



VERSUS

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IOWA (3-0)
HAWKEYES

(3-0) PENN STATE
NITTANY LIONS



Graphic by Carson Schultz

CLEANING UP MISTAKES

Penn State hopes to turn struggles against Illinois into learning experience

By Joel Haas
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Penn State ventured to Memorial Stadium for its first road test of the season on Saturday, and when the dust settled, the Nittany Lions emerged as victors, 30-13.

Despite securing a victory over Illinois and moving to 3-0 on the year, it wasn't always pretty for Penn State, and the team admitted as much.

"We're going to enjoy tonight and wake up tomorrow morning and get to work and be very critical of this film, because we gotta make another step next week," Franklin said after the win.

While the team still has all of its goals in front of it, there are a few adjustments that need to be made if the Nittany Lions want to compete for a conference title and first-ever playoff berth, and some of those were apparent against the Illini. Arguably the most glaring issue the team faced, which Franklin was quick to point out, was the penalty battle.

Penn State was flagged on seven occasions, costing 70 total yards on the day. Among those were a pair of personal foul calls against offensive tackle Olu Fashanu and center Hunter Nourzad.

"We had a lot of penalties that were ultimately drive-stopping penalties and stuff that cost us,"

tight end Theo Johnson said Tuesday. "So I think the big focus for us is just doing things that aren't going to stop our drives and aren't gonna hurt ourselves because if we can stay on pace, stay on track throughout the drives, then we can continue to be successful."

According to both Franklin and Johnson, the pre-snap penalties are the ones that the team is looking to specifically eliminate.

"I think it's just a level of focus," Johnson said. "And I think that, when that happens, you have to just take a second try to rein everybody back in, refocus, especially when you have your defense making a ton of huge plays for you."

In addition to penalties, the offense struggled to move the ball at times. The team converted on just 17 of 37 pass attempts while Kaytron Allen and Nick Singleton combined for under 100 yards on the ground. Franklin attributed the run game struggles to Illinois stacking the box, a common theme early in the season.

"I think it's been very obvious over the first three weeks that the (opponents') defensive game plan is going to be based on stopping our run game," Franklin said.

Looking forward, Iowa will likely be Penn State's toughest challenge yet on the defensive side of the ball. The Hawkeyes are



Sienna Pinney/Collegian

Drew Allar completed 16 of 33 pass attempts for 208 yards against a staunch Illinois defensive line led by preseason All-American defensive tackle Jer'Zhan Newton.

allowing just 12.3 yards per game this season and 106.7 yards on the ground.

"I think the big thing with Iowa, and this is kind of a common theme throughout the years, they're really good with fundamentals, very sound in their scheme and what they do," Johnson said. "They don't try and do a lot of flashy stuff, but they're really good at what they do."

As is tradition, the Hawkeyes figure to boast one of the stingiest defenses in the sport this season. Johnson said he believes Nittany Lions will need to play complimentary football to avoid running

into the same issues that plagued the team against Illinois.

"I think that the big thing is, you got to spread the field out and try and make them cover the pass and then come back in and try and run the ball as well and just kind of go back and forth with that," Johnson said. "But I think it really just starts up front by imposing your will and letting them know you can stack the box and do that all you want, we can still run the ball well."

While there are still issues to be worked out if Penn State wants to unlock its potential, the team feels confident in its offense's

ability to put points on the board. If these issues remain present, it could prove detrimental to the Nittany Lions' ultimate goals, but if they can make the necessary corrections they'll be playing for some trophies this winter.

"We're very confident in our entire offense as a whole and I think that the reassuring thing for us is that we still have so many areas that we can improve on and really excel at that we're doing pretty good, but we can be elite and great," Johnson said.

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Penn State's series history against Iowa



Lily LaRegina/Collegian file

Penn State has lost its last two meetings with Iowa, the most recent of which came in a season-altering 23-20 defeat in Iowa City, Iowa, in 2021.

By Sam Woloson
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Expect malice in the air when Penn State hosts Iowa for its annual White Out Game on Saturday.

The Hawkeyes have won consecutive games against the Nittany Lions, including a controversial 2021 meeting that has likely stuck with many Penn State fans.

In 2021, No. 3 Iowa came from behind to stun No. 4 Penn State 23-20, thanks in large part to quarterback Sean Clifford's mid-game injury.

A promising 5-0 start that season turned into a disappointing 7-5 finish, as the

Nittany Lions lost five of their last seven games.

The year prior in 2020, the Hawkeyes dominated Penn State in Beaver Stadium 41-21. It was a sloppy night for the Nittany Lions, who turned the ball over four times in the loss.

Despite the recent hiccups, Penn State leads 17-14 in a series that has been defined by streaks.

From 2011 to 2019, the Nittany Lions won six straight games against Iowa, including three straight nail biters.

In 2019, No. 10 Penn State knocked off No. 17 Iowa in a defensive battle, 17-12. A 100-yard game for running back Noah Cain helped the Nittany Lions outlast

the Hawkeyes in Iowa City.

In 2018, the No. 18 Hawkeyes mounted a furious comeback effort in Happy Valley, but came up just short, 30-24. Penn State's defense didn't allow a point in the second half en route to the victory.

In 2017, No. 4 Penn State survived a prime-time classic thanks to quarterback Trace McSorley's late-game heroics.

Trailing 19-15, McSorley led the Nittany Lions on an 80-yard march.

Continue reading here:



IOWA HAWKEYES						FOOTBALL ROSTER					
No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.
0	Diante Vines	WR/Jr.	17	Alex Eichmann	WR/Fr.	40	Josef Smith	LB/Jr.	71	Jack Dotzler	OL/Fr.
1	Xavier Nwankpa	DB/So.	18	Drew Stevens	K/So.	40	Jalyn Thompson	TE/Fr.	72	Kale Krogh	OL/Fr.
2	TJ Hall	DB/So.	18	Alec Wick	WR/So.	41	Jaden Harrell	LB/So.	73	Kyson Van Vugt	OL/Fr.
2	Kaleb Johnson	RB/So.	19	Tommy Poholsky	QB/Fr.	41	Rusty VanWetzinga	FB/Fr.	74	Trevor Lauck	OL/Fr.
3	Kaleb Brown	WR/So.	20	Deavin Hilson	DB/So.	42	Zach Twedt	LB/So.	75	Cannon Leonard	OL/Fr.
3	Cooper DeJean	DB/Jr.	20	Dayton Howard	WR/Fr.	43	Karson Sharar	LB/So.	76	Tyler Elsbury	OL/Jr.
4	Koen Entringer	DB/Jr.	21	Watts McBride	DB/Sr.	44	Grant Leeper	TE/Fr.	77	Connor Colby	OL/Jr.
4	Leshon Williams	RB/Jr.	21	Kaden Wetjen	WR/Jr.	44	Kenneth Merrieweather	DL/Fr.	78	Mason Richman	OL/Jr.
5	Teegan Davis	DB/Fr.	22	Max Whites	RB/So.	45	Deontae Craig	DL/Jr.	79	Dajon Parker	OL/Sr.
5	Joe Labas	QB/So.	23	Landyn Van Kekerix	LB/Fr.	47	Jack Laughlin	LB/Fr.	81	Cael Vanderbush	TE/Fr.
6	Seth Anderson	WR/So.	25	Ayden Price	WR/Fr.	48	Max Llewellyn	DL/So.	82	Johnny Pascuzzi	TE/So.
6	Zach Lutmer	DB/Fr.	25	Kelby Telander	LB/So.	48	Zach Ortwerth	TE/Fr.	83	Erick All	TE/Sr.
7	Jacob Bostick	WR/Fr.	26	Kael Kolarik	DB/Fr.	49	Ethan Hurkett	DL/Jr.	84	Jarriett Buie	WR/Fr.
7	John Nestor	DB/Fr.	26	Aidan McDermott	WR/Fr.	49	Andrew Lentsch	TE/So.	85	Luke Lachey	TE/Jr.
8	Deshaun Lee	DB/Fr.	27	Jermari Harris	DB/Jr.	51	Luke Gaffney	DL/Fr.	85	Logan Lee	DL/Sr.
8	Terrell Washington, Jr.	RB/Fr.	28	Aidan Hall	LB/Fr.	52	Asher Fahey	OL/Jr.	86	Jeff Bowie	DL/So.
9	Jazium Patterson	RB/Fr.	28	Kamari Moulton	RB/Fr.	53	Michael Myslinski	OL/So.	86	Steven Stilianos	TE/Sr.
9	Tory Taylor	P/Sr.	29	Sebastian Castro	DB/Sr.	54	Anterio Thompson	DL/So.	87	Andrew Kraus	DL/Fr.
10	Deacon Hill	QB/So.	29	Judah Mallette	WR/Fr.	55	Jeremiah Pittman	DL/So.	87	Addison Ostrenga	TE/So.
10	Nick Jackson	LB/Sr.	30	Quinn Schulte	DB/Sr.	56	Maddux Borchherding-Johnson	DL/Fr.	88	Hayden Large	FB/Sr.
11	Marco Lainez	QB/Jr.	31	Nolan DeLong	LB/Fr.	56	Nick DeJong	OL/Sr.	89	Nico Ragaini	WR/Sr.
12	Cade McNamara	QB/Sr.	31	Eli Miller	FB/So.	57	Will Hubert	DL/Fr.	90	Brian Allen	DE/Fr.
12	Jaxon Rexroth	LB/So.	32	Ben Kueter	LB/Fr.	58	Kade Pieper	OL/Fr.	91	Chase Brackney	DL/Fr.
13	Joe Evans	DE/Sr.	33	Jackson Filer	DL/Jr.	59	Griffin Liddle	OL/So.	92	Marshall Meeder	K/Sr.
13	Reese Osgood	WR/Fr.	34	Jay Higgins	LB/Sr.	60	Rusty Feth	OL/Fr.	93	Anu Dokun	DE/Jr.
14	Alex Mota	WR/Fr.	35	Tanner Pollock	LB/Jr.	61	Cael Winter	OL/Fr.	94	Yahya Black	DL/Jr.
14	Kahlil Tate	DB/Fr.	36	Jayden Montgomery	LB/Fr.	64	Leighton Jones	OL/Fr.	95	Aaron Graves	DL/So.
15	Amare Bickham	DB/Fr.	37	Kyler Fisher	LB/Sr.	65	Logan Jones	OL/Jr.	97	Caden Crawford	DL/Fr.
16	Graham Friedrichsen	WR/Fr.	38	Greg Fagan	LB/Fr.	66	Jeremy Chaplin	OL/So.	97	Liam Reardon	LS/Jr.
16	Jamison Heinz	DB/Jr.	39	Luke Elkin	LS/Jr.	67	Gennings Dunker	OL/So.	98	Chris Reames	DL/Sr.
17	Brenden Deasfernandes	DB/Jr.	39	Eric Epenesa	LB/So.	70	Beau Stephens	OL/So.	99	Ty Nissen	P/Jr.

PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS										FOOTBALL ROSTER									
No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.		
0	Dominic DeLuca	LB/So.	16	Elliot Washington II	CB/Fr.	39	Ty Blanding	DT/Fr.	68	Anthony Donkoh	OL/Fr.	70	J'ven Williams	OL/Fr.	70	J'ven Williams	OL/Fr.		
1	KeAndre Lambert-Smith	WR/Jr.	17	Karson Kiesewetter	QB/Fr.	39	Jashaun Green	S/Fr.	71	Vega Ioane	OL/Fr.	71	Vega Ioane	OL/Fr.	71	Vega Ioane	OL/Fr.		
1	Jaylen Reed	S/Jr.	17	Mason Stahl	WR/Jr.	40	Patrick Williams	S/Fr.	73	Caeden Wallace	OL/Sr.	73	Caeden Wallace	OL/Sr.	73	Caeden Wallace	OL/Sr.		
2	Liam Clifford	WR/So.	18	Joey Schlaffer	TE/Fr.	41	Kobe King	LB/So.	74	Olu Fashanu	OL/Jr.	74	Olu Fashanu	OL/Jr.	74	Olu Fashanu	OL/Jr.		
2	Keaton Ellis	S/Sr.	18	Davon Townley Jr.	DT/So.	42	Mason Robinson	DE/Fr.	75	Matt Detisch	OL/Fr.	75	Matt Detisch	OL/Fr.	75	Matt Detisch	OL/Fr.		
3	Johnny Dixon	CB/Sr.	19	Jack Lambert	QB/Fr.	43	Tyler Elsdon	LB/Jr.	77	Sal Wormley	OL/Sr.	77	Sal Wormley	OL/Sr.	77	Sal Wormley	OL/Sr.		
3	Dante Cephas	WR/Sr.	19	Jameial Lyons	DE/Fr.	44	Chop Robinson	DE/Jr.	78	Golden Israel-Achumba	OL/Jr.	78	Golden Israel-Achumba	OL/Jr.	78	Golden Israel-Achumba	OL/Jr.		
4	Kalen King	CB/Jr.	20	Adisa Isaac	DE/Jr.	44	Tyler Warren	TE/Jr.	79	Addison Penn	OL/Jr.	79	Addison Penn	OL/Jr.	79	Addison Penn	OL/Jr.		
4	Malick Meiga	WR/Jr.	21	Carmelo Taylor	WR/Fr.	45	Jackson Pryts	LB/Fr.	80	Cristian Driver	WR/Fr.	80	Cristian Driver	WR/Fr.	80	Cristian Driver	WR/Fr.		
5	Omari Evans	WR/So.	21	Kevin Winston Jr.	S/So.	47	Joey Palko	DE/Fr.	81	Jan Mahlert	WR/So.	81	Jan Mahlert	WR/So.	81	Jan Mahlert	WR/So.		
5	Cam Miller	CB/So.	23	Curtis Jacobs	LB/Jr.	47	Will Patton	SN/Fr.	82	Ethan Black	WR/Fr.	82	Ethan Black	WR/Fr.	82	Ethan Black	WR/Fr.		
6	Harrison Wallace III	WR/So.	23	Trey Potts	RB/Sr.	48	Tyler Duzansky	SN/So.	83	Jake Spencer	WR/Jr.	83	Jake Spencer	WR/Jr.	83	Jake Spencer	WR/Jr.		
6	Zakee Wheatley	S/So.	24	London Montgomery	RB/Fr.	48	Kaveion Keys	LB/Fr.	84	Theo Johnson	TE/Jr.	84	Theo Johnson	TE/Jr.	84	Theo Johnson	TE/Jr.		
7	Kaden Saunders	WR/Fr.	24	Ta'Mere Robinson	LB/Fr.	49	Ben Chizmar	LB/So.	86	Jason Estrella	OL/So.	86	Jason Estrella	OL/So.	86	Jason Estrella	OL/So.		
8	Tyler Johnson	WR/Fr.	25	Daequan Hardy	CB/Sr.	50	Alonzo Ford Jr.	DT/Jr.	87	Andrew Rappleyea	WR/Fr.	87	Andrew Rappleyea	WR/Fr.	87	Andrew Rappleyea	WR/Fr.		
8	DaKarri Nelson	S/Fr.	25	DK Kency	RB/Fr.	51	Hakeem Beamon	DT/Sr.	88	Jerry Cross	TE/Fr.	88	Jerry Cross	TE/Fr.	88	Jerry Cross	TE/Fr.		
9	King Mack	S/Fr.	26	Cam Wallace	RB/Fr.	52	Dominic Rulli	OL/Fr.	88	Sam Sifa	DT/Fr.	88	Sam Sifa	DT/Fr.	88	Sam Sifa	DT/Fr.		
9	Beau Pribula	QB/Fr.	27	Lamont Payne Jr.	CB/Fr.	52	Jordan van den Berg	DT/So.	89	Finn Furmanek	TE/Fr.	89	Finn Furmanek	TE/Fr.	89	Finn Furmanek	TE/Fr.		
10	Nick Singleton	RB/So.	28	Zane Durant	DT/So.	53	Nick Dawkins	OL/Jr.	91	Dvon Ellies	DT/Jr.	91	Dvon Ellies	DT/Jr.	91	Dvon Ellies	DT/Jr.		
10	Mehki Flowers	S/Fr.	29	Audavion Collins	CB/Fr.	54	Ian Harvie	OL/Fr.	91	Alex Felkins	K/Sr.	91	Alex Felkins	K/Sr.	91	Alex Felkins	K/Sr.		
11	Abdul Carter	LB/So.	30	Amiel Davis	RB/So.	55	Chimdy Onoh	OL/Fr.	92	Smith Vilbert	DE/Sr.	92	Smith Vilbert	DE/Sr.	92	Smith Vilbert	DE/Sr.		
11	Malik McClain	WR/Jr.	30	George Hlavac	CB/Fr.	56	Joseph Mupoyi	DE/Jr.	93	Bobby Mears	DE/Sr.	93	Bobby Mears	DE/Sr.	93	Bobby Mears	DE/Sr.		
12	Anthony Ivey	WR/Fr.	31	Kolin Dinkins	CB/Fr.	56	JB Nelson	OL/Jr.	93	Sander Sahaydak	K/So.	93	Sander Sahaydak	K/So.	93	Sander Sahaydak	K/So.		
12	Zion Tracy	CB/Fr.	32	Keon Wylie	LB/Fr.	57	Ibrahim Traore	OL/Jr.	94	Ryan Barker	K/Fr.	94	Ryan Barker	K/Fr.	94	Ryan Barker	K/Fr.		
13	Kaytron Allen	RB/So.	33	Dani Dennis-Sutton	DE/So.	58	Kaleb Artis	DT/Fr.	94	Jake Wilson	DE/Jr.	94	Jake Wilson	DE/Jr.	94	Jake Wilson	DE/Jr.		
13	Tony Rojas	LB/Fr.	34	Tyler Holzworth	RB/So.	62	Liam Powers	OL/Fr.	95	Riley Thompson	P/Sr.	95	Riley Thompson	P/Sr.	95	Riley Thompson	P/Sr.		
14	Tyrece Mills	S/Jr.	35	Blaise Sokach-Minnick	SN/Fr.	63	Alex Birchmeier	OL/Fr.	96	Mitchell Groh	P/So.	96	Mitchell Groh	P/So.	96	Mitchell Groh	P/So.		
14	Jaxon Smolik	QB/Fr.	35	Jace Tutty	CB/So.	64	Hunter Nourzad	OL/Sr.	97	Alex Bacchetta	P/Fr.	97	Alex Bacchetta	P/Fr.	97	Alex Bacchetta	P/Fr.		
15	Drew Allar	QBSO.	36	Zuriah Fisher	DE/Jr.	65	Jim Fitzgerald	OL/Fr.	98	Andrew Sharga	DE/Fr.	98	Andrew Sharga	DE/Fr.	98	Andrew Sharga	DE/Fr.		
15	Amin Vanover	DE/Jr.	38	Tank Smith	RB/Sr.	66	Drew Shelton	OL/So.	99	Coziah Izzard	DT/So.	99	Coziah Izzard	DT/So.	99	Coziah Izzard	DT/So.		
16	Khalil Dinkins	TE/So.	38	Winston Yates	LB/Fr.	67	Henry Boehme	OL/Fr.	99	Gabriel Nwosu	P/So.	99	Gabriel Nwosu	P/So.	99	Gabriel Nwosu	P/So.		

Saunders settles in

By Joel Haas
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

When Kaden Saunders arrived on campus in 2022 as a 4-star recruit, he was met with a rude awakening.

“I was just losing every drill I wasn’t used to losing,” Saunders said on Wednesday. “So it kind of got to me a little bit.”

Arriving at a big-time school like Penn State meant competing against some of the top talent in the nation, and for Saunders, it took some time to adjust, but his confidence “never went down at all.”

While he never wavered mentally, Saunders’ greatest adjustment was physical. While his weight hasn’t significantly increased, Saunders said that he’s added “more lean mass muscle,” which has helped him become better equipped for the rigors of college football.

However, putting on weight made it more difficult to maintain quickness, and Saunders said he felt “heavy” and that his



Kaden Saunders goes for a catch during a receiving drill during Penn State practice on April 11, 2023 at Holuba Hall.



Penn State wide receiver Kaden Saunders high-fives fans after the Nittany Lions defeated Illinois 30-13 n Champaign, Illinois. Saunders finished the game with two receptions for 19 yards — his first catches of the season — and two punt returns for 16 yards.

“body composition wasn’t right.”

As he began to put on strength, it was important for Saunders not to sacrifice his elite speed,

which is part of what made him such a heralded recruit. At Westerville South High School, Saunders was a star on the track as well as the gridiron and baseball diamond.

Over the winter, Saunders worked to regain his speed, and continued to feel more comfortable as the months went by.

“My speed’s back now. So I feel much better, I move much better,” Saunders said. “The miles per hour on the catapults... I like what I see.”

This season, Saunders has taken on a role as the team’s punt returner, and has been impressive through three games, including a career-high 19-yard return against Illinois last Saturday. The position is nothing new to Saunders, who’s been manning punts since middle school.

“You just gotta have some balls to be back there,” Saunders said.

Saunders said he was able to learn a lot from Parker Washington, who was the team’s

leading receiver and starting punt returner last season.

“I feel like I’m in a way better spot mentally and physically than I was last year,” Saunders said. “Just getting that experience being able to be on special teams and find my way onto the field to help the offense is only gonna continue to increase my confidence.”

At practice, he’s able to hone his craft with punter Riley Thompson, who has been able to watch Saunders’ development.

“Kaden has worked so hard during the course of this year to get where he is and I think he’s honestly done an amazing job,” Thompson said. “Once he gets that chance to have a big return he’s pretty electric on the ground, so I’m excited to see what’s coming for him.”

Penn State will go against one of the top punters in the nation in Tory Taylor on Saturday, but practicing with Thompson has helped Saunders practice returning the Australian-style end-over-end punts that both

Thompson and Taylor deploy.

Saunders has embraced the opportunity to earn playing time, on special teams, and while Saunders has only seen limited action at wide receiver with just four career catches, he said that his time returning punts prepares him for future opportunities at receiver.

“I would say me being the punt returner, helps that a lot. Just being on the field and getting hit by guys. So I’m used to that when I get on the field as a receiver,” Saunders said.

While wide receiver remains his main position, Saunders is making the most of his playing time and doing what he can to support the team, no matter where he’s lined up.

“As long as we do our job and be where we’re supposed to be, then it should be fun on Saturday,” Saunders said.

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King Island: QBs keep out

By Zach Allen
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

There hasn’t been much to do on cornerback Kalen King’s island this season.

Through three games, King has broken up just one pass and has yet to record his first interception of the season, mainly due to the fact that opposing quarterbacks have only targeted him 13 times.

King led the Big Ten and ranked No. 3 in the nation with 18 pass breakups in 2022 as a result of opponents refusing to throw to All-American cornerback Joey Porter Jr., now with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

“People aren’t throwing to Kalen (King),” James Franklin said Tuesday. “That’s another whole conversation we can have about the respect that he has earned in this conference, but also nationally.”

With great respect from opposing offense has come with a cost for King — frustration.

As a cornerback, King wants to get his hands on the football every time the opposing team drops back to pass. With a lack of passes directed his way, King’s opportunities for an interception have dropped greatly.

In Penn State’s last game against Illinois, the Fighting Illini threw four interceptions to four different Nittany Lions, but King wasn’t one of them.

“I feel like opposing quarterbacks do have respect for me, and they do respect my game and I respect that part about it,” King said. “But it’s always frustrating when you don’t get as many targets as you want in the game.”

The bittersweet feeling that King feels is thanks to his work ethic during the offseason.

Obviously, opposing quarterbacks aren’t going to throw to a receiver that isn’t open, so King’s lack of targets is a signal of doing his job.

“I feel like I haven’t really been getting a lot of action, but that’s



Penn State cornerback Kalen King celebrates a pass breakup with the team’s “no fly zone” celebration against Central Michigan in 2022. The Nittany Lions defeated the Chippewas 33-14.

just going back to me just doing my job every play, not getting

bored out there and not just focusing on me making plays, but rather me doing my job every play,” King said. “I know that opportunities will come, and when they do, I’m looking to capitalize on them.”

In 2022, King was the No. 2 cornerback on the depth chart behind Porter Jr., but the script was flipped so far in 2023.

King has taken over the role as the No. 1 cornerback on the roster after his breakout season last year, leaving more opportunity for the rest of the cornerbacks.

“At this point last year, I was getting all the action,” King said. “And Joey, he was over there just chilling and not really getting that much.”

While a lack of action may seem tedious, King only cares about winning.

“I’m always happy to be able to feel whether I’m active or not,” King said. “As long as we’re winning and I’m contributing to my

team and our success, I’m good.”

Just because King hasn’t been targeted, doesn’t mean it’s been easy pickings when opposing quarterbacks target the rest of Penn State’s secondary.

Of the Nittany Lions’ four interceptions last week, three were from cornerbacks: Johnny Dixon, Cam Miller and Daequan Hardy.

King feels that Penn State has the best cornerback room in the country, whether he’s being targeted or not.

“It’s not like you can go away from him and then have success thrown in other places when we were able to get four interceptions and also fumble recovery (against Illinois),” Franklin said. “You really want DBs, and specifically corners, out there that can cause problems and make things difficult for you.”

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Follow him on X at [@ZachAllen0](https://twitter.com/ZachAllen0).



Kalen King speaks with reporters during Penn State’s post-practice availability on Sept. 20. King has only been targeted 13 times this season, as opposing quarterbacks have seemingly avoided him this season.

Seth Engle



Engle

What to watch for: A consistently difficult opponent for Penn State, Iowa storms into Beaver Stadium with a revamped offense and a typically dominant defense. However, without its leading receiver and top running backs, Iowa is unlikely to put itself in position for a win, especially against a defense that forced five turnovers against Illinois.

Score: Penn State 27, Iowa 10

Zach Allen



Allen

What to watch for: While Iowa will have to face the White Out, the Hawkeye defense will keep this a game. Similarly, Iowa’s offense will have a tougher time scoring on Penn State in a defensive battle. The White Out will be another close battle between these teams, but Penn State’s offensive firepower will be too much for Iowa.

Score: Penn State 24, Iowa 13

Joel Haas



Haas

What to watch for: All signs point to this being a low-scoring affair with a pair of dynamic defenses duking it out. However, one team has proven that it can move the ball offensively, and the other team is led by Brian Ferentz. Fueled by a White Out crowd, the Nittany Lions will stay undefeated in a hard-fought defensive battle.

Score: Penn State 23, Iowa 10

Sam Woloson



Woloson

What to watch for: Expect a physical, defensive battle in the White Out. Points will be at a premium, but I have more confidence in Penn State’s offense since it’s much healthier than Iowa’s. If the Nittany Lions can protect the football and play efficiently, the defense will take care of the rest on Saturday night.

Score: Penn State 20, Iowa 7

Guest Picker: Jackson Ranger



Ranger

What to watch for: Penn State has struggled to make explosive plays, which will be hard to find against Iowa. However, Penn State also has a strong defense that controlled Illinois. It’ll be a slow grind, but Penn State is healthier and has the home crowd behind it.

Score: Penn State 17, Iowa 7

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Beaver Stadium's Accessibility

Students and attendees with disabilities face challenges on gameday

By Mercedes Hamilton
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

For many students, it's difficult to secure a good seat in Beaver Stadium's student section prior to kickoff.

However, for students with disabilities, finding a seat in the student section can be even more of a challenge.

Carlee Weber said she has difficulty finding a safe way to experience Penn State football the way her peers do.

Weber, a fourth-year studying advertising and public relations, navigates Penn State with a power wheelchair because she has spinal muscular atrophy, which affects motor function.

Weber said she feels "separated" from the student section and wishes there was a way for those with disabilities to be "integrated with the crowd."

According to Kris Petersen, the senior associate Penn State



Tyler Mantz/Collegian

Beaver Stadium has an ADA section and a Fan Assistance Shuttle to accommodate people with disabilities, according to Kris Petersen.

ADA ticketing at her first Penn State football game, she said it was resolved quickly with

in front of seats in the walkway because there wasn't enough designated space for people in wheelchairs," Weber said.

On the other hand, Benjamin Dworsky, who has Crohn's disease, is able to sit with his peers in the student section but said he has concerns about the area.

According to Dworsky, a fourth-year studying community, environment and development, access to a bathroom is important to those with an inflammatory bowel disease.

"There might be times where I'll have a flareup, and I need to get to the bathroom, or I'll have a cramp and I may need to go lay down," Dworsky said. "It's a little bit hard to predict when it will happen; I have to be ready for those things."

In Dworsky's experience, he said bathrooms at Beaver Stadium can be difficult to access because of location and crowd size.

"There's really no guarantee that I'll get a seat that is closest to the bathrooms," Dworsky said. "They need to renovate the bathrooms and place them more strategically."

Despite his concerns, Dworsky said he "really enjoys" attending the football games with his friends.

Jessica Henry, an associate teaching professor of education and certified rehabilitation counselor, said she's concerned about the way "students are kind of encouraged by each other to stand the entire time."

"Even though (the student section) can be accessible, it's just not operated in that way," Henry said.

is that just because you can't see someone's disability, doesn't mean it doesn't exist," Henry said.

According to university spokesperson Lisa Powers in a statement, the university "embeds accessibility into (its) building design and renovation standards in the planning phases."

"Overall, the university continuously strives to see that campus spaces — both interior and exterior — are accessible for all users, regardless of ability status," Powers said.

Those who experience a campus space they believe could benefit from improved access can reach out to the University Access Committee at access@psu.edu or 814-865-8157.

Henry suggested the university "invite students with disabilities to be part of the conversation" to ensure consideration of a variety of disabilities.

"There are things that able-bodied people might not realize (are problems), but that's why it's important to ask the disabled community what they need, and listen," Weber said.

"At Beaver Stadium, there's an opportunity for people to experience what it's like to be a Penn State fan," Henry said. "Students with disabilities pay the same amount of tuition as those who do not have disabilities, so they should be able to know what it feels like to be a part of that culture."

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Jonah Rosen/Collegian file photo

Those who believe there's a campus space that can benefit from improved accessibility can contact University Access Committee.

Athletics director for communications and content, there's an ADA section in Beaver Stadium's student section, as well as a recently expanded "Fan Assistance Shuttle," which provides transportation between the parking lots and stadium. Students in the ADA section are allowed to have one guest with a ticket accompany them.

"Beaver Stadium provides accommodations for those with disabilities, including elevators, accessible seating and accessible restrooms that will allow for an enjoyable game day experience," Petersen said.

Although Weber experienced

security being "nice and understanding" at the season's first home game.

"They put me really close (to the field), and they let me bring in two of my friends, which is nice because typically they only let you bring in one person," Weber said. "At the same time, I wish I could bring more friends in because it's a more enjoyable experience — that's kind of a luxury that they don't let me have."

Additionally, Weber said there wasn't enough allotted space for people with wheelchairs in the ADA section she sat in.

"Only two wheelchairs fit in the indent, so one of the people in a wheelchair ended up having to sit



Sienna Pinney/Collegian

The Penn State fan experience differs for all students, including those with disabilities.

Caving Club finds 'inviting' community

By Katie Knol
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

A tightknit group of cavers venture into an undiscovered chasm. As they move through the darkness, they discover odd signs of life. When a small crawl space closes behind them, they're trapped with flesh-eating monsters who track them based on sound. Actually, that's the plot of "The Descent" — that's not what members of Penn State's Nittany

Grotto Caving Club experience. Instead, the club's photography chair Conal Richards said the caving practices shown in the movie are inaccurate, and his adventures have all been safe so far.

The Nittany Grotto Caving Club is "dedicated to promoting interest in the exploration and conservation of caves," according to its website. In official club meetings, members learn about different features in caves, conservation practices and skills

they might use if they ever venture underground.

While the club doesn't actually go caving due to liability concerns, members of the club gather to go caving outside of the official organization.

Richards, a third-year studying aerospace engineering, said he didn't have any caving knowledge or experience when he joined the club. However, the caving crew's Involvement Fair table caught his attention — and he wanted to learn more.

"As I'm going up and down the aisles, I saw a bunch of people in these filthy cave suits jumping up and down, trying to bring people into the club," he said.

Since joining, Richards said he's crawled through the "Hell Hole" in the nearby McClure Cave, where cavers need to put their arms above their heads and wiggle through the opening for about 300 feet.

While it might seem daunting to the inexperienced, he said there's a big focus on safety.

The group keeps a spreadsheet of everyone who's going on the trip with their emergency contact information and has someone staying above ground in case they don't return by a designated time. All members also have access to safety equipment like helmets and kneepads.

But Emma Enos, the Nittany Grotto Caving Club's vice



Courtesy of Conal Richards

Conal Richards and members of the Nittany Grotto Caving Club gather outside of the official organization to go caving.

president, said not all caves are like the "Hell Hole" experience.

"There's a cave for every person out there," Enos, a third-year studying geobiology, said. "We have caves that you can just walk through — no crawling, no squeezes."

She said she's particularly interested in cave conservation, and there are a few conservation tactics they use on their adventures.

In an effort to keep the caves preserved, coordinates are kept

pretty "hush-hush" to prevent graffiti, cavers aren't allowed to touch the formations and they shouldn't shine their lights on bat populations in the cave.

Anja Vogel, the club's treasurer, said the newness of the caves is what makes the experiences so special.

Continue reading here:



Courtesy of Conal Richards

The Caving Club ventures into multiple caves throughout Pennsylvania and beyond.

‘MEET AND EAT’

Penn State student-designed app enables users to find others to eat with

By **Elbia Vidal Castillo**
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

In an age where digital apps and platforms have transformed the way people connect with one another, Ryan Nair said he wanted to create a solution to the conflict of “never having someone to eat with” in the dining halls, hence the birth of “Meet and Eat.”

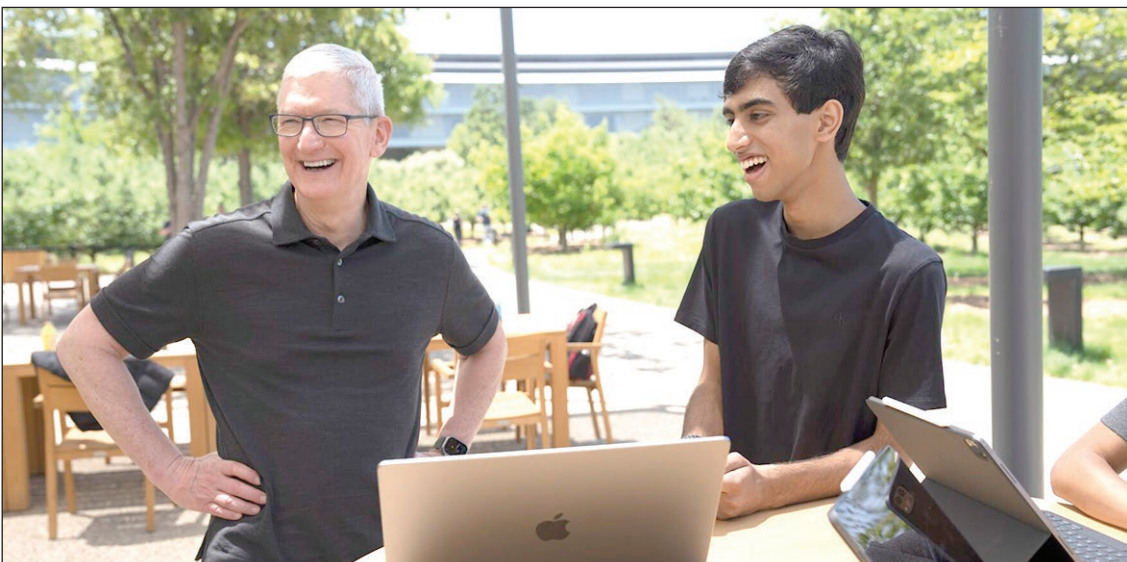
The inspiration for his creation came from his first year, when he noticed the majority of dining halls were “constantly empty.”

“I would walk into the dining hall, and almost 70% of the kids there were eating alone,” Nair, a second-year studying computer science, said.

He said the “biggest issue” at the dining hall was never having someone to sit with, so he came up with the idea of creating an app that would match people eating in the same dining hall based on a set of questions users answered in the app.

After coming up with the idea, Nair started working on programming the application while working with a small team of three other students of the same year who were part of HackPSU last semester.

Nair said he did all of the



Courtesy of Apple

Ryan Nair created an app called “Meet and Eat,” so students wouldn’t have to eat by themselves. “I would walk into the dining hall, and almost 70% of the kids there were eating alone,” Nair said.

programming himself and worked on it for hours every day since January.

“Meet and Eat” will be available this semester; students can access it via the App Store.

Nair also got to participate in and win the Swift Student Challenge, a competition Apple holds every year before its Worldwide Developers Conference.

“I just participate to see what happens, and obviously it went pretty well,” Nair said.

The winners get Apple merchandise, and the creators of the best projects are selected to visit the Apple headquarters and meet Tim Cook in person.

“Meeting Tim Cook and other talented programmers was a crazy and exciting experience,”

Nair said. “After showing him my app, it felt like a seal of approval as if what I was doing was good enough, and it gave me the motivation I needed to continue working during the summer.”

Nair started coding after a summer program at Montclair State University when he was in high school, and said this experience feels like a “dream

come true.”

“It’s the first project I got to call mine,” Nair said. “I can show this to people and actually help someone feel more comfortable while navigating college life.”

Although the project is not officially up yet, some students are already anticipating its launch.

Evelyn Juanacio said there are “many opportunities for students to build relationships with their community.”

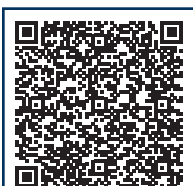
However, Juanacio, a fourth-year student studying political science, said an app like this will be “beneficial for students who are introverts and who resort to the digital (world).”

Micaela Espinoza said she was initially “curious” about the app.

“As an international student who moved here without knowing anyone, this can actually help me meet students who share my same hobbies or career,” Espinoza, a first-year student studying management, said.

Overall, Espinoza is excited for the goals of the app.

Continue reading here:



Graphic by Ritamarie Montagna

Students discuss their favorite styles and inspirations heading into autumn. From Bethany Mota to “Christian Girl Autumn,” students pull styles from all different aesthetics.

Fall into fashion

By **Nadya Solometo**
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

It’s the time of year where jackets become heavier and the air turns crisp.

When it comes to personal fashion, many Penn State students said they had certain inspirations or looks they go for during this time of year.

Izzy Chieves said some of her inspirations for autumn come from 2016.

“I think of Bethany Mota and Alisha Marie when I think of fall,” Chieves, a second-year studying biological sciences and health professions, said. “It’s them but more modern.”

Another pick for Chieves’ fall role models is Matilda Djerf.

“She has started with more fall stuff, and I love her style,” Chieves said.

Keimary Juarbe also had an inspiration to name.

“My fall inspiration is myself,” Juarbe, a second-year studying psychology, said.

For Kylie Reisz, there’s not “one specific style influence” for her in the fall.

“I kind of just look at what everyone else is wearing and put my own spin on it,” Reisz, a third-year student studying communication sciences and

disorders, said.

Other students said there are pieces of autumn attire that should stay in the closet.

Rachel Bonslaver said students shouldn’t wear things that are “impractical.”

“I don’t like the super cropped jackets,” Bonslaver, a third-year studying hospitality management, said. “I think they just don’t keep you warm.”

Reisz also noted the importance of the fall “color scheme.”

“I’m not a huge fan of neon sweaters,” Reisz said. “The colors just don’t fit the season.”

Maria Bielicki had an aesthetic in mind she thinks many should avoid: the infamous “Christian Girl Autumn.”

“The vibes of (Christian Girl Autumn)? Yes. The outfits? No,” Bielicki, a second-year studying communication sciences and disorders, said. “Definitely no infinity scarves, and I do not need to see the skinny jean and UGG combo.”

Chieves also said she “didn’t love the styling of UGGs” in the fall.

“I think in theory it’s cute, but in execution it never is,” Chieves said.

However, students gave plenty of options for what they want to see.

Maggie Pokrywka gave her opinion on what she would like to see.

“Fuzzy anything works so well,” Pokyrwka, a second-year student studying community, environment and development, said. “I also absolutely love flannels.”

Bonslaver also gave her suggestions for this time of year.

“This is gonna contradict what I said but — cropped sweaters cute, cropped jackets ugly,” Bonslaver said.

Reisz and Chieves both brought up how they “love” hats during the fall — beanies specifically.

Talking about the season overall, Pokrywka said the fashion during this time makes her feel “so cute.”

“I feel so much more put together in the fall when it comes to outfits,” Pokrywka said. “I just want to sit in Starbucks with my little coffee and study.”

Chieves expressed the same and said “everyone looks good.”

“I think in the fall everyone reverts to the same classic style and construction of outfits,” Chieves said. “The little cozy academia — that’s the fall vibe.”

To email reporter: nrs5604@psu.edu.
Follow her on X at [@NadsRae](#).

YouTuber apologies ranked

By **Caroline Sliver**
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

If you have a one-way ticket to the manipulation station today, you’re in luck.

Tearless sobs, contrived sobriety and a resounding absence of the word “sorry” — YouTubers have only continued to innovate in the apology genre over the past decade since its dawn in the mid-2010s.

The hallmarks of a great apology video have become increasingly clear as longtime content creators face reckonings with their past mistakes and label them “attempts at holding myself accountable.”

The comment section and the like-to-dislike ratio on the video should be disabled, clearly. Feedback is never welcomed in a truly

excellent YouTube apology.

And the best apologies should make you wonder: Where on earth are their public relations teams? Who let these creators off the leash?

Five lucky YouTubers have earned the crown for best (worst) YouTuber apologies, each adding their own twist to the infamous category.

5. Logan Paul

“So sorry.” is an excellent title for a 1 minute, 45 second video apologizing for filming a dead body in Japan’s Aokigahara Forest, known as the “suicide forest.”

How does it get more surreal than that?

The length of Paul’s video adds an important dimension to the discourse surrounding apologies. How short is too short to dedicate

to acknowledging one’s wrongdoing? Is there a threshold for genuine accountability?

Paul fails to achieve a higher ranking due the comment section on the video still being enabled. This decision could give viewers the wrong impression — that the creator is genuinely looking for feedback and criticism.

On a similar note, Paul says the word “sorry” and apologizes to several concrete stakeholders, which means he has at least some genuine acknowledgment of just how bad his actions were.

Continue reading here:



‘Go-to’ drinks for the season

By **Ritamarie Montagna**
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

As autumn descends upon State College, Penn State students’ drink orders are shifting along with the seasons.

From pumpkin spice to apple crisp, whether it’s from Dunkin’, Starbucks or home, students treat themselves to a variety of beverages.

Juliet Mingle said she loves drinking strawberry dragon fruit refreshers from Dunkin’.

“I prefer them during the change from summer to fall, like this kind of era we’re going through right now,” Mingle, a first-year studying earth science and policy, said.

Mingle said she always gets her “go-to” refresher from Dunkin’.

“This is my calling,” Mingle said, gesturing to her strawberry dragon fruit refresher sitting on the table. “I drink this religiously.”

She added that she likes “tart things,” and the drink is “just so good.”

“I lean toward pumpkin when we get to the fall seasons, but I will always get my strawberry dragon fruit refresher,” Mingle said.

Mingle added that the iced green tea lemonades from Starbucks taste “the same,” but she just prefers her refresher to the lemonades.

Emma Reach said she drinks “a lot” of hot chamomile tea in the fall.

“I’m always sick at this time of

year,” Reach, a third-year studying finance, said.

Reach said this is her fall “go-to” drink.

Mohammad Boabbas said he likes anything white chocolate during the fall.

“I like the white chocolate mocha specifically,” Boabbas, a second-year studying biomedical engineering, said.

He said he will get the white chocolate mocha from “anywhere.”

Shannon Parker said she enjoys getting “anything pumpkin” during the fall season.

“I prefer the Pumpkin Spice Latte from Starbucks,” Parker, a third-year studying marketing, said.

Parker added she orders the latte “always iced with no whipped cream.”

Hawraa Al Najdi said her favorite fall drink is the pumpkin spice latte.

“I just like how it tastes,” Al Najdi, a second-year studying architectural engineering, said.

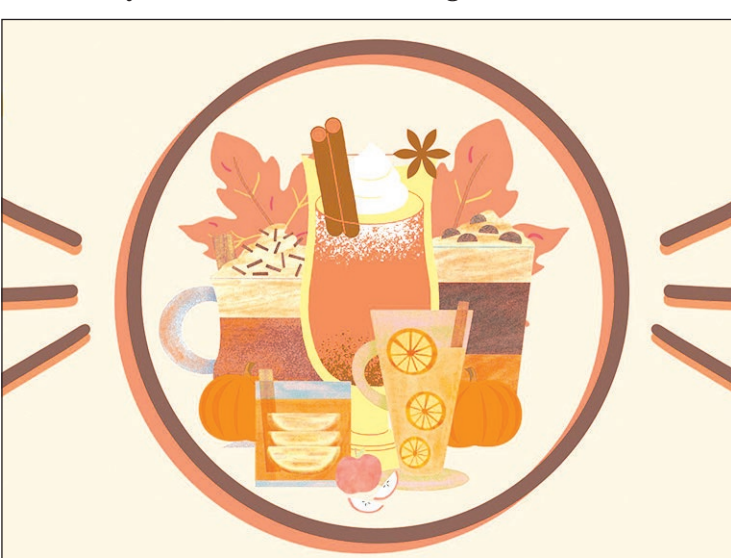
She said she gets pumpkin spice latte from any coffee shop.

Daniel Girsh said any kind of matcha is really good.

“I tried it two days ago for the first time from Starbucks,” Girsh, a second-year studying finance, said.

K h a d i j a Hassan said she likes to get the iced chai.

Continue reading here:



Graphic by Isabella Viteri

Some people’s drink orders change during the cooler months, while others continue to drink iced beverages.

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Penn State must implement AI training in curriculum

Since its birth in the 1950s, Artificial Intelligence has exponentially encroached on daily life — pushing into careers, redefining education and testing ethics.

As AI continues to advance, Penn State must reframe its curriculum to incorporate the new technology. By viewing AI as a resource, rather than an enemy, the university could enhance education and better prepare students for careers requiring AI skills.

Because AI eliminates tedious tasks, such as sifting through data, and enhances workplace efficiency, many companies are increasingly integrating AI into their ecosystems.

This fuels a demand for AI literacy across multiple career paths, outside of just STEM professions.

According to a LinkedIn article from professor Anil Kashyap of NICMAR University in India, training students on AI literacy

OUR VIEW

Students need to develop AI literacy skills before entering the workplace

is crucial in preparing them for AI-fluent workplaces.

While Penn State offers an online master’s degree in AI, it should strive to include all majors in these efforts and lessons.

Similar to science, humanities and public speaking courses, ethical AI training should be a requirement in undergraduate student curriculum.

In many courses, AI’s only introduction is in the syllabus’ academic integrity violation section.

Systems like ChatGPT have been a cause for concern when it comes to plagiarism. Although

ChatGPT is only one piece in the expansive AI puzzle — the chatbot doesn’t have to be inherently bad if boundaries are put in place.

Implementing AI education will help draw the line between using these systems for creative inspiration or pure plagiarism.

While AI undoubtedly poses ethical uncertainties, it’s important students are educated on all aspects of the technology, including its benefits and threats.

Similar to social media’s rise in the early 2000s, the more society began to accept and implement it in education, the

more aware people became with how to avoid and identify the threats accompanying it — such as phishing scams.

Establishing what plagiarism looks like, and teaching students how to use AI as an assistant, will also negate the number of students who feel the need to use AI as a sneaky shortcut in completing coursework.

It’s important for AI and ethical boundaries to coexist. While embracing AI, Penn State can still preserve its academic integrity values.

Professors have previously begun to implement AI features, such as Packback, to

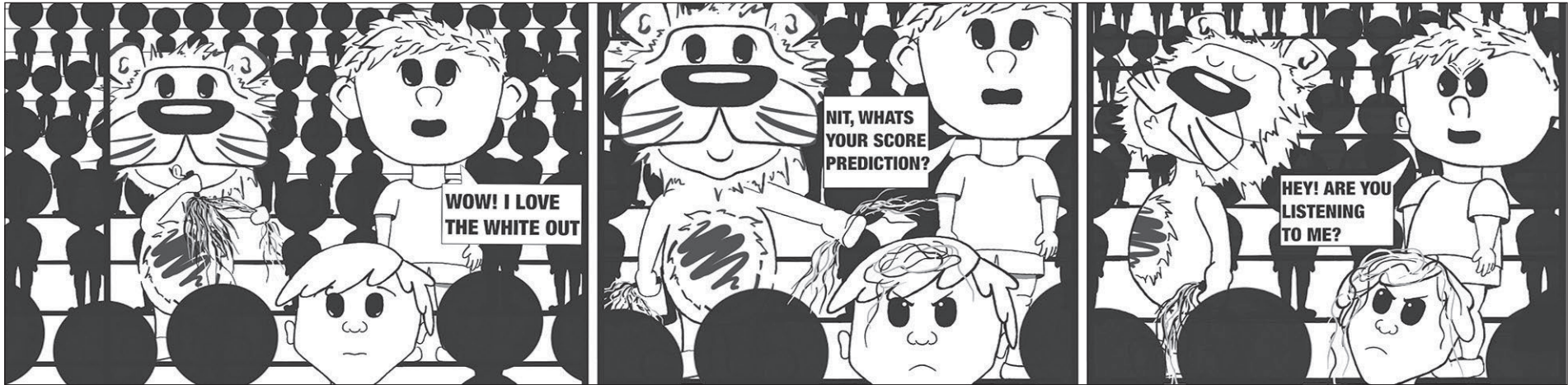
automatically grade students’ work. It’s only fair that students are able to utilize AI, in an ethical manner, to enhance their workflow.

AI also presents new opportunities for interactive learning and engaging students with more hands-on experiences in the classroom — such as augmented reality and personalized teaching tools, Kashyap said in the article.

Penn State has great potential in enhancing AI education and research, especially with foundations in the AI Hub and Nittany AI Alliance.

Embracing AI will enhance Penn State’s environment and build an alumni network that is educated on new technologies.

As students gain greater exposure to AI, and leverage how to ethically utilize it in their career work, they’ll be able to enhance efficiency and increase their awareness in an AI-oriented world.



Cartoons by Maddie Seelig

MY VIEW | BRADEN DYRESON

SATIRE: A White Out history lesson

Editor’s Note: (sobbing)

The White Out is a time-honored and storied tradition at the Pennsylvania State University. Since the university’s inception in 1855, there has been a White Out.

Dyreson

Recent archaeological evidence has revealed that the confrontation between homo sapiens and neanderthals that wiped those hairy bastards out was a White Out game.

The White Out games are not simply singular cultural landmarks; they are a genealogy of the soul of humanity and a record of who we are.

Thus, in that spirit, it’s time to recount some of the biggest historical moments of White Out’s past.

Sept. 25, 2004: The First White Out

The first Penn State White Out was a pitch from marketing for all the students to wear a white T-shirt and get pumped. It represented a cataclysmic, cosmic shift of energy in the

universe — a recognition that the “Zeitgeist” or “Spirit of the Age” had come to reside upon the Penn State student section.

In spite of losing to Purdue, the world would never be the same again.

April 15, 1865: President Abraham Lincoln assassinated

In the aftermath of the Confederate surrender at Appomattox, honest Abe needed a break.

The war took a toll on the President who was entering his second term with a monumental task to lead the nation to a new birth of freedom.

Thus, Lincoln decided to go to the White Out game, which would be his final journey as president.

Circa AD 476: The Roman Empire collapses

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The Daily Collegian’s editorial

When Roman emperor and head coach Romulus Augustulus met with the Visigoth team at Beaver Stadium, he was still holding onto a dying dynasty.

However, with a couple of key pick sixes, Visgoths managed to pull an upset on the Romans, ending one of the most dominant sport franchises ever.

November 22, 1963: President John F. Kennedy assassinated

When Kennedy’s motorcade rounded the corner onto Curtin Road on his way to the stadium for the big game, no one was expecting what came next.

The CIA conspired with Cuban communists and organized crime to have Kennedy killed for his support of Nittany Lion football. As a nation we have never recovered since.

Circa 400 million years

opinion is determined by its Board of Opinion, which is made up of members of its Board of Editors, with the editor in chief holding final responsibility for content. The opinions expressed on the editorial page are not necessarily those of Collegian Inc., a separate institution from Penn State.

About the Collegian
The Daily Collegian and The Weekly Collegian are published by Collegian Inc., an independent, nonprofit corporation with a board of directors composed of students, faculty and profession-

ago: Sea life evolves to live on land

One of the most important moments in the mystery of life took place at a White Out game long ago.

Scientists have long wondered what caused sea life to adapt to live on land. What forced them out of the water onto earth causing the domino effect that led to us? The answer is simple: Our fishy ancestors were forced to grow legs and lungs in order to attend the White Out game.

Sept 14, 1901: President William McKinley assassinated

In another tragic incident one of America’s most iconic and influential presidents, William McKinley was sadly taken from us at the White Out. Even more tragically, the Nittany Lions went on to lose the game to Ohio State 44-31.

Braden Dyreson is a senior majoring in philosophy, film and classic and ancient Mediterranean studies and a columnist for The Daily Collegian. Email him at bsd5216@psu.edu or follow him on X at [@BradenDyreson](https://twitter.com/BradenDyreson).

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WHITE OUT IMPACT

By Lyle Alenstein
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

The White Out game is one of the best traditions in college football and in college sports. Last year's White Out resulted in the blue and white defeating Minnesota 45-17.

The annual White Out is this weekend, as the No. 7-ranked Nittany Lions will face Iowa in what will be one of the loudest stadium atmospheres of the entire year.

While the White Out is known in Happy Valley mainly for football, the promotion creates a rowdy and electric environment for the other athletic teams. The sea of white is a daunting task for any opponent, making it tough for opposing teams in any sport.

Here's how last year's other White Out matchups shaped up for the Nittany Lions.

Men's Hockey

The White Out set in store for the hockey team was for the latter half of the two-game series against fellow powerhouse Notre Dame.

After dropping the first game at the hands of the Fighting Irish 2-1, the Roar Zone and Penn State fans came back the next night covered in white.

The White Out was the spark the team needed as it dominated the ice in a 3-2 victory at Pegula. Simon Mack, Connor MacEachern and Christian Sarlo each netted a goal for the win.

Women's Soccer

Jeffrey Field was doused in white when the Nittany Lions battled with Rutgers.

The blue and white came out firing on all cylinders in this Big Ten showdown, coming out victorious with a 2-0 win powered by the Park Avenue Army.

The victory over the Scarlet Nights was led by now Chicago Red Star teammates Ally Schlegel and Penelope Hocking.



Ryan Bowman/Collegian file photo

Penn State fans during Penn State football's annual White Out game in 2022. The Nittany Lions defeated the Golden Gophers 45-17. This year, Penn State will take on the Hawkeyes.

Schlegel totaled a goal and assist while Hocking notched the other geno.

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team had its 'Wear White' game against Purdue last season.

The team took on the Boilermakers at the Palestra, trying to upset the then No.1-seeded team in the NCAA.

The team battled throughout the first half, trailing by just six points at halftime. The team from West Lafayette became too much for the Nittany Lions, running away in the second half and finished the game with a 76-63 victory.

Jalen Pickett, last year's star and 32nd overall pick by the Denver Nuggets, was a Swiss Army knife in the contest, stuffing the

stat sheet with 26 points, nine rebounds and eight assists.

While the Legion of Blue traveled well showing up to Philadelphia decked head-to-toe in white, the game may have held a different ending if the student section was packed into the Bryce Jordan Center.

Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team had its White Out against Virginia as both teams entered the battle undefeated; the blue and orange were 8-0 while Penn State was 7-0.

With the arena packed and the white filled throughout the BJC, the Lady Lions were no match for the Cavaliers, losing by a score of 89-68.

It was Makenna Marisa who led the scoring for the blue and white as she totaled 16 points

in the teams first loss of the campaign.

Men's Lacrosse

The White Out for the lacrosse team was a dual with Rutgers. The game also took place on Senior Day, so the celebration for the graduating players was met by the Panzer Stadium stands being packed with white.

With Panzemonium chanting and screaming from the bleachers, the Nittany Lions roared out of the gates and didn't look back. The unit took no prisoners and dethroned the team from Piscataway, New Jersey, 14-5.

Kevin Winkoff opened the floodgates with his three goals, while his teammate TJ Malone played field general – facilitating four assists.

Women's Volleyball

Rec Hall was drenched in white when the squad took on Minnesota.

The Gophers threatened late, but the Nittany Lions were fueled by the wRECKing Crew in white as the support led them en route to a 3-1 victory.

Kashuana "Kash" Williams had 20 kills; Maddy Bilinovic had three aces, and Allie Holland had seven blocks as the trio played a large role in the win.

The culture and school spirit is present in the student sections when cheering for their Nittany Lions. No matter the sport, the White Out always brings out the best in the Happy Valley faithful.

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The Rhoades ahead for Penn State

Five crucial men's basketball games on the Nittany Lions' 2023-24 agenda



Katelyn Supancik/Collegian

Former Penn State men's basketball guard Andrew Funk passes the ball to former guard Jalen Pickett in the Penn State versus Texas A&M game at the Wells Fargo Arena.

By Joe Tuman
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Penn State has its marching orders for the 2023-24 season.

The blue and white's full schedule was unveiled on Tuesday, furthering anticipation for the start of the Mike Rhoades era.

Although a trip to the Bahamas yielded strong early results, the new coach and his lineup will soon become increasingly battle-tested.

Whether the new look Nittany Lions can measure up to the Big Ten's best is the burning question of Rhoades' debut season. Should the school find success against its rivals, it'd set itself up nicely for another postseason run.

While every game matters, these five contests could prove especially essential toward a playoff push.

Nov. 23 – vs. Texas A&M

Before conference play gets rolling, the Nittany Lions must first contend with a ghost of the past.

Penn State upset Texas A&M in the first round of the NCAA Tournament last season and will soon kick off the ESPN Events Invitational by facing the Aggies once more.

Held in Kissimmee, Florida, the invitational will provide

the program an opportunity to showcase its revamped roster.

Conversely, while there's an array of new faces in Happy Valley, Buzz Williams' squad boasts four returning starters; therefore, another upset over the vengeful Aggies would surely be a confidence booster for the Nittany Lions.

Jan. 7 – vs. Michigan

Early in 2024, Rhoades' players will journey to the City of Brotherly Love. Penn State will face Michigan inside The Palestra, returning to the venue after meeting Purdue there a season ago.

Usually a perennial Big Ten powerhouse, the Wolverines are coming off of a disappointing campaign where they failed to make the NCAA Tournament. After losing their three best players to both the NBA Draft and transfer portal, it's unclear what's in store for Juwan Howard's group going forward.

Nonetheless, blue-and-maize jerseys must always be taken seriously on the hardwood. Penn State is well aware of this, and it'll aim to bring its A-game in front of the Philadelphia crowd.

Jan. 13 – at Purdue

Though they took on the Boilermakers three times last year, the Nittany Lions match up with

Purdue just once this season.

After falling to the eventual Big Ten champions in each contest, including the conference championship game, they'll hope for different results this time around.

However, avenging those defeats is easier said than done with dominant 7-foot-4 center Zach Edey still in the Boilermaker lineup.

The senior averaged an astounding 26 points per game

against Penn State last year, routinely appearing unguardable.

Help could come thanks to the additions of Qudas Wahab and Favour Aire, who'll provide the blue and white with more traditional skill sets at the five.

Even then, completely stopping Edey seems out of the question. If Penn State can mitigate the rest of Purdue's offense and escape with a victory, it'd be hard not to take Rhoades' team seriously afterward.

Jan. 20 – at Ohio State

Similar to Michigan, Ohio State is coming off a rough season. Coach Chris Holtmann went under .500 for the first time during his Buckeye tenure, and his team missed out on tournament action.

Now, after adding three defensive assets via the transfer portal, including former Nittany Lion Evan Mahaffey, the Buckeyes should possess a more balanced roster.

If they re-emerge as a threat, a victory here would potentially go a long way.

Under Micah Shrewsberry, Penn State downed Ohio State on the road last season. Doing so again would continue signaling a changing of the guard inside the conference.

Feb. 14 – vs. Michigan State

During the final two months of play, the playoff picture becomes clearer as every win and loss seems to carry more weight.

Yet, out of every test Penn State faces down the stretch, a Valentine's Day battle with Michigan State may be the hardest to pass.

The Spartans are expected to once again be a formidable foe following their trip to the Sweet 16 last March.

Already bringing back four starters, they also boast a loaded freshman class highlighted by five-star recruit Xavier Booker — who ESPN ranked as its No. 16 prospect in the class of 2023.

If things don't break Penn State's way early, this game could get ugly. However, by February, its quite possible this freshly assembled Nittany Lions' rotation is much more comfortable playing together.

If that's the case, a win in this spot could send the Bryce Jordan Center crowd into a tailspin.

It's a tall mountain to climb for Rhoades' roster, but the possible payoff would do wonders for the team's momentum.

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Lily LaRegina/Collegian file photo

Guard Myles Dread fights Ohio State's E.J. Liddell for possession of the ball during the game against Ohio State at the Bryce Jordan Center.