

Paterno voices concern of playing at Iowa

By WILLIAM KALEC
Collegian Staff Writer

Iowa is 1-3.
Iowa lost to Michigan State last week 49-3.
Iowa lost to lowly in-state rival Iowa State 17-10.
Iowa lost to Nebraska 42-7.
But the Hawkeyes did beat Northern Illinois. And apparently, that is all Penn State coach Joe Paterno needs to believe the Nittany Lions' first trip back to Kinnick Stadium since 1995 could pose problems.
Paterno emphasized at his weekly press conference yesterday that the thought of Penn State looking ahead to a showdown with Ohio



Paterno's Press Conference

State next week should be forgotten.
"It's a very difficult stadium to play in," Paterno said. "If Iowa has some success it can create problems."
Every Penn State player is aware of the problems Iowa can present. Despite its less-than-impressive showings so far this season, Iowa is still one more hurdle Penn State

must overcome to preserve its perfect season.
"They had two tough games against Nebraska and Michigan State," Penn State safety Askari Adams said. "They didn't play too well, but that won't be the same team on Saturday."
In the defensive dumps
Despite the Penn State defense being nowhere close to the top of Div. I-A total defense rankings, Paterno has been less critical of his stoppers.
Heading into their second Big Ten battle, Penn State ranks fifth in the conference in total defense.
Penn State has registered 13 sacks on the season — 10.5 sacks off of last season's pace. Lineback-

ers LaVar Arrington, Brandon Short and Mac Morrison have yet to get to an opposing quarterback.
"Unfortunately, people look at stats too much," Paterno said. "We have done some things as well as we want to, but we have played the way we have had to play."
Movin' on
Bob Jones' stint as a defensive end is over after five games.
With the loss of starter Jason Wallace for the season and a recent injury to David Fleischhauer, which has limited his practice time, Jones has been moved back to tackle where he started eight games last season and recorded 1.5 sacks.
In addition to defensive changes,

guard Eric Cole might see a couple of snaps at center this Saturday in Iowa City and wide receiver Corey Jones should see his first playing time since being injured in the season opener against the Arizona Wildcats.
Explaining the unexplainable
The following is Penn State quarterback Rashard Casey's interpretation of his 35-yard touchdown run against Indiana on Sept. 25.
"By watching it, I saw I made two moves and then basically just tried outrunning everybody," Casey said. "I didn't realize how I made the first one miss coming from my back side, but after watching it, it was a pretty good run."

New indoor track facility ready for next season

By KYLE ROSSI
Collegian Sports Writer

Penn State's new Multi-Sports Complex made quite a first impression on former Penn State women's track coach Teri Jordan.
"I walked into that facility and I wanted to run again," she said.

Jordan, now assistant coordinator of the Multi-Sports Complex, admits she is past her athletic prime. However, she said, the new building is the kind of indoor track facility that can inspire athletes, even those who are years removed from competition.

Beginning with the 2000 indoor track season, the edifice will have the opportunity to inspire athletes still in their primes, as it will serve as the home for both the men's and women's indoor track and field teams. It also will be used as a training facility for both outdoor track squads.

Touted by Penn State's Sports Information Department as a "world-class indoor track," the complex opened Aug. 23 with an event hosted by Penn State President Graham Spanier and Athletic Director Tim Curley.

The facility is located next to The Bryce Jordan Center off of University Drive, and its \$16 million cost was paid for entirely within the athletic department's budget.

Jordan and others insist the complex easily is worth its price tag.

"It's the best in the world, not just a track," Jordan said. "It has an 18-degree hydraulic bank. There's only two others like that in the world right now, one in Germany and one in Indianapolis, and this one's an improvement on those with a wider circumference, so it's a pretty spectacular track."

"With its larger radius of 65 feet, and the turns elevated, it's going to fly," Penn State men's track coach Harry Groves said. "I'm afraid they're not going to believe our performances. They'll think it's measured short or I'm one heck of a liar."

"Going to the 200-meter hydraulic track puts us about 15 to 20 years ahead. Now people have to play catch-up with us."

In addition to the running surface, the Multi-Sport Complex also contains 65 yards of artificial turf just past one end of the track, locker rooms, a weight room and permanent seating for 800 spectators. The facility also has two runways for long jump and triple jump and two runways for pole vault.

With features such as those, Jordan said Penn State has the opportunity to attract world-class athletes to compete in Happy Valley.

"We're going to hold Big Tens next year, which is something they wouldn't have even considered before," she said. "The high school national championship is going to be here. Please see COMPLEX, Page 16."

Former coaches' influence made Leuchte a Lion

By BRAD STRATTON
Collegian Staff Writer

Like many of her teammates on the Penn State field hockey team, goalkeeper Heidi Leuchte spent many of her summers during her junior and senior years of high school at camps working on her game.

But unlike her teammates, her big game was not field hockey at the time.

"I used to play basketball all year round," said Leuchte, a red-shirt freshman. "Sixth grade to senior year, I went to camps all summer. A lot of people on the (field hockey) team have gone through what I did through basketball."

Leuchte, a nursing major, had every intention of playing basketball in college, even though she was an all-state goalkeeper for Pinkerton Academy in Derry, N.H.

When Pinkerton Academy field hockey coach Denise Rioux asked Heidi if she wanted to play field hockey in college, Leuchte's answer was no.

"She (Rioux) asked me, and my first answer was, 'No, I'm going to play basketball. Are you crazy?'"

But after a suggestion from Rioux, Heidi decided to keep her options open.

Another Pinkerton employee working to persuade Heidi to play in college was Chris Blais, who played for the Lady Lions from 1991-94. Blais asked Heidi to let her know if she became interested in playing. But despite the persuasion to play field hockey, Heidi still was leaning toward basketball.

Until she visited Penn State. Amy, her twin sister, was looking at Penn State for criminology. Heidi came along for the trip.

"Me, being as mature as I am, I'm in the back (of the campus tour) with my little sister," Leuchte said. "We're throwing grass at each other. I didn't care; I was just there for the free trip."

But at some point that day, Heidi fell in love with the school and expressed an interest in attending. She returned to Pinkerton and worked with Blais and Rioux to begin the recruiting process.

The three prepared a tape of Heidi's goalkeeping skills and sent it to Penn State and Northeastern. Soon after, she got a call from Lions assistant coach Lisa Bervinchak Love. Love expressed Penn State's interest in Heidi and worked to schedule a recruiting trip.

Northeastern wasn't quite as impressed with the tape, but

Cover Story



Tomorrow's Cover Story:

A look at Iowa women's soccer players with ties to Illinois

offered Heidi the opportunity to try out as a walk-on. She passed and went on her recruiting trip to Happy Valley.

It was ironic that it was basketball, the sport that Heidi has loved for so long, that may have clinched the deal for Heidi while on the recruiting visit.

"I think it was when (former Nittany Lions basketball player) Danny Earl went out for the season," Leuchte said. "(Penn State field hockey coach) Char (Morett) was really upset by it, saying something like, 'I feel so bad for him; he's such a good kid.' I just liked the feeling that she knew more than he was just a basketball player."

"I don't want to come in here and just be a field hockey player. I want people to know who I am as a person."

Heidi's athletic interest began as a child. Her parents signed her up for swimming lessons when she was two years old, as a way to direct her excessive energy into sports.

In addition to playing basketball and field hockey in high school, she also played tennis, although her skills weren't as developed as they were for field hockey.

"My (tennis) coach said it was an ugly match to watch," Leuchte said.

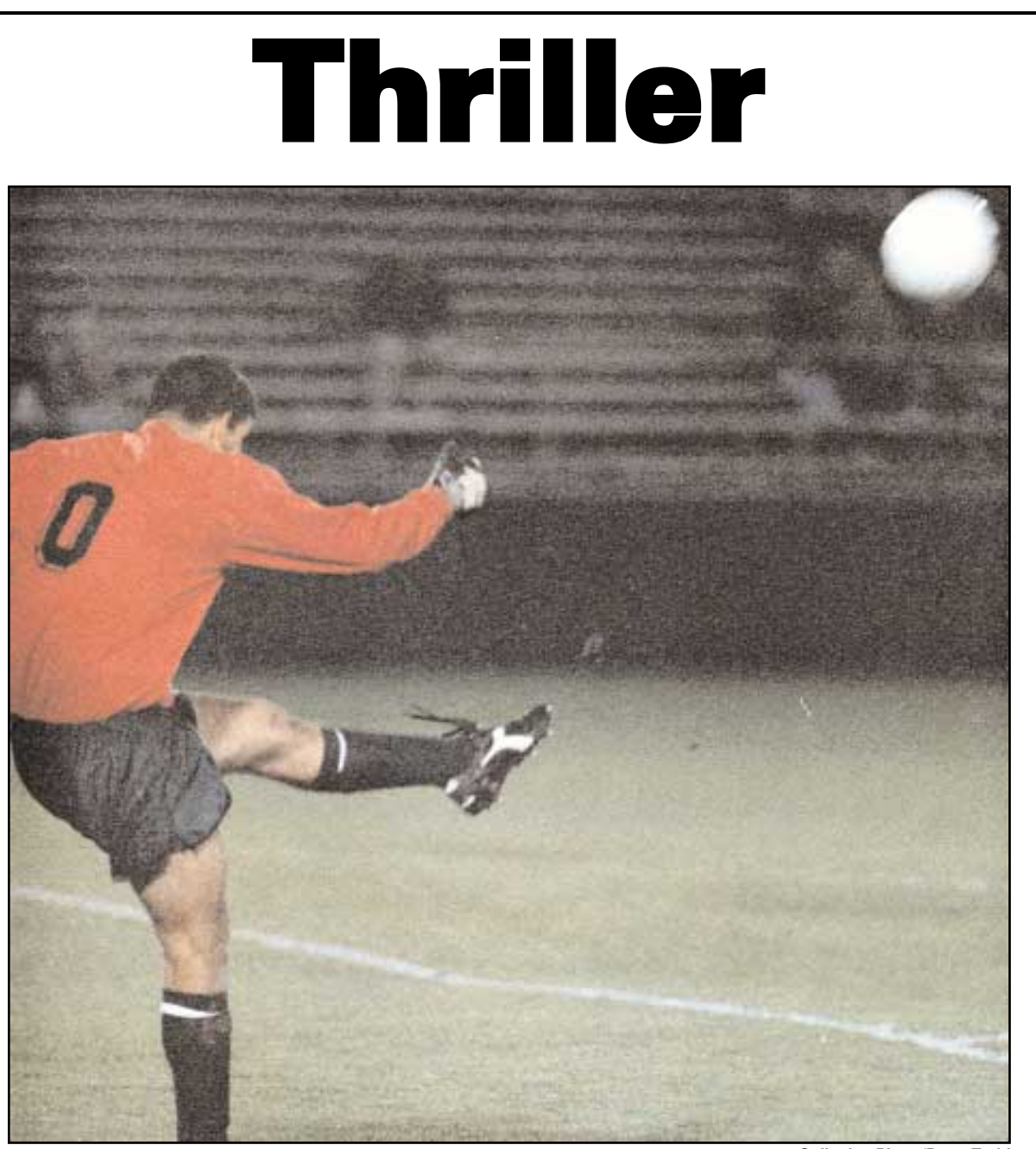
The summer before joining the Lions, Heidi participated in Super Camp, a summer clinic run by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) at Boston University. There, she prepared for the college level by working on her goalkeeping techniques.

Heidi came into Penn State's '98 season knowing she was going to redshirt behind then-starting goalkeeper Jamie Smith.

"I just learned and every day tried to get a little better," Leuchte said. "And then this summer, it hit me. I was like, 'I'm fighting for a starting position.'"

The goalkeeping race dominated

Please see LEUCHTE, Page 16.



Collegian Photo/Doug Todd

Vikings goalkeeper Geoff Mauch clears the ball last night against the Nittany Lions on Jeffrey Field. Mauch's play kept Cleveland State in the game, but his team was defeated 1-0 by Penn State in the game's final moments. Please see Page 12 for more men's soccer coverage.

Lions pull out 1-0 victory against Cleveland State in final minutes

By DARREN STEELE
Collegian Staff Writer

The Cleveland State men's soccer team was supposed to pose no threat to Penn State.

The Vikings defense was supposed to be horrible.

Their offense had only managed 14 points all season.

They were supposed to be inexperienced because of their youth (all except one of their starters were freshmen).

But that Viking team did not show up, instead the one that did nearly shocked the No. 5 Nittany Lions last night at Jeffrey field in a close 1-0 loss.

The Vikings entered the match with a defensive mindset, one that almost shut out the mighty Lions. Penn State was held scoreless until the last eight minutes

of the game when junior Greg Oldfield punched in the winner. Oldfield's goal came off of a Cleveland State error, when Vikings midfielder Kareem Reynolds passed the ball directly into the feet of sophomore Ryan Miller, who then passed the ball to Oldfield for the winning score.

"We have to keep shooting," Miller said. "We have to stop backing down."

Miller's observation was right on the money, as the Lions offense failed to score on 17 shots. When the Penn State offense moved into position to score, the Cleveland State defense bunched them up causing confusion, turnovers and poor passing.

When the Lions were successful in getting off a shot, Vikings goalkeeper Geoff Mauch was

there to make a good play. The sophomore keeper played a great game, with four spectacular saves.

His play was increased by the discombobulated play of the Lions' offense.

"We were just standing around too much," Penn State men's soccer coach Barry Gorman said. "Our offense has to start being more fluent and dynamic."

While the offense stalled, the defense remained undaunted, not allowing a single shot on goal until the last 20 minutes of the game.

The Lions' defense pushed the Vikings' offense in their own zone most of the night, until they finally allowed two shots on goal, both of which were gobbled up by senior goalie Whit Gibson.

Please see SOCCER, Page 16.

Pippin now cashing in on what Jordan accomplished

Being in the right place at the right time can make or break someone.

In sports, if you get behind a superstar who does nothing but win, you can ride his success right into the Hall of Fame.

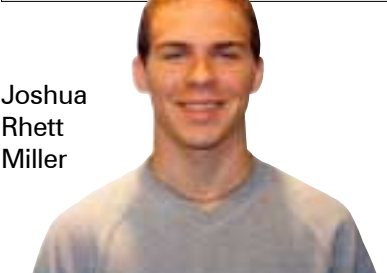
No other player in professional sports I can think of has taken advantage of his situation more than so-called NBA superstar Scottie Pippen.

Michael Jordan, the greatest basketball player of all-time, carried the Chicago Bulls to six titles in a decade and in doing so, helped No. 33 build a career of his own.

And now, even after Jordan is spending his time blowing cigar smoke rather than by lead-footed defenders, Pippen is living off what His Airness accomplished.

Earlier this week, the Portland Trailblazers shipped six players to

My opinion



Houston for Pippen's services. Six players for a guy who averaged 14.5 points a game last year while shooting 43 percent from the field.

Can anyone say bad move? But Portland kindled memories of the past, when Jordan ran the show in Chicago and Pippen was right there behind him, able and ready to pick up any garbage

points Jordan deemed unnecessary.

And Portland thought the addition of Pippen to a roster already boasting Damon Stoudamire, Arvydas Sabonis, Brian Grant, Detlef Schrempf and Steve Smith would ensure what the City of Roses so desperately wants — an NBA Championship.

But the Blazers soon will learn that shipping more than an entire starting unit for one above-average swingman will hurt them in the end.

Pippen is not worth six guys. It's that simple.

Portland said goodbye to Kelvin Cato, Walt Williams, Brian Shaw, Stacey Augmon, Ed Gray and Carlos Rogers. True, no one in that bunch knocks your socks off, but there is some quality within the mix. Augmon can still run and

jump, and Williams has an above-average jump shot. Cato is a fierce, athletic rebounder who will likely get better in the future.

Shaw, Gray and Rogers, virtual throw-ins, can at least give quality help off the bench.

Granted, the 34-year-old Pippen is probably an eventual Hall of Famer, but Jordan should get to give half his speech at the induction ceremony. After all, Jordan made Pippen.

Apparently, the Trailblazers think otherwise.

There are only a few players in the league I would even consider trading five or more players for. That's just too much depth and too many dollars to spend on one set of sneakers.

Tim Duncan, Shaquille O'Neal and Allen Iverson are probably the only studs I'd trade virtually half

an organization for. Pippen just doesn't make the grade.

The blockbuster trade came, at least in part, due to the recent comments made by former Houston teammate Charles Barkley and Pippen.

Barkley, who just wants a title and then he's going home, said he was upset that Pippen was looking to play elsewhere. Pippen took offense, called Barkley fat and was a Blazer soon after.

The deal also came about because Pippen realized Hakeem Olajuwon and Barkley didn't have enough left in their tanks to win another title. That, and a much-hyped guard by the name of Steve Francis was coming to town, a guy who has drawn comparisons to Jordan because of his leaping ability.

So, Pip split and headed north.

And now, Pippen is going to do what he does best — play solid basketball on a very good team and somehow get tagged as a great player. He's going to be just another Blazer, probably not even the best on his team. I'd rather have Smith shooting at the buzzer any day of the week.

Pippen definitely will have a good shot to win his seventh title, thanks to the insanely talented Portland roster. Another ring would ensure his place among basketball purists and historians.

But a large asterisk should loom by his name. He's just been in the right places at the right times.

Joshua Rhett Miller (jrm261@psu.edu) is a junior majoring in journalism and a Collegian sports enterprise writer. His column appears Wednesdays.