



NITTANY LION CLUB NEWSLETTER

The Official Publication of the Nittany Lion Club

PENN STATE

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**“We have everything we
need here to be successful.”
— Patrick Chambers**



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PENN STATE

DID YOU KNOW?

7

Number of varsity sports head coaches hired in the past two years—the busiest period in the history of the program in terms of shaping the current roster of coaches.

15

Number of student-athletes from the men's and women's track and field teams who represented Penn State at the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

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ON THE COVER

Coach Patrick Chambers was named to lead the men's basketball program. He brings an attitude, passion—and an appropriate sense of Penn State basketball history to the position. For more about the coach, see Page 7. (Photo by Mark Selders)

About the Newsletter

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PENN STATE ATHLETICS Mission Statement

Consistent with the University's mission, the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics offers students exemplary programs that develop scholarship, sportsmanship and leadership within the educational and social environments of the Pennsylvania State University.

Nittany Lion PARTNERS



A visit from the Nittany Lion mascot prompts smiles all around during the Blue-White Event at the Bryce Jordan Center. (Photo by Mark Selders)

New beginnings, traditions a potent mix

It's been an exciting few months for Penn State Intercollegiate Athletics.

We've introduced coaches for men's basketball, men's ice hockey and women's ice hockey. We've received major gifts from committed donors to support the program overall and several individual sports.

We've conducted wonderful events, among them Blue-White Weekend and fantasy football camps for men and women at Beaver Stadium.

At the same time, we've been looking ahead to fall.

The fall includes a fabulous home football schedule in the first season with STEP and ambitious schedules for every other team. Several of those fall teams (women's soccer, women's volleyball and wrestling) announced their schedules in early June.

It seems every day brings another special addition, or the start of something even bigger, for Intercollegiate Athletics.

At the same time, our broad-based (now 31 teams), tradition-rich program remains grounded in its commitment to Success with Honor. And we strive for that goal every day thanks to the support of Nittany



The Blue-White Event at the Bryce Jordan Center provided fun and smiles for Penn State fans of all ages. (Photo by Mark Selders)

Lion Club members. Without your commitment, our student-athletes, our coaches, our academic advisers, our medical teams and our support staff could not do all they do. Thank you so much. It's an exciting time because of you. We are Penn State!

— John Nitardy,
NLC Director of Major Gifts
and Annual Giving

Members eligible for single-game football tickets

As part of newly introduced club benefits, Nittany Lion Club members have priority for single-game purchase of football tickets.

NLC members within each giving level have the ability to request single-game tickets as indicated below. All single-game tickets will be allocated in NLC point order.

Applications for single-game tickets will be sent to NLC members, and people who have not received an application and are interested are welcome to contact the Nittany Lion Club directly for information about the opportunity.

Eligibility for single-game tickets is as follows for NLC members, according to giving levels:

Single-Game Football Ticket Eligibility for NLC Members

NLC Giving Level	Tickets (maximum per game)
All-American (\$20,000+)	10 tickets
Lion's Pride (\$10,000-19,999)	8 tickets
Lion's Circle (\$5,000-9,999)	6 tickets
Honorary Coach (\$2,500-4,999)	4 tickets
Honorary Captain (\$1,000-2,499)	4 tickets
Lion Loyalty (\$400-999)	2 tickets
Lion Backer (\$100-399)	2 tickets

State Successes

● Football player **Stefan Wisniewski** (Pittsburgh) and distance runner **Jessica Babcock** (Irvine, Calif.) were named Penn State's recipients of the Big Ten Medal of Honor.

● Women's soccer alumnus **Ali Krieger** was named to the final roster representing the United States for the 2011 World Cup. The defender is one of 21 players on the squad that will head to Germany starting June 28. Krieger joins Penn State coach **Erica Walsh**, who is an assistant to U.S. head coach Pia Sundhage, as part of the U.S. contingent that will fight for its third World Cup title. Junior **Christine Nairn** (Arnold, Md.) was part of the initial training camp for the team.

● Senior gymnast **Miguel Pineda** (Galloway, Ohio) was named to the Capital One Academic All-America Men's At-Large First Team. Pineda is the third Nittany Lion men's gymnast to receive the honor and the first since Jose Palacios in 2001. A rising senior majoring in science, he boasts a 3.99 grade point average. Senior **Ryan Foster** (Tasmania, Australia), a member of the men's track team, was named to the Capital One Academic All-District Team. He is on schedule to graduate in August.

● Penn State and Pitt announced a two-game football series beginning in 2016. The teams, who have not met since 2000, would play Sept. 10, 2016, at Heinz Field in Pittsburgh and Sept. 16, 2017, at Beaver Stadium. Penn State has played Pitt more than any other opponent, 96 times, and leads the series 50-42-4. Of the 96 games in the series, 23 have been played in Happy Valley.

Tide's visit provides opportunity to roll out 'northern hospitality'

When large groups of Penn State fans converged on Alabama last fall for the renewal of the football series between their beloved Nittany Lions and the Crimson Tide, they were greeted with unfailing southern hospitality.

Galette's, the famous watering hole just blocks from Bryant-Denny Stadium.

They were hardly alone, though, as dozens of Alabama students

thanked them for traveling south and told them to enjoy their

Tornado Relief — Ways to Help

www.ua.edu/tornadorelief

Stories from Penn Staters about how they were treated at the game, on campus and in businesses and restaurants from Birmingham to Tuscaloosa were unanimously positive.

There were no confrontations or jeers. Instead there were recommendations of places to visit or "thank yous" for making the trip.

One pair of NLC members, a husband-and-wife tandem, found themselves as the only blue-and-white clad patrons in the back room of

trip.

This September, when a similarly large group of crimson-clad fans will converge on Happy Valley, Penn State fans get to repay that hospitality. Also, in the wake of the April 27 tornado that tore through Tuscaloosa, NLC members and others have the opportunity to support people in Alabama by making donations to a tornado relief fund.

It's the perfect time for some "northern hospitality."



Cousins (left to right) Keaton Ellis, Lacey Sheaffer and Logan Sheaffer enjoyed themselves—and met the Nittany Lion—last year in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Season tickets remain available for blockbuster home schedule

A limited number of football season tickets are available for Penn State's blockbuster home schedule this fall—which includes visits from Alabama, Iowa, Illinois, Purdue and new Big Ten Conference member Nebraska, who Penn State plays in Beaver Stadium for the first time since 2002.

Four bowl teams from last season are on the home slate, as Penn State celebrates its 125th season on the gridiron.

Penn State is in the final stages of implementing seating changes for the upcoming season and a limited number of season tickets are available in all seating zones of Beaver Stadium. Season football tickets are available to new Nittany Lion Club members every year in very limited quantities, with slightly more available this year as a result of the changes to seating requirements.

"The passion of Penn State's fan base has always shone through by filling Beaver Stadium every Saturday for many years," said Greg Myford, associate athletic director for business relations and communications. "A full stadium leads many to believe, however, that season tickets simply aren't available, but annual attrition allows for new season ticket opportunities every year. With the ushering in of a new ticket allocation process over the last several months, we've been able to allow our current season ticket holders to either stay where they are or move within the stadium, as well as accommodate new fans who want

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time/TV
Sept. 3	INDIANA STATE	Noon/BTN
Sept. 10	ALABAMA	3:30 p.m./ABC
Sept. 17	at Temple	Noon/TBA
Sept. 24	EASTERN MICHIGAN	TBA
Oct. 1	at Indiana	TBA
Oct. 8	IOWA	TBA
*Oct. 15	PURDUE	Noon/TBA
Oct. 22	at Northwestern	7 p.m./BTN
Oct. 29	ILLINOIS	TBA
Nov. 12	NEBRASKA	TBA
Nov. 19	at Ohio State	TBA
Nov. 26	at Wisconsin	TBA
Dec. 3	Big Ten Championship Game	TBA

(Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis)

*-Homecoming

season tickets. That's the phase of the process we are in right now, so now is the time to act."

Myford reported the new opportunities to buy season football tickets has pushed Nittany Lion Club membership up 10 percent from last year, approaching 25,000, an all-time high.

New applications are currently being processed. Penn State fans who have not already applied for 2011 season tickets can find the season ticket application online at www.GoPSUsports.com/tickets or by calling Penn State Athletics Customer Relations at 1-800-NITTANY (648-8269) Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Beaver Stadium has a capacity of 107,282 and is the nation's second-largest college football venue.

The Nittany Lions have finished in the top four in the nation in attendance every year since 1991, drawing nine of the top 10 crowds in Beaver Stadium history since 2005.

Coach Joe Paterno's Nittany Lions have won 38 of their last 44 home games and are 58-19 (75.3) overall since the start of the 2005 season to rank in the top 10 percent nationally in winning percentage. Over the past six years, Penn State has won two Big Ten championships, won four bowl games and played in five New Year's Day or Bowl Championship Series games—the nation's third-highest total.

Q&A: Men's hockey coach ready to start

Two months into his tenure as coach of the men's ice hockey team, Guy Gadowsky was in his office on a 90-degree day getting ready for a recruiting trip. With an artist's rendering of Pegula Ice Arena perched on the shelf behind him and with the team's first varsity schedule (that's the 2012-13 season) on the desk in front of him, he was immersed in the future of the program.

Honestly, he's had the future in his sights for a long time. He talked about that future and more during an exclusive question-and-answer session with the NLC Newsletter.

What was the deciding factor in your decision to leave Princeton for Penn State?

I wasn't leaving Princeton for just anything, but this is an amazing opportunity. And I really value the spirit at Penn State. I love the passion among the people for what's happening here with hockey.

What have you learned about Penn State that you didn't know when you took the job?

You guys are workers. People here get things done. From Tim Curley and Joe Battista to compliance and admission staffs, everyone. And I just want to do my part. Everyone goes above and beyond. It's not just a job for them. They love Penn State. That's a great atmosphere for success. That's what's going to make this such a great thing for Penn State and for hockey in general.

A lot of people have mentioned the greater hockey community in terms of the impact of Penn State hockey, what does that mean?

Honestly, people outside of Penn State seem to realize the impact more than the people here. Maybe we're just too close to it, but when a major program commits to hockey at the highest level, it's good for the sport. We will be in position—with a lot of hard work and some growing pains—to compete with the best programs in the nation. That's good for the sport.

What are your expectations for those growing pains?

We have great support, unrivaled support, from the Pegula family and others who have already expressed their support for the program, but we're certainly not under the illusion that you put a rink in place and all of a sudden



Coach Guy Gadowsky responds to a question during his introductory news conference. (Photo by Mark Selders)

good things happen. It's going to take time, and it's not going to be easy.

It sounds like you enjoy a tough challenge, though.

That's probably true. If it's worthwhile, it's worth working for, and we have a special opportunity here. It's so exciting to be on the ground level and helping make it happen. I'm so excited about what we can do, the resources we have and the people who are involved. At the same time, going from nothing to something does not happen overnight. Especially in college hockey.

For those familiar with the level of play of the Icers, can you provide a sense of how the Division I varsity level differs?

The Big Ten Conference will be the best hockey conference in the nation. That could be daunting for some people, but we think that's how you want to challenge yourself. You want to measure yourself against the best. You want to find out how good you are.

You'll actually be coaching the Icers this season. How important is that in terms of the development of the program?

It's huge. Those guys will be our first group of alumni and part of the core of our first team for those that end up playing varsity. They have to be part of what we do to help implement the system. You cannot just go through some practices, talk to the team and come out with your system fully established in a couple of months, or even a season. It takes time.

What's the easiest part of your job at this point?

Just coming to the office every day because everybody is so excited.

When did you know you wanted to be a coach?

I knew when I was 25. I just love college hockey. I believe strongly in the character it builds. There's something about the culture that just yields good people. When you can endure and work like you have to to be successful in hockey, it pays off later.

Best moment of your coaching career?

Oh, there are several. Getting this opportunity would have to be one. It will take time and work, but this can be a special place for hockey. So that's exciting. At the same time, there are a lot of victories that come to mind and a lot of individual student-athletes who had success—whether it was their first goal in the NHL or becoming a Rhodes Scholar—that you're glad to have played a small part in making happen.

How would you describe your coaching style?

Each of my players might have a different answer to that, but I would say that they're ultimately responsible and accountable for their success.

Who has been your biggest influence as a coach?

We had an incredible opportunity at Princeton during the NHL lockout when (Philadelphia Flyers) coach Ken Hitchcock served as volunteer coach. We never had a sense the lockout would last that long, but he was there almost every day. He attended the home series and we sent him tapes from the road games. He could not have been more generous with his time and it was amazing. He took it seriously and we really benefitted from his expertise.



After a uniformly successful career on the court, Arielle Wilson capped her Penn State experience wearing a cap and gown at commencement. (Photos by Mark Selders)

Making the Grade

Graduates, national data measure success of Penn State student-athletes

Talk about tradition. Seventy-one Penn State student-athletes graduated during spring commencement exercises in May—providing the latest class that exemplified the athletic program’s overall commitment to excellence in the classroom.

Among the spring 2011 graduates were Talor Battle, the career scoring leader for the men’s basketball team, and Arielle Wilson, a three-time AVCA All-American who was instrumental in Penn State capturing an unprecedented four consecutive NCAA women’s volleyball championships.

Thirteen student-athletes whose teams captured national championships during their Penn State careers graduated, including Alyssa D’Errico, Cathy Quilco and Fatima Balza (women’s volleyball), Doris Willette (fencing), Alan Mars (men’s volleyball) and Rob Vollrath (wrestling).

The men’s lacrosse team and football team had the most graduates this spring with nine each. Women’s fencing, women’s lacrosse and women’s swimming and diving each had five graduates.

Eight members of the Nittany Lion football team who graduated will have senior eligibility for the 2011 season. They are: Quinn Barham, Eric Latimore, Chima Okoli, Nate Stupar, Joe Suhey, Nick Sukay, An-

drew Szczerba and Johnnie Troutman. Defensive back Tyler Ahrenhold also earned his degree.

Among the other Penn State graduates were: Andrew Jones and Steve Kirkpatrick (men’s basketball); Julia Trogele (women’s basketball);

Brandi Personett (women’s gymnastics); Daneen Zug (field hockey); Jackie Hill (softball); Jesse Alfreno (baseball) and Will Donley (men’s lacrosse).

Penn State student-athletes—who have captured 27 Big Ten championships during the past six years and a nation’s-best 10 NCAA titles since March 2007—consistently have been among the nation’s most successful in earning their de-

grees.

Penn State teams and student-athletes regularly rank at the top of other measures of academic success and classroom performance.

In fact, Penn State student-athletes continue to make better progress toward graduation in comparison to their counterparts at the nation’s other Division I institutions—despite higher academic standards than required, according to data released by the NCAA.

Five Penn State teams earned perfect multi-year APR scores of 1,000:

“We are very pleased by the consistently high level of academic achievements by our student-athletes. Their year-in and year-out academic success is a credit to their outstanding work ethic and dedication.”

**— Tim Curley,
director of athletics**

field hockey, softball, men's cross country, women's cross country and women's tennis. The average multi-year APR score for Penn State's 29 varsity teams is 982, well above the Division I average of 970, according to the NCAA.

The men's and women's basketball teams both have improved their APR score by 20 points or more from the 2009 NCAA report and are well above the national Division I averages for their sport.

The NCAA released data from the 2009-10 academic year as the seventh set of results in the Academic Progress Rate (APR), a formula introduced as part of the Division I Academic Performance Program.

The NCAA released sport specific data for 2009-10 to each institution, as well as the most recent four years of collected data that is used to determine a rolling multi-year APR score for all athletic teams to provide a meaningful assessment of a team's academic performance.

A school record nine Penn State teams have multi-year APR scores that rank in the top 10 percent nationally for their respective sport:

- men's basketball (995);
- field hockey (1,000);
- men's cross country (1,000);
- women's cross country (1,000);
- men's soccer (992);
- softball (1,000);
- men's track and field (997);
- women's track and field (993); and
- women's tennis (1,000).

Those nine Penn State squads earned NCAA Public Recognition Awards for having APR scores in the top 10 percent nationally for their respective sport in 2009-10. Penn State's nine honored teams were tied with Northwestern and the Lions have placed no lower than third among Big Ten institutions in total number of NCAA Public Recognition Awards in all six years of the program.

"We are very pleased with the consistently high level of academic achievements of our student-athletes," said Tim Curley, director of athletics. "Their year-in and year-out academic success is a credit to their outstanding work-ethic and dedication.

"Our coaches deserve recognition for identifying and recruiting student-athletes that are able to excel in the classroom, compete for championships and represent Penn State. The encouragement and guidance our student-athletes receive from our faculty and academic support personnel also are a critical component in our academic successes."

Penn State academic standards (Faculty Senate Policy 67-00) are higher than both the NCAA and Big Ten standards and are reflected in the APR reporting to the NCAA. Nittany Lion student-athletes are required to have passed more credits entering their fifth through eighth semesters than the Big Ten and NCAA require. Penn State student-athletes also must have a higher grade-point average than the Big Ten minimum entering their second through sixth semesters.

The APR scores are a measure of eligibility and retention/graduation for each student-athlete receiving athletic aid during the identified academic semester/year.

Retention is evaluated for each student-athlete with the following question in mind: Did that student-athlete return to the institution the next semester (students can earn two points after the fall semester and two points after the spring and summer semesters). Eligibility is evaluated



Linebacker Nate Stupar will be one of many football players who return to action next fall having already earned their undergraduate degree from Penn State. (Photo by Mark Selders)

using NCAA, conference (if applicable), and institutional standards. The APR is based on four years of data, with the most current year's data added and the oldest year removed to create a multi-year rolling rate.

Contemporaneous financial aid penalties can be applied if a team's multi-year APR score is below 925. If a team's multi-year score is below 900, that team could be subject to historical penalties.

None of Penn State's 29 varsity sport programs team had a multi-year APR below 925, with all but one squad at 950 or higher.

The Penn State football team had the third-highest multi-year APR score among Big Ten football squads at 972. The Nittany Lions easily surpassed the Football Bowl Subdivision average of 949 and the Division I average of 946.

The men's basketball team posted a multi-year APR score of 995, an increase of 20 points from 2009 and higher than the Division I men's basketball average of 945. The women's basketball team had a multi-year APR score of 985, an improvement of 23 points from 2009 and well above the public Division I women's basketball average of (968).



Penn State President Graham Spanier (left) with the Chambers family—(left to right) Ryan, Courtney, Grace and Patrick—and Tim Curley. (Photo by Mark Selders)

Chambers' attitude, energy excite NLC members

He got a standing ovation from his family as soon as he stepped into view and a half hour later—after Patrick Chambers had been introduced as the 12th men's basketball coach in Penn State history—that support had permeated the entire room.

Fellow coaches were happy to have him as a colleague.

Administrators were excited to have him in charge of the program.

And the many Nittany Lion Club members and men's basketball season ticket holders in attendance were thrilled with his initial message.

That message focused on attitude, energy and passion.

"He's a great addition, the right man for the job," said Jim Smeltzer ('71 Bus), chair of the NLC campaign committee. He and his wife Jill fund a men's basketball scholarship. "What's not to like. He's going to bring a lot of enthusiasm to our program. He's going to get people excited and involved."

Director of Athletics Tim Curley said Cham-

bers' energy level and marketing background were important parts of the overall package that made the 39-year-old coach perfect for the program.

"There will be no one better in promoting and selling the Penn State basketball program 24/7," Curley said.

In addition to his enthusiasm and fast-rising pedigree, Chambers showed an appreciated sense of Penn State basketball history.

Just minutes into his first public appearance, he referenced the infamous 1993 Indiana-Penn State game at Rec Hall, an emotional double-overtime loss that helped the program make a bittersweet national statement. Chambers was at the game, visiting State College as a guest of his sister, a Penn State alumna.

"I was a basketball junkie," Chambers said. "Bobby Knight was on the other sideline roaming like a tiger, it was an incredible game and Penn State battled to the bitter end."

With former coach Bruce Parkhill in attendance, Chambers said he wanted his teams to play with that type of passion, and to build

on the NIT championship and NCAA Tournament berth achieved by his immediate predecessor, Ed DeChellis.

"We have everything we need here to be successful," Chambers said.

Still, his reference to the program's tradition, and the possibility of what might come under Chambers (whose Boston University teams went 42-28 in his two years in charge of that program) were appreciated by those in attendance.

"I was at that Indiana game, too," said NLC member, longtime basketball season ticket holder and scholarship supporter JoLaine Teyssier ('75 Edu). "It's exciting to have him here."

And with a fast-rising coach in charge of the Nittany Lions—Chambers got into college coaching just seven years ago, moving from a director of operations position at Villanova to leading the BU program—Penn Staters expect fast results.

They plan to measure that success in an appropriate manner, though.

"I think anybody knows that when you get a new coach it takes time for him to fully implement his system," Smeltzer said. "We know it'll take a little bit.

"Still, there are things I think we can expect to change. You can see a team's effort—its defense and its rebounding. No matter what happens, if they play hard we'll be happy."

And from top to bottom Penn Staters are unanimously happy with Chambers in charge.

"You are going to see him. You are going to like him," President Graham Spanier said. "He's going to win a lot of basketball games."

Chambers was the only BU coach to earn 20 wins in each of his first two seasons and the fastest to earn a conference championship in program history.

A native of Newtown Square, Pa., he previously played for and coached with two of the nation's most successful college coaches.

From 2004-09, Chambers was a member of Jay Wright's staff at Villanova, helping the Wildcats earn four NCAA Sweet 16 appearances and advance to the 2009 NCAA Final Four. He was instrumental in helping lead the Wildcats to a 126-45 record (.737), including the school's single-season win record of 30-8 in 2008-09. The Wildcats advanced to the NCAA Tournament all five seasons of Chambers' tenure and posted a 56-28 (.667) record in Big East Conference games. Chambers had responsibilities in all facets of the program, including recruiting, scouting, on-court teaching and player development.

At Philadelphia University, Chambers played for Herb Magee, college basketball's all-time victories leader (922) and a 2011 Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame inductee.

Chambers joined the NCAA Division II university's basketball team as a walk-on in 1990 and went on to have an outstanding career. He became the team's starting point guard and the school record holder in assists with 709. He helped lead the Rams to four NCAA Division II Sweet 16 appearances and two Elite Eight appearances.

Chambers began his coaching career with a one-year stint as an assistant coach at Delaware Valley (Pa.) College in 1995-96.

From 1999 to 2004, he was the top varsity assistant coach at his prep alma mater, Episcopal Academy. He held that position through 2004.

High School All-Americans Wayne Ellington (North Carolina) and Gerald Henderson

Numerous social media options exist

When Patrick Chambers was introduced as Penn State's 12th men's basketball coach, his introductory news conference kicked off with two questions from Facebook.

Official tweets followed, and in the days after his hiring Chambers' personal Twitter account bulged to more than 2,900 followers.

That was just the latest example of how Penn State Intercollegiate Athletics embraces social media to connect with and serve fans.

Every day, in almost every way, from blogs to video, diaries and first-person reports to notes from coaches, Penn State has made cyberspace its home for sharing information.

Athletic department officials, coaches and even student-athletes have a presence on Facebook, Foursquare, Gowalla, Twitter and YouTube. Each of those outlets provides an informative and more personal connection for fans to follow Penn State.

Numerous varsity teams and Penn State entities (including the All-Sports Museum and Nittany Lion Club) have their own Facebook pages.

Also, Gowalla users can get stamped for visits to 25 different Penn State athletic venues.

Twitter provides the most options, though, with everything from general gameday information during football season to in- and out-of-season insights from coaches.

The many Twitter feeds from Penn State, include:



@1_800_Nittany ... to get helpful information on gameday or any day

@Coach_Chambers ... Nittany Lion basketball coach Patrick Chambers

@GoPSUJeff ... Updates on Penn State Athletics, Nittany Lion football and TV-radio news from Jeff Nelson

@GregPSUsports ... Athletic marketing updates, promotional announcements and ticket information from Greg Myford

@JessRiden ... Stay up to date on everything related to track and field

@PennStatePat ... Follow the wrestling team with information from Pat Donghia

@PSUSportsMuseum ... From speaker series to new exhibits, follow it all here

@PSUSTRETCH ... Follow Brian Siegrist for men's basketball information

@MarkPavlik ... Men's volleyball coach Mark Pavlik

@PSUWomensSoccer ... Official account of the women's soccer team

@PennStateWBB ... Lady Lion updates, stats, photos and more

@PSULionSoftball ... Follow the softball team

@JayPaterno ... Quarterbacks coach Jay Paterno

(Duke) were among the players he helped develop at Episcopal Academy.

Chambers' deep basketball roots in Philadelphia were another reason he was selected to lead Penn State. If he and his staff, including fellow Philadelphia native Eugene Burroughs, can tap into the rich basketball talent of the City of Brotherly Love, it would help make the promise of attitude, energy and enthusiasm a reality sooner rather than later inside the Bryce Jordan Center.

Not that confident Chambers plans to wait for anyone but himself to make Penn State basketball a must-see event on campus.

With his can-do attitude, he promised to en-

gage everyone from community members to students, longtime season-ticket holders to those who have not been to a game in a while, to revitalize the program.

"We have everything we need: great arena, great offices, great locker room," Chambers said. "Everything we need. You got to go out and recruit and get it done. We're going to work hard and bring in the best talent we can."

Three of Chambers' 11 siblings are Penn State graduates—brothers Chris and Joe and a sister, Megan.

Coaches v

Auction, reception and golf outing create me

(Photos by Mark Selders)

The 15th annual Coaches vs. Cancer event kicked off with a catered gala Celebrity/Sponsor Reception, which featured live entertainment as well as live and silent auctions, in the Bryce Jordan Center.

The next day more than 300 golfers, sponsors and celebrities participated in the golf tournament at the Penn State Golf Courses. Since 1996, Coaches vs. Cancer events have raised more than \$1.5 million.

Other annual events supporting Coaches vs. Cancer include: The Brewer's Expo (Aug. 20), CVC Bike For Life (Aug. 28), Penn's Cave Burger Off (August), CVC Reverse Car Drawing (Sept. 22), CVC Day at the Bryce Jordan Center (basketball season) and CVC Student 5k Fun Run/Walk (spring).



vs. Cancer

memories and raise money for important cause



Many people included the reception, including ...
TOP: Lydell Mitchell, Fran Fisher and John Skorpan
BOTTOM: Jim Morrissey, Bill Lamb and Bruce Parkhill

Hockey gift endows goaltender, names coach's office

A leadership gift from a family with deep Penn State roots and a strong connection to Intercollegiate Athletics has provided another significant foundation piece for the Penn State Ice Campaign.

The gift from John N. and Karen M. Davis will endow a full position scholarship for a goaltender and name the men's hockey head coach's office. The office will be named the "Joseph M. Battista Head Coach's Office" in honor of Joe Battista, the former Penn State Icers coach and current associate athletic director for ice-hockey operations.

"The hockey team becoming a varsity sport is a dream that a lot of us have had since we first put on the Penn State jersey," said John Davis, who played for the Icers from 1981 to 1985. "Karen and I feel fortunate to be able to give back to the University, in particular to help support a scholarship for the ice hockey team. I am also proud to join the effort of a fellow petroleum engineering graduate, Terry Pegula, who has made the dream of so many become a reality."

With their gift, the Davis family joined Paul and Nancy Silvis, co-chairs of the campaign, as leading supporters of the fundraising effort. Terry and Kim Pegula made an \$88 million commitment last fall to create an ice facility and start Division I men's and women's ice hockey programs at Penn State in 2012.

John Davis graduated from Penn State with a bachelor's degree in petroleum and natural gas engineering in 1986. A member of the Acacia Fraternity, he served as its president in 1985. Davis was also a Lion Ambassador and a member of Parmi Nous. He went on to earn his MBA from the University of New Orleans in 1990.

A third generation Penn Stater, John Davis' father Richard ('58, MBA '61) and grandfather John N. Reed ('24) also graduated from Penn State. Reed was a member of the Nittany Lion basketball team as well as the football and baseball teams.

Reed led the basketball team in scoring in 1922, 1923 and 1924, leading the team to a 33-8 record over three years, including 13-1 (1922-23) and 13-2 (1923-24) seasons. A member of the Pennsylvania Football Scholas-



Then Icers goalie John Davis (30) hoists the championship trophy from the Nittany Lion Invitational in 1982. The team rallied from a 5-3 deficit with just 56 seconds remaining in regulation to force overtime and eventually win.

tic Coaches Association Hall of Fame, Reed was the first Pennsylvania coach to win a state championship in two different sports (football and basketball). Davis' mother, Marty Davis, attended graduate school at Penn State.

A senior engineer for Exxon Company, USA, in New Orleans from 1986-91, John Davis worked as a consulting reservoir engineer for Netherland, Sewell & Associates as vice president and technical adviser from 1991 to 2003. In 2003, he co-founded Alpine Gas Company, an independent oil and gas producer, and he is currently a professional engineer in the state of Texas. Alpine's wells are located primarily in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

"On behalf of the athletic department, I want to thank the Davis family for their generous gift to the Penn State Ice Campaign," said Tim Curley, director of athletics. "Because of gifts like theirs, Penn State will be able to continue to provide quality opportunities for future student-athletes through scholarships to this great university. Additionally, I believe their naming gift in honor of Joe Battista is a fitting tribute for someone who has been ingrained in Penn State hockey as long as Joe has and displayed as much passion as he has for the sport here."

John Davis is a past member of the Graduates of Earth and Mineral Sciences Board of Directors. He and his father endowed an undergraduate scholarship to that college in 1991.

"I decided to come to Penn State because of the opportunity to continue to play ice hockey as well as get a great engineering education,"

For more information about the Penn State Ice Campaign, please contact RJ Gimbl of the Nittany Lion Club by calling (814) 863-GIFT (4438).

said John Davis. "I chose petroleum engineering in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences partly because of the scholarship money available to help fund my education. My father was only able to attend Penn State because of scholarship money. Both of our educations were helped by scholarship money, which instilled in us the desire to give back to the University."

A member of the Icers from 1981-85, John Davis was the starting goaltender on the club team's 1984 national championship squad. He was named Rookie of the Year his first year and also earned All-Star Goalie honors. His 42-19-2 career record made him Penn State's leader in that category when he graduated. He was inducted into the Icers Hall of Fame in 1996. Davis and Battista played together in 1981-82.

"I was pretty emotional when John told me of his plans to name the coach's office after me," said Battista. "I tried to talk him out of it. I wanted the office to at least have his family name on it with mine, but he declined and said he wanted my name alone. I was speechless. I am incredibly honored by what John and Karen have decided to do by naming the coach's office after me, and I thank them for their generous gift to the campaign."

John and Karen Davis married in 1997. Karen is a graduate of Texas A&M, earning a degree in psychology in 1993. The couple has two children, Avery, 11, and Addison, 9. Karen currently volunteers her time with several organizations, including the children's schools and the family's church, Hackberry Creek Church, where John is an elder.

"I hope this gift is an inspiration to all my fellow teammates, as well as those that came before and after me," John Davis said. "I hope they can look back and see all of what Penn State has done for them and leave a legacy by supporting the Penn State varsity hockey team and the Penn State Ice Campaign."



Casimir Loxsom's stellar season included a personal-best 1:46.45 in the 800. (Photo by Mark Selders)

Standout Loxsom earns Mid-Atlantic honor again

For the second straight outdoor season, sophomore Casimir Loxsom (New Haven, Conn.) was named United States Track and Field/Cross Country Coaches' Association Mid-Atlantic Region Track Athlete of the Year.

Loxsom, who won his second-consecutive Big Ten Conference outdoor title at 800 meters in May also earned an All-America finish at the NCAA Outdoor Championships. He was fourth in the 800-meter final.

Loxsom was sensational for all of 2011, running a personal-best 1:46.45—the second-fastest time in PSU history—at the Jesse Owens Classic in May. That time stood as the sixth-fastest performance in Division I going into the NCAA Championships.

Loxsom was also a member of the Nittany Lions' school-record 4x400-meter relay, which clocked 3:07.19 at the Florida Relays in April.

Adding another school record to his resume, Loxsom covered the 400-meter carry on the Nittany Lions' winning sprint medley relay at Penn Relays, which clocked a Penn State best 3:17.10.

Loxsom also anchored the Lions' second-place 4x800-meter relay at the Penn Relays. With teammates Lionel Williams (Staten Island, N.Y.), Samuel Borchers (Yellow Springs, Ohio), and Ryan Foster (Tasmania, Australia), Loxsom combined to run a blistering 7:12.90—the second-fastest time in school history, and the seventh-best performance in collegiate history.

Kovacs gets All-America finish

Redshirt junior Joe Kovacs (Nazareth, Pa.) captured an All-America finish at the NCAA Outdoor Championships with a third-place finish in the shot put.

It was his second career All-America performance.

After enduring an hour-long delay because of lightning and rain, Kovacs produced a personal-best toss of 62-6.50 (10.06)—the fourth-best throw in Penn State history—for his third-place result. He became the eighth Nittany Lion to earn All-America status in the shot put.

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CAMP CELEBRATION

Members of the Blue Team celebrate a touchdown as part of a flag football game conducted during the Ladies X’s & O’s Football Fantasy Camp at Beaver Stadium in June. (Photo by Mark Selders)

Minute to win it? Not for managers and staff, who have 30 seconds

Seconds count in sports, with everything from a 100-meter dash to a NASCAR pit stop needing to happen as quickly as possible to guarantee success. The managers and support staff for the Penn State football team face similar pressure.

When things happen on the field, they have to react quickly to solve the problem and get a player with an equipment problem back on the field. They know their timeline, too.

They have 30 seconds, at most, and they like to believe they can fix just about anything in that time. "We know we have to get things done fast," said Brad "Spider" Caldwell, equipment and facilities coordinator. "Through the years that's meant some inventive solutions."

For example, when running back Tony Hunt's pants tore at Ohio State in 2006, the training staff simply pulled a slightly larger pair overtop of what Hunt was wearing. While the team travels with enough equipment for any player to find a change of jersey or pants, the need for Hunt to get back in the game quickly meant that pulling a larger pair over the pair he was wearing was the best way to get things done.

Likewise, the team's come-from-behind victory at Illinois in 1994—when the Nittany Lions drove the length of the field in the fourth quarter for a game-winning touchdown—came after some speedy footwear changes for every player on the field.

"It had started to rain, really coming down, and we were pulling players

Spider's Web



Brad Caldwell,
Equipment
and Facilities Coordinator

off the field two at a time to change their cleats," Caldwell said. "Instead of unlacing their shoes, we were slicing the laces with scissors, slipping the shoes off and getting another pair on their feet. It worked well."

Along with tearing things apart, the staff has learned how to put things together through the years. For example, should a player tear his jersey, an old-school repair approach means using a shoelace to "knit" the torn sides together.

Staff members get especially inventive (often at the request of coaches) on the practice field. When a coach wants to conduct a drill that requires players to catch a ball while being distracted or to stay low in their first few steps of the line of scrimmage, they invariably ask Caldwell and Kirk Diehl, facilities coordinator, for assistance.

With all the necessary workshop tools in their offices next to the team locker room, the veteran staff members usually find a solution. "It's kind of fun," Caldwell said. "It starts out as something you wonder how you're going to get done and you end up finished with a good solution."

Whether it's practice or games, only a couple of things generally outlast the 30-second time limit or cannot be solved. Those include a major crack in a player's helmet or shoes that blow out—something that happened regularly for 300-plus pound lineman Levi Brown during his career at Penn State.

"In that case you just had to have fast hands to help him get the shoes on and off," Caldwell said. "It's always a race against the clock."

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LEGENDS



LEADERS





Work in the offseason will transform the pitch at Jeffrey Field to a ryegrass surface. (Photo by Steve Manuel)

Jeffrey Field, facility upgrades set

Jeffrey Field, the home of Penn State soccer, is scheduled to undergo a renovation to its playing surface this offseason.

In late spring/early summer, the current bluegrass will be replaced by ryegrass, providing the Nittany Lions with the same type of turf upon which the world-class clubs of England's Premiership compete.

"As a multi-use facility that hosts a large number of events throughout the year and in all types of weather conditions, the renovation of the playing surface at Jeffrey Field was essential," said Herb Combs, athletic field supervisor, who will oversee the project. "The in-house renovation from Kentucky Bluegrass to Perennial Ryegrass will not only help the overall speed of the game, but, just as importantly in this day and age, improve the aesthetic appeal of our facility to our fans who attend in person or watch on television."

Widely regarded as one of the finest pitches in the nation, Jeffrey Field was honored as the Collegiate Soccer Field of the Year by the Sports Turf Managers Association in 2006. The resurfacing will elevate its status even further and afford current and future Nittany Lions the best opportunity to develop their game.

"I am really excited that our players will be

playing on the same type of fast grass surface that they watch the ball zip around on each week in the English Premiership and Spanish League," said Penn State men's soccer coach Bob Warming. "I believe the fans are going to enjoy it as well. We want to develop the best level of player we can at Penn State and one of the many important factors in development is the surface the players play on each week. Penn State's commitment across the board to making the student-athletes experience remarkable is simply unmatched by anywhere I have seen."

Coupled with the soccer-only practice fields (which were opened in the fall of 2008 and feature separate pitches for the men's and women's teams), natural grass surfaces, grids for specialty training and a state-of-the-art irrigation and drainage system, Penn State has placed itself at the forefront of collegiate soccer facilities.

Most athletic facilities at Penn State fit into the same category, and staff members regularly work to improve and upgrade those facilities. Along with offseason upgrades to Jeffrey Field, improvements are annually being made to Beaver Stadium, Rec Hall and other venues for competition. Also, Intercollegiate Athletics is studying the possibility of additional state-of-the-art facilities for competition.

Record number of student-athletes honored at banquet

Almost 300 total awards were presented to Penn State student-athletes at the 24th annual SAAB Academic Achievement Awards Banquet in the Bryce Jordan Center.

Sponsored by the Milton and Lois Morgan Academic Support Center for Student-Athletes and the Student-Athlete Advisory Board (SAAB), 298 awards were presented to 237 student-athletes for their academic accomplishments in 2009-10.

The award total ranks as the sixth-highest in the history of the event, which was held in conjunction with National Student-Athlete Day.

Presentations were also made to 66 seniors who had 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA through the spring 2011 semester.

Members of Penn State's 29 varsity programs combined to earn an overall 3.08 grade point average in 2009-10. The 14 women's programs had another outstanding performance academically, earning a 3.20 GPA during 2009-10. There are approximately 750 Penn State student-athletes on 29 varsity teams.

Suzanne "Suzie" Paxton, a former Nittany Lion fencer and 1993 Penn State graduate was the guest speaker at the awards dinner. The Varsity "S" Awards were presented to the women's and men's teams with the highest team GPA. This year's recipients were the men's gymnastics team and the softball team.

Awards for Student-Athletes Above and Beyond were presented for the fourth time. The recipients were women's volleyball senior Alyssa D'Errico (Byron, N.Y.) and baseball junior Drew Yukelson (State College).

The THON awards were presented to the student-athlete and team that raised the most donations for the Four Diamonds Fun and THON. The recipients were senior women's golfer Jamie Lavin (Deerfield, Ill.) and the women's golf team led by coach Denise St. Pierre.

The CHAMPS Cup Awards for community outreach were presented for the sixth time, with the winners selected for small teams, those with 20 or few members (women's gymnastics), and large teams, those with more than 20 squad members (wrestling).

Twenty-three Penn State student-athletes were recognized for graduating from the Athletic Director's Leadership Institute, a program that has 65 student-athlete participants.



True Grit recipients Whitney Bencsko (center, left photo) and Brad Pataky (center, right photo) with Nikki Potoczny, associate director of the Nittany Lion Club, and Tim Curley, director of athletics, at the annual SAAB Academic Achievement Awards Banquet. (Photos by Mark Selders)

True Grit Award winners embody determination

Since the Nittany Lion Club created its annual True Grit Award to honor student-athletes (one male, one female) who have overcome a serious obstacle, there have been many deserving winners.

This year's duo continued that tradition.

Women's gymnast Whitney Bencsko (Pompton Plains, N.J.) and wrestler Brad Pataky (Clearfield, Pa.) walked away with the awards. Ironically enough, they were recognized because there was period in each of their careers when they were not able to walk.

For each, their success started early at Penn State.

As a freshman, Bencsko was a first-team All-American on the vault and second-team All-American in the all-around.

She regularly set team-high scores throughout the season and qualified for the event finals at the NCAA Championships. It was a storybook season.

In 2010, though, the story changed.

She competed in just seven meets before an injury to her posterior cruciate ligament ended her season. That was followed by pain, rehab and determination—some true grit.

She returned to competition this past season and was voted a team co-captain.

"She showed that hard work and personal sacrifice pay dividends," women's gymnastics coach Jeff Thompson said.

Likewise, Pataky enjoyed success and then had to endure recovery. More than one recovery, actually.

He started his career at Penn State in 2005 and compiled a 15-8 record, including a 6-2 mark in dual meets. After a redshirt season in 2006 and an Olympic redshirt in 2007, he went 59-21 and qualified for nationals twice the next two seasons.

He entered this past season as a reliable team leader on and off the mat.

Unfortunately, he was off the mat more than on because of a preseason knee injury. During training in November, he damaged both his ACL and MCL—often a season-ending prognosis.

In Pataky's case, though, the usual self-pity and questioning that accompany such a situation never started. He simply focused on what was next and eyed a return to the team.

So, he shunned surgery and returned the lineup Dec. 29 at the Southern Scuffle in Greensboro, N.C., wearing a massive brace and tape to help mask his injury. He went 3-2 in that tournament and was 4-0 a week later at the Virginia Duals—emerging in the national rankings as the 10th-best wrestler at 125 pounds.

In addition to his existing injuries, it was revealed he had a "horseshoe" tear in his meniscus. On top of that, his grandfather passed away at the beginning of February.

Still, he kept competing.

"Brad Pataky embodies every characteristic of what the True Grit Award symbolizes," wrestling coach Cael Sanderson said. "He is every cliché a coach has ever used—heart of a champion, always gives 110 percent, nicest kid you would ever want to meet, true-meaning of a student-athlete."



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Former Icer Brandwene picked to lead women's ice hockey

Veteran coach, former Icer and ACHA Hall of Fame inductee Josh Brandwene was named as Penn State's first varsity women's ice hockey coach.

Brandwene will lead the Nittany Lions' transition into Division I competition, which starts in the 2012-13 season.

Brandwene brings 20 years of coaching and administrative experience at the international, collegiate and prep school levels to Penn State. He most recently was the head coach of the girls' ice hockey team (2008-10) at Kingswood Oxford School in West Hartford, Conn. Brandwene was then asked to re-build the Kingswood Oxford boys' ice hockey team, serving as head coach in 2010-11.

"We are proud to welcome Josh back to Penn State as the first head coach of the women's varsity ice hockey team," said Tim Curley, director of athletics. "His wealth of experience and unique hockey background have prepared him to build our program and we are excited to have him on board."

"I am honored, humbled and thrilled to return to Penn State to lead the women's ice hockey program at this amazing time in the hockey program's history," said Brandwene. "I truly love every aspect of building a successful program. To have the opportunity to build a program the



Women's ice hockey coach Josh Brandwene with Director of Athletics Tim Curley. (Photo by Mark Selders)

'Penn State Way,' here at this place that has meant so much to me and shaped who I am as a person and as a coach is a dream come true."

Brandwene's previous coaching experiences included a stint as the assistant coach of the Team USA men's ice hockey team at the 2003 World University Games as well as the head coach of the men's ice hockey teams at ACHA power Delaware and top New England prep program Northfield Mount Hermon (Mass.) School.

A standout defender for the Penn State Icers, Brandwene was a member of the 1990 ACHA National Championship team. He earned team Most Valuable Player, league MVP and first team All-Tournament honors his senior season, and broke the Icers' career record for points by a defenseman.

"I have known Josh and his family for almost 25 years," said Joe Battista, the former Icers coach and current associate athletic director for icehockey operations. "He was my first recruit as an Icer coach in 1987 and a big part of our early success. He has the perfect skill set to be a successful coach and mentor to the student-athletes in our women's hockey program. He has incredible passion for Penn State and coaching and has impeccable values, boundless energy and enthusiasm, and shares our culture for Success With Honor."

Swimming and diving coach selected for USA Swimming duties

Swimming and diving coach John Hargis was appointed to USA Swimming's University Games coaching staff and will travel to Shenzhen, China, for the 2011 Universiade along with Penn State standout Amy Modglin (Fort Myers, Fla.).

"Anytime you can represent your country is a huge honor," Hargis said. "I was able to do it as an athlete [in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics] and now as a coach."

Arizona coach Eric Hansen will lead the U.S. women's team that will compete Aug. 12-23 in China. Hansen was Wisconsin's coach for 12 seasons and returned to his alma mater just weeks ago when hall-of-fame coach Frank Busch left to be USA Swimming's national team director.

"For Eric to select me, I'm very honored to serve under him," Hargis said. "He's one of the best coaches in America. What I'll be able to learn from him and the other assistants will be an education within itself."

Modglin was added to the team in November and is slated to compete in the 200 backstroke, her specialty. Modglin earned All-American honors in the event at the NCAA Championships in March.

The last Nittany Lion swimmer to compete in the University Games was Patrick Schirk in 2009.

Hargis is excited to head to China and represent the United States once again. The Nittany Lion coach was part of a gold-medal winning relay during the 1996 Olympic Games. Hargis looks forward to adding more Penn State success into the national program.

Baseball

Four members of the baseball team were honored for their outstanding achievements during the 2011 campaign as Sean Deegan, Steven Hill, John Walter, and Mike Pierce were named the recipients of the program's annual year-end awards.

Deegan (Readington, N.J.) was honored with the F. Joseph Bedenk Award, which is bestowed upon Penn State's most valuable player. Hill (Colleyville, Texas) took home the Charles Medlar Award as the team's top pitcher, while Walter (Haddonfield, N.J.) earned the Ed Drapcho Award as the Lions' most improved player. Pierce (State College) rounded out the honorees after earning the Shorty Stoner Award for his work in the classroom and on the field.

Men's golf

Five golfers were appointed to the Division I PING All-Northeast Regional Team announced by the Golf Coaches Association of America. The group includes seniors T.J. Howe (Osceola, Pa.) and Tommy McDonagh (East Norwalk, Conn.) and the sophomore trio of Anthony DeGol (Hollidaysburg, Pa.), Ernesto Marin (Miami, Fla.) and Jay Woodward (Bridgeport, W.Va.).

Men's lacrosse

Two lacrosse players earned all-conference honors as their season concluded. Junior Matthew Mackrides (Newtown Square, Pa.) and freshman Austin Kaut (Morton, Pa.) were named to the All-Colonial Athletic Association first team. In addition, Kaut was honored as CAA Rookie of the Year and coach Jeff Tambroni was named co-Coach of the Year.

Women's lacrosse

Three members of the women's lacrosse team—junior Dana Cahill (Towson, Md.) and seniors Maggie Dunbar (Cockeysville, Md.) and Jen Steadman (Sykesville, Md.)—were recognized by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association. Cahill was honored on the first team while Dunbar and Steadman were named to the second team.

NLC Calendar



- July 1:** Start of 2012 giving year
- July 8:** Lift for Life
- July 15:** Nittany Lion Club Golf Tournament and Cookout
- Aug. 26-28:** Women's soccer, Penn State Invitational
- Sept. 3:** Football vs. Indiana State
- Sept. 9:** Men's soccer vs. Stetson
- Sept. 10:** Football vs. Alabama
- Sept. 16-17:** Women's volleyball, Penn State Classic
- Oct. 28:** Penn State Athletic Endowment Dinner
- Nov. 11:** Penn State Athletic Facilities Donor Recognition Dinner

Nittany 9

Nine questions to test your knowledge of Penn State sports

Compiled by Tom Hanifan ('12 Journ)

1. Who was Penn State's longest tenured men's basketball coach?
2. Before the creation of the NCAA Tournament for men's soccer in 1959, how many outright national championships had Penn State won?
3. Who was the first Nittany Lion to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame?
4. When did Penn State wrestling win its first national championship?
5. Which Penn State baseball great has the longest hitting streak in school history?
6. Who was the first Lady Lion to be drafted into the WNBA?
7. Established in 1964, when did the Nittany Lion field hockey team record its 200th home win?
8. What 1998 graduate owns the softball team's HR record?
9. Name the six former women's soccer players who played Women's Professional Soccer.

1. John Eglit, 14 seasons (1954-1968); 2. Three (1929, 1938, 1954); 3. Mike Kichalske, 1964 OG (Giants, Packers); 4. 1953; 5. Michael Campo, 41 games (2000); 6. Tina Nicholson, third round, 1997; 7. Sept. 5, 1999 (1-0 over North Carolina); 8. Shannon Salsburg, 34 (1995-1998); 9. Joanna Lohman, Erin McLeod, Alyssa Naehrer, Katie Schoepfer, Tiffany Weimer, Christine Welsh.



The Nittany Lion Club, comprised of Penn State alumni and friends of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, was established in 1959 to create greater interest in and financial support of Penn State varsity athletics. Members of the Nittany Lion Club make possible grant-in-aid support for more than 800 student-athletes each academic year and provide operational support for the University's entire 31-sport intercollegiate athletics program.

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