Malachi Goodman	OL/Fr.
2	Zay Robinson	WR/Fr.	18	Benjamin Bahmer	WR/Fr.	40	Keian Kaiser	LB/Fr.	79	Donnie Harbour	OL/So.
2	Audavion Collins	CB/Sr.	19	Jack Lambert	QB/Jr.	40	Jake Lukac	TE/Fr.	80	Cooper Alexander	TE/So.
3	Rocco Becht	QB/Sr.	19	Yvan Kemajou	DE/So.	41	Jake Laverde	S/Fr.	81	Ben Whitver	WR/Fr.
3	Jamison Patton	S/Sr.	20	Tyrell Chatman	CB/Fr.	42	Mason Robinson	DE/Jr.	82	Ethan Black	WR/Jr.
4	Brett Eskildsen	WR/Jr.	21	Vaboue Toure	S/So.	43	Dayshaun Burnett	DE/Fr.	83	Brian Kortovich	TE/Fr.
4	Jeremiah Cooper	S/Sr.	21	Carson Hansen	RB/Sr.	45	Josh Banks	LB/Fr.	84	Gabe Burkle	TE/Sr.
5	Daryus Dixon	CB/So.	24	Ibn McDaniels	S/So.	46	Evan Wolff	LB/Fr.	87	Andrew Rappleyea	WR/Jr.
6	Koby Howard	WR/So.	25	Quinton Martin Jr.	RB/So.	47	Aidan Probst	DE/So.	88	Elijah Reeder	DE/Fr.
7	Zion Tracy	CB/Sr.	25	Alex Tatsch	LB/So.	50	Cooper Cousins	OL/Jr.	89	Finn Furmanek	TE/Jr.
7	Alex Manske	QB/Fr.	26	Cam Smith	LB/Fr.	51	Brock Riker	OL/So.	89	Jackson Ford	DE/Fr.
7	Peter Gonzalez	WR/So.	26	Cam Wallace	RB/Jr.	52	Dominic Rulli	OL/Sr.	90	Liam Andrews	DT/Fr.
8	Karon Brookins	WR/Fr.	27	Omarion Davis	S/So.	54	Vaea Ikakoula	OL/Fr.	91	Armstrong Nnodim	DT/So.
8	Kooper Ebel	LB/Sr.	28	Bryson Williams	S/Fr.	55	Chimdy Onoh	OL/Jr.	92	Andrew Dufault	SN/So.
9	Cael Brezina	LB/Jr.	29	D’Antae Sheffey	RB/Fr.	56	Mason Bandhauer	OL/Fr.	92	Siale Taupaki	DT/Sr.
9	Amarion Jackson	WR/Fr.	29	Hunter Sowell	CB/Fr.	56	Alijah Carnell	DT/So.	93	Bobby Mears	DE/Jr.
10	Caleb Bacon	DE/Sr.	30	Christian Askew	S/Fr.	61	Liam Horan	OL/So.	94	Ryan Barker	K/Jr.
10	Connor Barry	QB/Sr.	31	Logan Cunningham	WR/Jr.	65	Jim Fitzgerald	OL/Sr.	94	De’Andre Cook	DT/So.
11	LaVar Arrington II	DE/So.	31	Marcus Neal Jr.	S/Jr.	66	Will Tompkins	OL/Fr.	95	Cristiano Rosa	K/Sr.
11	Lyrick Samuel	WR/So.	32	John Klosterman	LB/Sr.	67	Henry Boehme	OL/Jr.	96	Lucas Tenbrock	P/Fr.
12	Kase Evans	QB/Fr.	33	Alex McPherson	DE/So.	68	Anthony Donkoh	OL/Jr.	98	Dallas Vakalahi	DT/Jr.
12	Xxavier Thomas	CB/Fr.	34	Chris Fileppo	LB/So.	70	Trevor Suhr	OL/Jr.	98	Matthew Parker	K/Fr.
13	Tony Rojas	LB/Jr.	35	Blaise Sokach-Minnick	SN/Sr.	71	Garrett Sexton	OL/So.	99	Keanu Williams	DT/Sr.
13	Hank Lustig	WR/Fr.	35	Tyler Armstead	CB/So.	72	Tyshon Huff	OL/Jr.			
14	Peyton Falzone	TE/Fr.	36	Amar’e Glover	RB/Fr.	73	Caleb Brewer	DT/So.			
15	Keith Jones Jr.	WR/So.	37	Max Heffner	CB/Fr.	74	Kuol Kuol II	OL/Fr.			

‘Just me being myself’

WR Zay Robinson’s confidence, energy key to success

By **Andrew Mercer**
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

When Zay Robinson first got to Iowa State, fellow wide receiver Chase Sowell originally found him obnoxious, but later grew to appreciate his loud, energetic character. There was a certain swagger about him baked into his nature as a football player and as a person.

Robinson was the kind of player that told his teammates exactly what he was going to do on the field, and then executed the plan to perfection, something Sowell grew to see not as arrogance, but as confidence.

Sowell took Robinson under his wing and the pair forged a brotherly bond at Iowa State that carried over to Penn State.

“There’s nobody else I’d rather have in my corner, and I’ll do anything to give him advice and keep giving him the wisdom that I have,” Sowell said Tuesday.

Robinson hasn’t changed one bit since transferring to Penn State. He’s still the dancing, kind and infectiously charismatic teammate and is one of the Nittany Lions’ most vocal players.

“That was just me being myself,” Robinson said Wednesday. “I’m loud, I’m nice, I like to dance. I just like to be that spark of energy. It wasn’t me ‘talking the talk.’ It was me just being confident in myself, and that’s what I’ll always have.”

The redshirt freshman equated his charismatic personality to the confidence he’s built over the course of his life. He said the belief he has in himself stems from his family’s influence, naming his grandmother, mother and the rest of his “tight family.”

Robinson’s self-confidence is already being shown on the field. Although he’s lower in a depth chart, he has found ways to make an impact in the short duration of his appearance.

He said staying “locked in” on



Lucas Yendrzeiwski/Collegian

Wide receiver Zay Robinson (2) speaks to the media at the Lasch Building on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2026, in University Park, Pa.

his process and making on-the-fly adjustments depending on how his body feels is crucial to his ability to perform when his name is called. Robinson’s confidence is reinforced by the faith he has in his preparation.

When Matt Campbell and Taylor Mouser called his number these past two weeks, Robinson put that confidence on full display.

Robinson’s only target against Marshall was a 39-yard touchdown reception. He caught three passes on three targets for 34 yards against Temple, including a catch through heavy traffic, which Robinson had full faith in himself and Rocco Becht to make the connection.

“I gotta just be ready for any moment because it can happen at any time,” Robinson said. “That goes with how my process is throughout the week. Getting my sleep, eating right, just doing everything, all the little things, so I can be ready for those moments when they come.”

However, Robinson has provided an even bigger on-field impact this season as Penn State’s

starting kick and punt returner, a position he’s accepted with enthusiastic joy. He was a returner for West Des Moines Valley High School, and he said he likes the “isolation” of the job.

“I had the opportunity to just go back there one time and try it, and I liked it,” Robinson said. “It helps the team, so I want to do whatever I can do. Get the ball, and just get to make plays.”

So far, Robinson’s averaged 20.5 yards per kick return and 12.6 yards per punt return through two games. However, he said he’s only a “man or two away” from a breakthrough return, noting that the blocks are there and he needs to improve on slipping tackles.

Robinson’s not worried about whether he’ll get more playing time at wide receiver. He said he just needs to stay consistent, continue to trust himself and never let off the gas.

“It’s just nice to have an opportunity to be out there with my guys and to be able to help however I can,” Robinson said.

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‘I love this human’

Rappleyea brings toughness to offense

By **Noah Aberegg**
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Tight end Andrew Rappleyea walked into a meeting room with Matt Campbell shortly after he was hired to meet the guy who could be his head coach for the next few years.

From his first conversation with Rappleyea, Campbell was all-in on what he brought to the Nittany Lions.

“The first time I met him, I was like, ‘Ooh, I love this human,’” Campbell said.

Rappleyea was one of 52 players who returned to Penn State’s squad after James Franklin was fired, and his commitment to the Nittany Lions was one of the key things that drew Campbell’s attention.

Campbell’s first question to each player during the introductory meeting was about why they came to Penn State, a question Rappleyea answered “with passion and with just this infectious energy,” Campbell said.

“You knew that that was somebody that you wanted to build the program around,” Campbell said. “Then to watch how he works, what he comes in with, that competitive endurance that he comes everyday with.”

On the other side of things, Rappleyea had spent the last three years playing for James Franklin, but didn’t follow his tight ends coach Ty Howle or Franklin. Instead, he was committed to what Campbell

brought to the table and gave him a chance.

“This is the right guy for the job,” Rappleyea said. “He’s a great human being and as a coach, I just love playing for him.”

As one of the key returners to Penn State’s squad, Rappleyea helped bring the team together, despite not necessarily being the top player in his position group.

“We had a bunch of new guys coming from all over the place and really just getting comfortable with them,” Rappleyea said. “Lining up now, I feel like there’s not a doubt in my mind we’re going to get the job done.”

Through two games this season, Rappleyea has recorded just two receptions for 23 yards. But what’s not on the stat sheet is made up for in his blocking.

Rappleyea’s shorter but bigger frame has allowed him to eat up blocks on run plays. With Gabe Burkle sidelined for Week 1 and playing a limited role against Temple, Rappleyea has been key with blocking what he believes can be a dominant rushing attack.

“We have the best backs in the country, the best line, best tight end group,” Rappleyea said.

In all aspects of his game, Rappleyea brings a physicality aspect that draws praise from his coaching staff.

“It doesn’t matter if it’s ping pong or it doesn’t matter if it’s basketball,” Campbell said. “If Rapp’s got something to say,

he’s going to try to attack you in everything he does.”

In Campbell and Taylor Mouser’s offensive system, Rappleyea has been a part of a tight-end heavy lineup, at times playing in 14-personnel, which he said was “awesome.”

While Rappleyea hasn’t had his big game or shining moment yet, he’s embraced every moment to play and be on the field.

“I just love football, I love the physicality of it,” Rappleyea said. “I love doing my job and helping the team win.”

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Sawyer Hadlum/Collegian

Tight end Andrew Rappleyea (87) throws up a peace sign after the Penn State football game against Rutgers at SHI Stadium on Saturday, Nov. 29, 2025 in Piscataway, N.J.

CROSSWORD

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Across

1

Blacks

6

Attention getter

10

Kind of test

13

Bratislava native

14

Mathematical statement

16

Contrary doctrine

17

Most unshapely

18

Corn serving

19

Bone-chilling

21

Farm division

22

Steer clear of

24

Wood sorrels

26

Religious offshoot

28

“Charlotte’s Web” girl

29

Stops sleeping

31

Old French coin

32

City-like

34

Electrical circuits

36

Leave stranded

38

Red shade

39

Bygone money

40

Blasé

41

Giant Hall-of-Famer

42

Goofs

44

Persian. e.g. ____ ex machina

50

Strike out

51

OK, in a way

52

Ear-related

54

Hex

56

Uris protagonist

57

High priests

59

Get even for

61

Slope

62

School text

63

Frigid

64

Caddie’s bagful

65

Sacrifice site

Down

1

Split

2

Repulsion

3

____ Maria

4

Tore down

5

Hebrides island

6

Seabird

7

Close call

8

Bottom line

9

Spanish appetizer

10

German diacritical mark

11

Rocket part

12

Army member

13

Bundle

15

Nervous twitches

20

"Laugh-In" member Dan

23

Become accustomed (to)

25

Gutters

27

Harbor craft

29

On the train

30

Father

33

Learning style

35

Arête

36

Fast

37

Shrewdly

38

Kitchen gadget

39

Pea jacket?

40

Round soft masses

43

Ebb

45

Land on Lake Victoria

46

Bigger

47

Circular

49

Window feature

51

Carpenter’s tool

53

Play group

55

Poet Teasdale

57

Fraternity letter

58

Windsor, for one

60

Consume

WORD SEARCH

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Ben Franklin

I C R T Y P H I L A D E L P H I A Q
F A E M T T D U P A U G F N P T S X
K N T Q I T P E E S I T A K R X T C
O A S I C R H I G I C I H X I Y A R
I M A C I X U U R A R B D O R T T E
D L M N R X M U O O S B Y T R X E A
J A T S T P O Q T S U I N E G P S T
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Almanac

Author

Boston

Colonies

Creative

Diplomat

Eccentric

Editor

Electricity

Europe

Genius

Historian

Humorist

Inventor

Key

Kite

Leader

Library

London

Mason

Paris

Patriot

Philadelphia

Postmaster

Printer

Rebel

Sage

Satirist

Statesman

Wise

KAKURO

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How to play:

A number above the diagonal line in a black square is the sum of the white squares to the right of it.

A number below the diagonal line is the sum of the white squares in the sequence below it.

You may only use the digits 1 to 9, and a digit can only be used once in any sequence.

SUDOKU

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5	4				2			1	7		
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How to play:

Only use digits 1 through 12. Digits can not repeat within a grid.

Mouser talks run game struggles

OC takes blame for lack of consistency on ground

By Noah Aberegg
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Penn State’s offense was dominant in the season opener against Marshall, but had a slow start in Week 2 against Temple. Days after the 27-9 victory, Taylor Mouser took the podium in Beaver Stadium on Tuesday, discussing the struggles from the running backs, Rocco Becht’s performance and more. Here’s a look at what Mouser had to say.

Running back struggles

Before the season, Mouser said the offense will feature a four-running back package of Carson Hansen, James Peoples, Quinton Martin Jr. and Cam Wallace. Through two games, Hansen has taken the bulk of the reps, but hasn’t seen the results he wants. He’s averaged just 4.4 yards per carry — the same number the running backs are at this year. “I’m obviously not super thrilled with the run game,” Mouser said. “I’m still very sick with myself in a lot of ways for some of the things in the first two games.” With Hansen taking a majority of the carries and Peoples seemingly slotting in as the No. 2 running back, Martin hasn’t seen the results that many have expected. During the summer and fall camp, Mouser and the staff praised Martin for his work ethic and play. However, he didn’t see the field against Temple. “Quinton has earned the right



Lucas Yendrzejewski/Collegian

Offensive coordinator Taylor Mouser speaks to the media at Beaver Stadium on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026, in University Park, Pa.

to get touches in the offense, it wasn’t a reflection of our lack of trust in Quinton or where he’s at,” Mouser said. “His time’s coming, and I have all the trust in him to go out there and play.” While Matt Campbell has discussed the offensive line missing blocks and Hansen talked about being more decisive, Mouser took the blame for the struggles through two weeks. “We’re all frustrated with the level of mediocrity that I would call the run game, and that starts with me,” Mouser said. “I’m more mad at myself than I am the Oline.”

Rocco Becht’s success

With the run game failing to get

things established early on, the offense has relied on the passing game in the first two games. Becht threw for 271 yards and four touchdowns against Marshall, seeing a slight decrease in Week 2 with 268 yards and three touchdowns. His performances have cemented himself as Penn State’s leader. “He’s one of our best, if not our best player,” Mouser said. “I’m pleased with him. We put a lot on that guy’s shoulders every single play, and he’s done a good job.” Against Temple on Saturday, Becht had a slower start compared to Week 1 with an illegal pass downfield and a bad miss on fourth-and-goal.

Despite the early miscues, Mouser continued to applaud Becht, including on his third-down pass to Zay Robinson, who Becht threaded the needle to in between five defenders. “I think the throw that he made to Zay Robinson on the third down was probably the best throw I’ve ever seen that guy make,” Mouser said. “I think that guy’s playing with as much confidence as I’ve seen that guy play with.”

Tight end room

Throughout the offseason, tight end Gabe Burkle didn’t see the practice field as he recovered from a torn ACL suffered last November. After continuing

to recover during Week 1, Burkle made his return against Temple in a limited role. “Gabe has been on a pitch count this last week and it’s frustrating because I’ve been very vocal about how much I love Gabe and what he brings to our offense,” Mouser said. “He’s done a great job to prepare and (I’m) excited for his number to get called moving forward.” Burkle didn’t record a reception against the Owls, but saw 20 snaps in a blocking role. Another tight end who earned praise from Mouser was redshirt junior Finn Furmanek, who hasn’t seen much playing time early in his Penn State career. Under Mouser’s offense, Furmanek has been part of the tight end-heavy formation and play style. “He’s one of those guys that no matter what you ask him, he loves Penn State,” Mouser said. “He’ll be a captain here for this place one day. Every job that we ask him to do, he does it at an elite level.” While Furmanek hasn’t recorded a reception either, he was close to scoring a touchdown against Marshall, which was ultimately batted down. “We’re going to get him in the end zone,” Mouser said. “We’ll find a way to because he deserves to, just from the sacrifice and what he brings to the tight end room.”

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Campbell gives team, Granville injury updates

By Andrew Mercer
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Matt Campbell took to the podium at Beaver Stadium after Penn State’s road victory over Temple. Campbell discussed improving the running game, gave a few injury updates and the loss of Defensive end Max Granville. Here’s what he said Tuesday.

Running backs

Penn State’s run game has featured a heavy reliance on Carson Hansen as the bell cow with James Peoples as the second string. Campbell has grappled with whether to go with someone built momentum at practice or feature a guy who has routinely proved themselves in the past. On Tuesday, Campbell said there is still a lot of room for improvement in the running back room. Not because of Taylor Mouser’s playcalling, but because of his players’ execution of those plays. Campbell said he’s liking where Hansen’s development is going, primarily because he’s rarely losing yardage. “But that guy, the explosion, those finality of finishes, there’s still a lot of room for growth there,” Campbell said. Campbell briefly spoke about Quinton Martin Jr., who didn’t see action Saturday. He said he has faith in Martin, but there is a lot of competition in the room. He expressed his excitement to see the running backs continue to compete in practice, stating he’s “grateful that there’s a lot of guys that can do a lot of things with the ball in their hands.”

“We have a lot of playmakers, and that’s why practice is so critically important right now,” Campbell said. “There’s still some gray, and that room is going to continue to work itself out as we work through the weeks and work through these games.”

Injury updates

When asked about player availability, Campbell said Armstrong Nnodim and Alijah Carnell will be playing against Buffalo on Saturday. He noted both players were close to 100% during warmups at Lincoln Financial Field, but he didn’t want to run the risk of re-injury. However, he said linebacker Cam Smith is a “question mark,” but he practiced Tuesday. Campbell stressed making a distinction between being healthy and being game ready. He said getting more reps at practice and easing back into game reps is critically important to the return process, recalling how some players coming back from off-season injuries were healthy in early fall camp, but limited in Week 1. “We’re getting healthier, which is positive,” Campbell said. “There’s a difference between being healthy and being ready to play. Those are things where you know it’s going to be critical to get those guys back and continue to see what are they.”

Max Granville

Campbell announced Saturday Granville suffered a season-ending injury in practice leading up to the Temple game. On Tuesday, Campbell went deeper into detail on losing Granville so early in the season.



Lucas Yendrzejewski/Collegian

Head coach Matt Campbell speaks to the media at Beaver Stadium on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026, in University Park, Pa.

He said it’s especially difficult to lose Granville because of what he’s already gone through. The redshirt sophomore returned from a season-ending injury he picked up prior to 2025 and returned in the season-opener against Marshall, breaking up one pass. “It’s really tough losing a guy like Max, more than you know because of what his capability and high-end ceiling is,” Campbell said. “It’s just what he’s already been through. Nobody worked harder to get back and be on the field, and that’s a gut punch. It was a gut punch for our staff. It was a gut punch for him.” Campbell said he’s confident that Granville will come back stronger next season, highlighting his commitment to faith and trusting the process.

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Emphasis on correcting run game

By Andrew Deal
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Penn State’s running backs entered the season with a lot of hype after the expectation of a four-running back system, and the camaraderie of the unit to get the best out of each other. Those expectations have not come to fruition yet, but the belief in the room is still there from the players and coaching staff to figure it out. “Obviously, to say that I wasn’t thrilled with where the run game’s at would be an understatement,” Taylor Mouser said Tuesday. “Feel like there’s a lot of growth to be had there.” The emphasis to get the run game going was clear in the Nittany Lions’ victory over Temple, as they ran the ball more than they threw it despite the success the pass game had against the Owls. It’s likely to help the room “continue to work itself out as we work through the weeks and work through these games,” as Campbell said Tuesday. The lead back thus far has been Iowa State transfer Carson Hansen, who’s gotten a bulk of the carries. However, he hasn’t shown explosiveness or consistency in his runs, leading to the struggle to move the ball in the run game. Mouser isn’t necessarily putting the blame on anyone, even putting some of the blame on himself, as he feels he’s not doing enough to showcase what Hansen and the rest of the running backs can do, but the rushes have been “a hair off” all around. “For whatever reason, we’ve been a hair off, either he’s missed it and blocked it well,

or we haven’t blocked it well, and there’s been (missed assignments) on the ground that we need to clean up for him to be better,” Mouser said. The big absence in Week 2’s game was Quinton Martin Jr., who proved in Penn State’s Pin stripe Bowl win last year that he can run the ball with consistency. Martin didn’t step onto the field at any point against Temple despite the inconsistency from the other running backs. Despite Martin not recording a snap, the belief is still there from the coaching staff that he can produce at a high level. Campbell “has great belief” Martin will be one of the “many guys throughout the season that are going to pop up and showcase themselves.” Whether that’s in Week 3 against Buffalo or later in the season during the Big Ten schedule is unknown, but the trust in Martin to make an impact when he enters the game is still there from the coaching staff. “He’s good enough to help our football team, and we’re going to need that guy to make big plays with big moments this year,” Mouser said. “And his time’s coming, and I have all the trust in him to go out there and play.” No matter which running back is next to Rocco Becht, the staff knows the ground game is a work in progress within the team. The work continues to be put in to get to a point where the running game is successful, joining the passing success that’s already been established.

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COLLEGIAN FOOTBALL STAFF PREDICTIONS



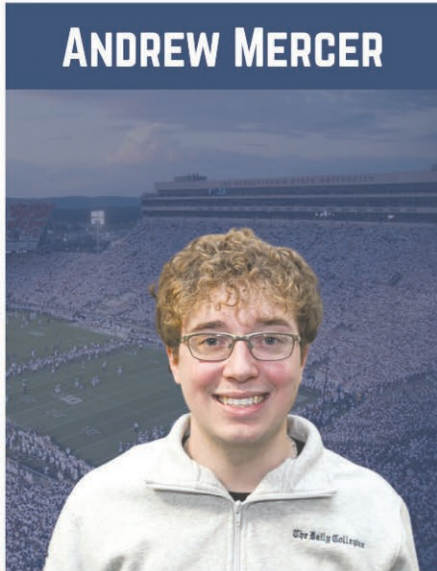
PENN STATE: 41
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PENN STATE: 38
BUFFALO: 7



PENN STATE: 52
BUFFALO: 3



PENN STATE: 48
BUFFALO: 0

CONCERNS ABOUT FLOCK VOICED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

By Jonathon Chiu
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

When State College resident and political activist Ryan Caldwell first heard concerns from a friend about the nationwide presence of cameras made by Flock Safety, he knew he had to investigate further.

Caldwell viewed a map made by DeFlock, a volunteer organization that's been tracking the expansion of automated license plate reader (ALPR) cameras nationwide since 2024, where he discovered the presence of several ALPRs in State College — including Flock cameras located on Penn State's University Park campus.

"The first time I looked at the DeFlock map, I was like, 'Wow, there are a lot of cameras here that I didn't know about,'" Caldwell, a second-year studying political science at George Washington University, said. "I went out there in-person and started looking for the cameras myself, because they are quite difficult to see if you're not looking for them, and then after that, I started reporting on it and kind of hit the ground running with my activism."

Caldwell's posts on Instagram and TikTok about the presence of ALPR cameras both on and off campus haven't gone unnoticed. An Instagram reel he posted on Aug. 5 highlighting University Park's Flock camera as and Leonardo ELSAG video platehuntercameraslocatedatthe intersection of South Atherton Street and Westerly Parkway has already gained almost 4,700 likes and 289 comments.

According to DeFlock, there are over 20 Flock cameras across University Park that were mapped by contributors. The Daily Collegian confirmed their presence in the spring.

DeFlock's map also reports that Flock cameras have been spotted at several Penn State Commonwealth campuses,



Jonathon Chiu/Daily Collegian

One of the 24 Flock cameras on campus sits on Porter Road in University Park, Pennsylvania.

including Altoona, Behrend and Harrisburg.

Penn State's partial exemption from Pennsylvania's Right-to-Know Law means university records related to Flock usage, which would include audit logs and data collected from the cameras, are not accessible to the public.

Penn State's Flock cameras represent a fraction of the 120,000 deployed across the United States, according to the American Civil Liberties Union, which use artificial intelligence to analyze collected data with the findings made accessible through a networked database.

The nationwide usage of Flock's cameras has been criticized as an implementation of mass surveillance that infringes on peoples' privacy and doesn't provide adequate measures to ensure transparency from law enforcement.

This viewpoint is increasingly gaining traction, especially following reports of Flock cameras and their data being used by law enforcement officers to track women seeking abortions and to stalk people and by Immigrations & Customs Enforcement

(ICE) for their operations.

Caldwell said he believes his posts have sparked increased discussions about Flock and other automated license plate reader cameras in State College. An Aug. 16 town hall he organized and moderated saw attendees express their concerns about Flock cameras to Pennsylvania House Rep. Paul Takac (D-Centre) and PA-15 Democratic congressional candidate Ray Bilger.

Several Penn State students, faculty and staff have already expressed concerns about the university's use of Flock cameras. One student even made a website — psuprivacy.com — to document their presence both at University Park and on Penn State's commonwealth campuses.

Inspired by Caldwell's posts, Penn State student Parker Wallis decided to ask people their thoughts about the University Park Flock cameras. These interviews were then posted as a four-part series to Instagram and TikTok as part of his podcast, "Parcast with Parker," which combined have received thousands of views and likes and dozens of comments.

"We never had the chance to vote on whether or not these Flock cameras should be installed in our community and so I knew I had to do this," Wallis, a second-year studying broadcast journalism, said. "My voice alone isn't gonna cut it but if I can pass on this information online and I can get people to realize what's going on in State College and Penn State University — why these ALPR cameras are here and how they're being used — I can seriously do some damage and I can help to fight against these Flock cameras."

Wallis said there is potential to push back against Penn State's use of Flock cameras through on-campus organizations such as the University Park Undergraduate Association. But others, including Caldwell, see the only way to ensure the university cuts ties with the company is through pressuring lawmakers in Harrisburg to pass in-state legislation regulating or banning ALPRs.

The issue of Flock cameras and other automated license plate readers has already reached the halls of Harrisburg, where several bills have been proposed

seeking to either restrict or ban them in the Commonwealth.

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro has also voiced concerns about the use of Flock cameras in the state, and said he was open to signing a bill banning them statewide.

However, there are House and Senate bills in the works which, if passed, would allow the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to issue permits for ALPRs to be installed along state-designated highways.

In lieu of clear guidance from Harrisburg, Trevor White, a member of the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors, filed a request for the township to explore the viability of implementing ALPR restrictions within its borders. This request was approved during the board's Sept. 1 meeting.

White said he is familiar with Caldwell's posts about Penn State's Flock cameras and appreciates their increased discussion via social media. However, he said these posts act more as a reflection of the opposition to ALPRs, which was already being channeled through movements like DeFlock.

"Regardless of the social media outcry, folks have been on this beat for a long time," White said.

Opposition toward Flock cameras is approaching a "critical mass," he said, so it's important to enact local restrictions so they're handled in a way where people aren't influenced by social media, including posts calling for vandalism, to act rashly against their usage.

"I'm looking for a solution here because there are people who want these but the vast majority of folks around here do not want ALPRs like Flock," White said. "We just want to be able to live our lives and not be tracked by these private companies."

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Student rights, amid ICE activity

By Fabiola González-Cruz
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Over the past few years, changes to federal immigration policy, including increased immigration enforcement, have raised questions about what rights immigrants have when interacting with law enforcement.

In July, the State College Borough Council passed an ordinance preventing borough resources and personnel, including police, from collaboration or involvement with U.S. Immigration and Customs enforcement.

Here's what Penn State students should know about their rights.

Federal, Pennsylvania law

People in the United States have certain constitutional protections regardless of their immigration status, including protections involving searches, seizures and interactions with law enforcement.

According to the guidance published by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, individuals stopped by immigration authorities in a public place have the right to remain silent and do not have to answer questions about their immigration status or birthplace.

Individuals can also ask an immigration agent for their name, badge and agency and ask if they are free to leave. If the agent says yes, the individual may walk away.

Those who do not understand English can also request an interpreter.

U.S. citizens are not required to carry documents proving their citizenship. However, non-U.S.

citizens who are over 18 and have valid immigration documents are required under federal law to carry them, and may be required to show them if asked.

If immigration authorities come to your home, dorm

Dorms, apartments and other living areas are considered private "nonpublic areas" and are subject to different treatment from immigration authorities.

Individuals do not have to open their door when immigration agents arrive, according to guidance from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. They can ask agents to identify themselves and ask to see a warrant through a window, or even have it slid underneath the door.

Agents are required to have a warrant signed by a judge to enter a home without permission, according to the Commonwealth. If the warrant is not signed by a judge or does not contain the correct name and address, you do not have to let any agent in.

Enforcement at Penn State

Penn State has issued university-specific guidance regarding federal actions and immigration enforcement.

University Police and Public Safety officers do not inquire about individuals' immigration status, though the department communicates with other law enforcement agencies as appropriate, according to a community update from Penn State last updated in Feb. 2026.

The university asks members of the Penn State community who become aware of immigration-related law enforcement activity at a Penn State location to notify University Police and Public Safety.

Students and university employees should also be aware of protections surrounding student records and personal

information. Penn State states that student information is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA, according to the update.

University employees approached by federal agents seeking student or employee information are directed to contact Penn State's Office of General Counsel.

Penn State recommends that international students and scholars carry or have electronic copies of the biographical page of their passport, their most recent I-94 admission record, and their Form I-20 for F-1 students or DS-2019 for J-1 students. Penn State states that there is no need to carry a copy of a visa stamp seeing as it is relevant for entry.

International students

Penn State spokesperson Tyra McGarvie said in a statement to the Collegian that "the University remains committed to keeping our community informed and supporting those who may be affected while complying with applicable federal laws and regulations."

She said Penn State advises international students and other students with concerns on immigration matters to consult the Penn State Global website.

Continue Reading:



SCDS, community protests in opposition of ICE

By Jacob Godshall
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

A group of protesters gathered at Old Main on Monday night to protest Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activity in State College, on campus and at the State College Regional Airport. Protesters called for the university's administration to cease cooperation with ICE officials.

The event was organized by the Student Committee for Defense and Solidarity (SCDS) and the People's Defense Front. Members of the People's Defense Front and SCDS arrived at the steps of Old Main toting signs and banners with slogans like, "ICE and Klan go hand-in-hand" and "Shut down Moshannon."

Besides members of the People's Defense Front and SCDS, a group of students and State College residents gathered to watch or join in.

"I think ICE has been doing horrible things to this community and to this country," Curtis Johnson, 19, of Allentown, Pennsylvania, said. "And so I wanted to show my solidarity with the people here."

Johnson also said that he doesn't want his taxes going towards ICE.

"Ideally, the money I pay to this state, to this university, to my local government and to my state governments are not going to go to an organization killing U.S. citizens and also illegally deporting people," Johnson said.

After protesting on the steps of Old Main, the group unravelled their banners, raised

their signs and marched through campus, along Pollock Road and into the HUB-Robeson Center.

The group stood inside the HUB for several minutes, continuing their chanting as students watched on, some cheering along with the protest. After a few minutes the group walked out the door facing the HUB's lawn, and marched back to Old Main.

Behailu Streit, 35, of State College, followed the group and observed throughout their protest.

"The topic has been pretty contentious in my opinion for especially recently over the last couple years. I know that regulation needs to be incorporated when it comes to new citizens, and obviously there needs to be more dialogue with how that should be," Streit said.

Streit said he has read about several incidents involving ICE, and while he has never witnessed anything himself, he believes regulation needs to be put in place. Streit said that regulations should specifically include "keeping families together," if there are children involved.

Giancarlo Torres, 19, of Souderton, Pennsylvania, said that the university should be doing a better job creating a safe environment for its students.

"I think Penn State, as a school, as a university, as an institution, should feel safe. As a student, you should feel safe, as a worker, you should feel safe," Torres said. "Anybody who's on Penn State campus should not be in fear of persecution. You should be here to either learn or work."

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Nittany AI Alliance hosts showcase

Students share how they use new technology in the classroom

By **Jonathon Chiu**
 THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Dozens of students filled the sixth floor of the Eric J. Barron Innovation Hub on Monday as part of the Nittany AI Alliance’s second annual AI showcase to highlight to representatives of at least 17 corporations how they are utilizing artificial intelligence as part of various projects.

A total of 41 projects were displayed by students belonging to the College of Information Science and Technology (IST), Smeal College of Business, College of Engineering and other colleges. Some projects focused on how AI can be used to assist with post-stroke brain imaging, help college advisors better help students with course planning, provide possible diagnoses to medical symptoms and recommend the correct care option and even find the most ideal location to build a data center.

Andy Gatto, Nittany AI Alliance’s innovation ecosystem and partnership strategist, said the first AI showcase, held in September 2025, was in response to the expression of struggles by Penn State’s industry partners to find students adept at using AI.

“A lot of companies were starting to see that it’s really hard to do that at traditional career fairs,” Gatto, 46, of State College, Pennsylvania, said. “We opened up the filter really wide and just allowed students who’d done any sort of applied AI project to submit posters and have an opportunity to market themselves as people who have practical AI skills that companies would be interested in.”

Along with taking suggestions from participants on how to improve future showcases, Gatto said he hopes the event will



Jonathon Chiu/Collegian

Attendees walk through and view rows of posters of student projects that use artificial intelligence during the Nittany AI Alliance’s second annual AI Showcase on Monday, Sept. 14, 2026 at the Eric J. Barron Innovation Hub in State College, Pa.

inspire other students, regardless of major, to pursue their own AI projects.

He said he felt there were “almost no excuses” left for students to not at least attempt to see how artificial intelligence can be used to solve problems they care about, especially with the recent increase in AI resources available from the launch of AI Studio.

“With tools that are available now, it’s not just engineering or comp sci or developers. You don’t have to be a coder to build something real with AI,” Gatto said. “It doesn’t take long to learn these tools and build something real, to be able to put a poster together, be in the showcase and demonstrate to these employers what AI skills you have.”

For Adim Ogbolu, 21, of Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, the showcase was an opportunity to present his project of using physi-

cal neural circuits to control robots and other autonomous systems, which he began last year.

He said the findings from his research — which he already has tested by using his neural circuits to train two robots to avoid light sources and obstacles, respectively — will help to highlight how AI can be applied to hardware able to advance the capabilities of machine and deep learning.

“It’s like a rabbit hole,” Ogbolu, a fourth-year studying electrical engineering, said. “Essentially, you’re trying to recreate a brain and you’d be surprised at the things you can learn doing that.”

With his current goal being to ultimately be able to control a drone using his neural circuits, Ogbolu said he also hopes to upgrade them so their modular nature can be utilized in new ways.

“These neurons all have weights in them that you can tune for their synaptic outputs

but currently right now they’re fixed. They can’t vary,” Ogbolu said. “I’ve already experimented with versions that can vary outputs. Now it’s just a matter of characterizing it and really getting it to work.”

Also among the projects being presented was Andy Salvo’s company Raptor, which seeks to use AI to create bespoke software that helps streamline a business’ operations.

Salvo, 20, of Little Silver, New Jersey, said he founded Raptor four weeks prior to the showcase and hopes it can be used to help more business owners adapt to the age of AI while ensuring that their data remains within their systems.

The issue of data retention was important for Salvo as he believes this issue will only become more pressing as more instances arise of artificial intelligence being trained using data that

was scraped without knowledge or consent.

Despite this, Salvo said he still views human innovation as the key to continuing to see AI advance to both become more powerful and more applicable to whatever industry it’s used in.

“When you branch off of all of these and take a look at each project individually, you can see different lenses of thinking and looking at the day as a whole, it’s just a bunch of innovation that’s going on and it’s fascinating to see,” Salvo, a second-year studying corporate innovation and entrepreneurship, said.

Brandon Deutsch, who attended the showcase as part of a team of representatives from Lutron Electronics, said even though this was the first AI showcase he has ever attended, he found many of the projects — such as Raptor — to be “interesting” demonstrations of how AI can be used to solve problems.

Deutsch, 23, of Allentown, Pennsylvania, said he was excited to come back to future showcases to see how students come up with different ways to implement AI as the technology continues to evolve.

“We always come to the career fair events on the IST career affairs, the Penn State career affairs, and we were trying to look at some more smaller opportunities to really see what we’re doing here in Penn State,” Deutsch said. “We’re hoping that with some of these use cases, we can potentially find ways that we can use AI more because it’s new territory for everybody and making sure that you understand what AI is doing and what it’s capable of is pretty huge in today’s world.”

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Events to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month

By **Anisa Daniel-Oniko**
 THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

National Hispanic Heritage Month, celebrated from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 each year, is officially underway.

Penn State campuses across the commonwealth will further the annual tradition of holding events to celebrate Hispanic and Latino communities and honor their heritage and history. This year, the theme is “La unidad es nuestra fuerza,” which translates to “Unity Is Our Strength.”

Here are some of the scheduled events.

Sunday, Sept. 27

The Penn State Dolores Huerta Day of Service

Part 1: Honor Dolores Huerta: Harvest at the Student Farm

Huerta, a labor leader, civil rights activist and co-founder of the United Farm Workers, was known for her organizing work and her legendary cry of “¡Sí, se puede!” or “Yes, we can!”

Part one of this event honors her legacy by encouraging students to give back to their community.

At the Dr. Keiko Miwa Ross Student Farm from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., students will be able to volunteer and give back to the community by harvesting produce and flowers for St. Andrew’s Community Cafe.

Thursday, Oct. 1

Part 2: Serve the Community: St. Andrew’s Café

Since 2009, St. Andrew’s Community Café has offered free meals weekly, no questions asked.

In the second part of Dolores Huerta’s Day of Service, volunteers will aid in serving dinner at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church from 5 to 7 p.m.

To volunteer or learn more about the event, reach out to Victoria Prewitt-Rodriguez at vjp111@psu.edu.

Saturday, Oct. 3

Children’s Day

Penn State student organizations will be at the Schlow Library Community Room from 10:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, offering face painting, crafts and children’s games.



Chris Eutsler/Collegian

A “Happy Hispanic Month” sign hangs above attendees at the Happy Valley Latin Festival in State College, Pennsylvania.

The event will also include traditional snacks and opportunities to learn fun facts about Hispanic and Latino/a communities.

Student organizations can contact jmb1040@psu.edu to sign up for the event.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

Café con Leche: Unity Across Difference: Let’s Talk About It!

The Latino Caucus, Paul Robeson Cultural Center and Center for Social Change and Belonging are offering an evening of complimentary coffee, conversation and confectionery.

From 5:45 to 7:30 p.m., guests can explore how different communities can come together while still honoring unique and diverse experiences and perspectives.

The event will take place in the Flex Theater at 134 HUB-Robeson Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 7

Trailblazers of Penn State: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month

Penn State community members are invited to view a poster gallery led by the Eberly College of Science, the College of Health and Human Development and the College of Information Sciences and Technology.

The gallery aims to celebrate the voices and legacies of Penn State faculty, students and alumni who have contributed to the university and beyond.

The event is scheduled for

3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Westgate Building.

Friday, October 9

Fun Friday at the Paul Robeson Cultural Center

Free food, art, games and a space to hang out is available for students at Fun Friday.

Fun Friday is a PRCC tradition and focuses on fostering community care, a space for connection and celebration of culture.

The event will take place in Heritage Hall of the HUB-Robeson Center from noon to 3 p.m. No RSVP is needed and students can expect to meet new friends.

Hispanic Heritage Month Cultural Night

To conclude Hispanic Heritage Month, Cultural Night offers a night cultural celebration with free food and entertainment.

The night will feature a performance from the Caliente Dance Team, an organization focused on sharing Latino cultural heritage on campus.

Additionally, the event will host Eladio B. Bobadilla, an assistant professor in the Department of History at the University of Pittsburgh. Bobadilla studies immigration and social movements, including community organizing and cross-border activism.

The event runs from 6 to 8 p.m. at Heritage Hall. Seating at the event will be first-come, first-served.

To email reporter: aod5437@psu.edu

The best on-campus breakfast spots

By **Rebecca Fein**
 THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

As you slowly stretch awake, delicately crack your knuckles and get up to use the bathroom, you’re interrupted by a loud, ear-shattering growl — from your stomach.

You recall last night, wondering when the last time you ate was. When your mind goes blank (not because of the copious amounts of alcohol that were in your system), you realize it’s been a while since nutrition graced your body.

It’s breakfast time.

On the Edge

When Bagel Crust sounds like the move, but the walk is too treacherous and DoorDash is too expensive, don’t fret.

Four resident halls — East, South, West and Pollock — have the wonderfully delicious Edge.

If a bacon, egg and cheese is the only thing on your mind upon rolling out of bed, this little shop has everything you could ever dream of.

From seasonal pumpkin pastries to everyday confectionaries, Edge has the best sweet treats in town, not to mention the Penn State Bakery food that can be found there, featuring different sandwiches and various kinds of bagels with a myriad of spreads.

Sausage, egg and cheese on a croissant got you thirsty? Fear not, because Edge serves Starbucks beverages. Pair your sandwich with an iced latte or fruity refresher for a satisfying breakfast combo.

Edge is breakfast done right.

Dependable dining hall

The dining hall is one of Penn State’s most hidden gems.

Woke up at noon? That’s perfectly okay. If you catch the dining hall on a weekend, it serves brunch until 2 p.m. to accommodate the much-needed sleep after a night out.

The dining hall serves the same classic breakfast staples every single day: scrambled eggs, waffles with syrup, cereal, including Froot Loops, Krave, Frosted Flakes and so much more. Each dining hall has a complementary toasting station filled with sourdough bread, english muffins and bagels, complete with cream cheese, butter, jelly and peanut butter to match your spread mood of the day.

In addition to the repeating items, the dining hall switches it up daily, adding three different items. This consists of a



Mack Leach/Collegian

Students talk near the Starbucks in the HUB-Robeson center on Pollock Road on Feb. 24, 2026 in University Park, Pa.

type of potato, like tater tots or hashbrowns, a form of protein, like bacon or turkey sausage and of course one sweet breakfast item — in addition to the daily waffles, there’s usually pancakes or French toast.

All of these main courses can be eaten with your choice of yogurt, granola, a variety of pastries and fresh fruit.

To wash it all down, there’s any fountain drink you desire, every juice imaginable, coffee, tea or copious types of milk.

For allergy-ridden people, there’s a special fridge filled with dairy-free yogurt, cheese and milk.

Sleep in, but don’t sleep on the dining hall.

Majestic market

Lastly, the market. This one may seem like an obvious choice, but it’s often forgotten in a hunger-induced haze.

Just like Edge, each residential area has a market filled with just about anything you would find in a real grocery store.

Try something quick, like pre-packaged fresh fruit, a protein bar, a smoothie or pre-portioned cereal boxes. Have a bit more time? Pick up a microwavable breakfast item in the refrigerated section.

There are tons of options, including microwavable bacon and sausage. If you want the real deal, there are pre-made breakfast sandwiches and burritos that are only a bite away.

There is also, of course, creamery ice cream located conveniently in the freezer next to it. If that’s breakfast, we won’t tell.

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 Follow her on X: [@Rebecca_Fein](https://twitter.com/Rebecca_Fein)

‘Brave New World’ proves AI reliance stems from an addiction to convenience

At a coffee shop in downtown State College, I found myself



Hall sandwiched between two students: one using Claude to write an essay, the other using ChatGPT to finish their math homework.

The tsunami wave of artificial intelligence has broken on campus, seemingly wiping out critical thinking in its wake. While Penn State, a newly declared “AI school,” has AI literacy resources available, the apparent status across the student body is still rampant usage with minimal checks.

It’s abundantly easy and tempting to use a tool that will do the hard work for you. In a dimming light of intellectual labor and creativity, Aldous Huxley’s ‘Brave New World,’ published in 1932, stands as a pillar of caution for offloading mental and emotional effort onto technology.

The title is an ironic reference to a line in William Shakespeare’s ‘The Tempest,’ in Act V, Scene I, where the “brave new world” from the speaker’s view is a utopia of beauty and intrigue. In the novel, the “brave new world” is flipped to mirror John’s — Huxley’s protagonist who’s frequently referred to

as “The Savage” — wasted curiosity and humanity in the face of a tightly controlled society.

In the beginning of the novel, John arrives at the center of an advanced society called the World State from The Reservation, an isolated area where technology isn’t available. He grapples with the moral affront of simulated feelings and lack thereof, learning that the “brave new world” he had read about is depleted of life because of a chemical dependence on comfort through a drug called soma.

Penn State is full of streamlined processes. The cashless campus encourages tapping credit cards over carrying a wallet, id+ cards can never be lost after uploading to one’s phone and ideas can now be generated through the university’s new AI Studio.

The college experience is constantly marketed like our brave new world, full of opportunities to change, discover and, most importantly, learn. But what’s the point if we’re expected to shirk the burden of thought onto a machine that cannot create ideas but only reflect existing ones?

John looks at the citizens of the World State, bred in incubators to be complacent, drugged up to avoid difficult experiences, and grows disgusted and disillusioned.

In a conversation with one

of the World State’s leaders, Mustapha Mond, on the meaning of life, argues for the freedom to be imperfect: “But I don’t want comfort. I want God, I want poetry, I want real danger, I want freedom, I want goodness. I want sin.” In other words, John wants the chance to be human, warts and all.

Offloading the difficult task of critical thinking onto AI is not slowing down. According to a study conducted and co-authored by S. Shyam Sundar, a Bellisario researcher and media effects professor, users trust AI fact-checkers at similar rates to human fact-checkers. Even when attempting to do work without assistance, individuals feel less confident in their own abilities to complete assignments well, according to a multi-university study published by the National Institute of Medicine. By falling on the heuristic that AI can achieve more than a human could, AI reliance could create a “cognitive dependency.”

We have the perfect machine to find the formulas, write our essays and paint our pictures with astounding adherence to form at our disposal. When we look at ‘Brave New World’ and how the World State forces the ease of technology, it only costs us our poetry, our discomfort and our goodness. It costs us our humanity.

John, a “savage” for opting

into the choice to be imperfect and uniquely emotional, retains his humanity in all of its trials and tribulations. His title as “The Savage,” implied to be primitive and barbaric, echoes the words circling

“Perhaps our sea of troubles looks like the cold-but-friendly greeting of ChatGPT, and our opposition takes the form of closing the tab.”

Kippi Hall
Columnist

online about AI’s inevitability and avoiding being as good as staying on the horse and buggy in the age of the Ferrari.

However, pushing suffering and the effort to overcome it onto an unthinking machine doesn’t give us the chance to be more sophisticated: It only leaves us underdeveloped and without stories to tell about who we are.

College is hard. It makes you feel stupid, ugly and uncomfortable. But that’s the point. Achieving higher education is a four-year-long (sometimes longer) challenge to stretch your mind beyond what it had been taught for 18 years. Excessive reliance on

AI to do the stretching for us leads to less memory retention and increased “cognitive atrophy,” according to a study from the MIT Media Lab. It doesn’t encourage learning.

John quotes Shakespeare’s ‘Hamlet’ when making his case for suffering: “Getting rid of everything unpleasant instead of learning to put up with it. ‘Whether ‘tis better in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, or to take arms against a sea of troubles and by opposing end them’...But you don’t do either. Neither suffer nor oppose. You just abolish the slings and arrows. It’s too easy.”

Perhaps our sea of troubles looks like the cold-but-friendly greeting of ChatGPT, and our opposition takes the form of closing the tab. We won’t know until we make the attempt to bear the unpleasantness of life on our own, seeking a brave new world after the tide reels back.

Kippi Hall is a fourth-year studying public relations with minors in Spanish and digital media trends and analytics. When she’s not writing about books or jokes and taking photos, she likes to read (duh), write and play music, and scroll through entire Wikipedia pages to learn something new. Email her [@mfh5992@psu.edu](mailto:mfh5992@psu.edu) and follow her on X [@kippi_hall](https://twitter.com/kippi_hall)

MY VIEW | Quentin Journey

Underage haven: The Lion’s Den’s reputation

Penn State is well known for its party scene, which students have enjoyed for decades, and it consistently ranks high in polls of the country’s party schools. In a 2027 top party school ranking by



Journey Niche, Penn State came in at number six.

Whether it be fraternities or the lucrative bar scene, partying is synonymous with Penn State’s name. Since the drinking age is 21, many freshmen and sophomores (and select juniors) can’t go out to the various bars downtown. As such, many turn to the internet to order fake IDs in hopes of getting a taste of the 21+ student nightlife.

Most bars are extremely strict and are veterans when it comes to verifying IDs. Bars even have built-in incentives for bouncers to confiscate fake IDs. There’s one bar that stands alone from the rest with a decades-long reputation for being notoriously loose with ID regulation, and has even earned the nickname “freshman bar” because of how easy it is to get in with a fake ID.

The Lion’s Den has held this reputation since as early as the 90s. This circulates through

word of mouth, and the Den obviously doesn’t openly advertise an underage drinking policy. But with a decadelong reputation, it makes you wonder how they get away with that kind of leniency.

This isn’t a new rumor, either. I heard it long before I even set foot in State College. The Lion’s Den fiercely denies any wrongdoing, and promises that its policies are preventative

enough to stop people with fake IDs from getting into their bar.

Less than five years ago, the Den posted that they were raided by Liquor Control Enforcement (LCE) and several people were cited for having fake IDs.

“Last night we were inspected by LCE due to complaints from another local establishment. Several people were cited for possessing a fake ID. We’re extremely confident that our policies have protected our establishment from any legal issues. Please be very careful, because Liquor Control Enforcement will inspect every

bar at some point,” the Den said in an Instagram post.

When it comes to underage drinking and using fakes at public establishments, I don’t believe the drinking itself is the most harmful part. There are people with bad intentions who go to bars and other places where alcohol is served: Predators and other malfeasant individuals, for one, may take advantage of it.

I’m not saying this doesn’t happen to people, especially women, over the age of 21 in other establishments, because it does, but a space so widely known as a sort of safe haven for underage alcohol indulgence will likely turn into a breeding ground for that kind of behavior.

What makes underage people, again, mostly women, especially vulnerable in bars is that they might hesitate to speak out against this type of behavior, since they’re breaking the law by being there in the first place. In turn, they’re more prone to being targeted because individuals know they won’t speak out, too.

There’s no Lion’s Den policy

“Whether it be fraternities or the lucrative bar scene, partying is synonymous with Penn State’s name.”

Quentin Journey
Columnist

We want to hear from you

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for verification. Letters should be signed by no more than two people. Members of organizations must include their titles if the topic they write about is connected with the aim of their groups. The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters. The Collegian cannot guarantee publication of all letters. Letters chosen run on The Daily Collegian website and may be selected for publication in the print edition. All letters become property of Collegian Inc.

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WHAT'S UP WITH WRIGHT

New coach talks offseason, nonconference schedule

By Noah Radio
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Penn State coach Tanisha Wright spoke to the media on Tuesday for the first time since her introductory press conference. In the 14-minute Zoom meeting, Wright touched on her reintroduction to State College, the talented, but slim roster and numerous other topics with less than a week before her first official preseason practice.

Welcome to State

Wright graduated from Penn State in 2005, and as she returns to her alma mater, she has enjoyed becoming re-entrenched in the Happy Valley community. “It’s just getting out in the community,” Wright said. “I think

“We all love this place. We spent so much time here, have so many great memories here, blood, sweat, tears here in these gyms in these same places, and so we want to do well,””

Tanisha Wright

being connected to the community is going to be a big piece to what we’re doing and how we’re building moving forward. It’s always been a big piece of Lady Lion basketball, and so I think reigniting that and getting out there and sharing in that



Collegian File Photo

Head coach Tanisha Wright waves during the 2026 Blue-White practice at West Shore Home Field at Beaver Stadium on Saturday, April 25, 2026 in University Park, Pa.

excitement of this new era of Lady Lion basketball is really important.”

In the last month, Wright and her team have spent time at The Village, a local retirement community, at the Lion Bash with the State College Borough and with the Nittany Valley Legends, a State College area girls basketball program.

Roster and staff

The Lady Lions have just 10 players listed on their official roster, and Wright has established her desire to play fast on offense and tenaciously on defense.

“I think any coach would say, ‘yeah, they’d love to have more depth, right?’ But that’s not where we are right now. We have what we have,” the former WNBA champion said. “I’m excited about what we have and the players that have committed to our program and have committed to being great and being a part of this as we rebuild this to what we’ve always known

it to be and expected to be.”

Penn State doesn’t return a single player from 2025-26, so Wright was tasked with reshaping the entire roster for her first season.

Wright will also roll out almost an entirely new new coaching staff in 2026-27.

“I’m excited about what we have and the players that have committed to our program and have committed to being great and being a part of this as we rebuild”

Tanisha Wright

The staff features Penn State’s all-time leading scorer, Kelly Mazzante, who played three of her seasons in the blue and white with Wright.

Penn State has just two games officially listed on its website. Wright was asked about the status of her nonconference schedule and kept her plans close to the vest.

“Be patient, it’s coming,” she said multiple times. “It’s coming out, and we’re excited about the games and the teams that we have on it.”

Of the Penn State matchups that have been announced by opponents, the headliner is a road test against TCU on Sunday, Dec. 13. The

Horned Frogs have made back to back NCAA Regional Finals and will serve as a strong early campaign benchmark in a season full of unknowns.

The Lady Lions’ Big Ten schedule was fully released Wednesday.

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Take a look

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Bringing back the blueliners

Defensive core returns after historic season

By Aeryn Ajot
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

After a 33-6 season, Penn State returns with seven defensive players and three netminders in an overhauled look for this season, yet the core remains intact, with primarily gaps on the offensive side of the puck.

Here’s how that strong defensive front shapes out in another year on the ice under coach Jeff Kamper-sal.

New faces

Among the fresh batch, the blue and white added two freshmen to the roster this year in the goal prevention core: defenseman Megan Hosman and goaltender Morgan Stickney.

Newbies Stickney and Hosman come from extensive backgrounds and have a prime opportunity to step up to the plate for their inaugural seasons. In between the pipes, Stickney arrives from U18 Team USA, where she contributed to a silver medal finish with 12 saves over a pair of shutout performances. Prior to joining the Nittany Lions, the 5-foot-10 righty Hosman also followed a similar suit, playing defense in three games in Girls U19 Nationals.

Savanna Muir arrives in net from SUNY Cortland and Bishop Kearney, where she became NYSAHA District Champions and participated in the USA Hockey National Tournament, placing third. The former Pittsburgh Pens Elite alum slots in on Kamper-sal’s staff as a depth piece with real upside to see time in the crease.

For her final season, Happy Valley welcomes Ashley Kokavec, a prominent defensive transfer from Palm Beach, Florida. Arriving from Vermont, Kokavec played 74 career games in two seasons with the Catamounts after leaving Maine. The blueliner has claimed many achievements in her journey, including NEHWA All-Star and Hockey East Third



Collegian File Photo

Defender Danica Maynard (27) high-fives the bench during the Penn State women’s hockey game against Mercyhurst in Pegula Ice Arena on Friday, Oct. 17, 2025 in University Park, Pa.

Team All-Conference, as she now takes that prestige into Happy Valley.

Key returnees

Returning for their second consecutive season, Maddy Campbell, Danica Maynard, Sophie Morrow and Shelby Shane are ready to hit back onto the ice.

Goaltender Campbell made a strong lasting impact in her first season behind program stalwart Katie DeSa, and likely takes over as starter in her absence. The Courtice, Ontario native appeared in 11 games, started in eight, with a .935 save percentage that contributed to her intriguing season.

Defenseman Shane is another sophomore returning to be tabbed for an uptick in duties after she played a large role in her rookie year. After appearing in all 39 games with the blue and white, the Kutztown, Pennsylvania, native tallied a nine-plus-minus along with a goal and three assists.

The blue and white also welcome back Maynard to the defense, who was named to the All-USCHO Third Team and All-AHA Rookie of the Year for her premier season while appearing in all 39 games. Morrow also joins her as a blueliner, returning after a summer competing with USA Hockey’s National Women’s Col-

legiate Select Team.

Juniors Grace Tullock and Taya MacDonald aren’t new to the Nittany Lions front pairing, with both appearing in all 39 games and maintaining the defensive line en route to a historic Frozen Four season.

Named a captain for this upcoming season, MacDonald is the only player in the Nittany Lions’ leadership group to be a member of the defense, returning as one of the only upperclassmen in the defensive unit.

Tullock showed out last year, with 34 blocked shots and a 23 plus-minus to conclude her sophomore season, after earning a spot on the All-AHA Rookie Team in her debut campaign.

Penn State had a show-out season, now receiving a pre-season No. 4 USCHO ranking for this upcoming year, next to top schools like defending champion Wisconsin, who the Nittany Lions took to overtime in last year’s Frozen Four. Also rounding out the top teams is last season’s runner-up Ohio State, along with Minnesota.

With international representatives and junior standouts donning the blue and white, Penn State has a golden opportunity to continue its upward trajectory.

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SPLIT WEEK

By Zach Schroder
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

SOCCER

Penn State began conference play this past week. The Nittany Lions started their week and year in the Big Ten on Sep. 10. in Columbus, where they lost 1-0 against the Ohio State Buckeyes.

The blue and white would then return to Happy Valley and Jeffrey Field and secure a 1-0 win against Minnesota. Defeating the Golden Gophers made Penn State even on the week and brought the first Big Ten win of the season. After the recent stretch of play, the blue and white are now 3-2-2 on the season and 1-1-0 in conference rankings.

Here’s what stood out from the blue and white’s week.

Spamming shots

The Nittany Lions put up their second and third-most shots this year since their blowout win against Brown earlier this season. They had 16 against Ohio State and 18 against Minnesota.

Junior forward Audrey Kulpa led the team in shots this week, totaling nine, with five of those coming against the Buckeyes. That was also a season high for the Cromwell, Connecticut, native, en route to scoring the lone Penn State goal of the week. Sophomore midfielder Kennedy Ring also registered a career high of three shots in the loss to Ohio State.

Minnesota transfer Paige Kalal finished the week with six shots in total. The senior forward recorded one shot on goal and played a total of 153 minutes between both games. Freshman midfielder Paige Pasinski, junior defender Bella Ayscue and Kulpa all had two shots on goal against Minnesota, with freshman forward Ellie Kocher having the lone on-target kick against the Buckeyes.

Freshman forward Olivia Robinson also came off the bench in the clash with the Golden Golphers, showcasing tenacity in front of net as she registered

three shots in a little over 20 minutes of play.

Don't mess with Gress

Redshirt senior goalkeeper Mackenzie Gress continued her dominant performance this past week and stellar start to the season. The Lyndhurst, New Jersey, native upped her save count by six with four against Ohio State and two against the Golden Gophers

The victory over Minnesota brought Gress her first true shutout of the season, as she was relieved by freshman keeper Lily Sely in the blue and white’s other shutout this season. The Lyndhurst, New Jersey, native started in the shutouts over Bucknell and Brown, but was taken off in the 71st and 75th minutes, respectively. Gress thwarted a breakaway opportunity late in the game, and graduate student defender Lily Boyden made sure the save was completed.

Despite the result over the Golden Gophers signaling Gress’ first complete game shutout, she had a lot of assistance from her backline, as those two saves against Minnesota marked the lowest total in the figure for the netminder this season.

Cards and fouls

The blue and white led in fouls in both contests; it also received two yellow cards in the win on Sunday. Kulpa and Ayscue drew bookings in the second half against Minnesota, which marked the first time this season that Penn State received two yellow cards in a match. The Nittany Lions totaled 17 fouls through the week, with eight against the Buckeyes and nine against Minnesota.

Penn State still sits in the bottom five of the Big Ten in total team fouls, and so does its next opponent, the Terrapins. The Nittany Lions travel to College Park to face off against Maryland at Ludwig Field at 5 p.m. this Friday.

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