



Penn State's Jamelle Cornley shows his disdain for an official's call during the game against Ohio State last week. Prince Spells/Colegian

## Moral victory won't suffice

After nearly upsetting Ohio State last week, the Lions will get another shot at the No. 2 team in the country.

By Jon Blau  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | jsb5000@psu.edu

Little wins don't show up in a team's record, so they are labeled "moral victories," intangible, and Danny Morrissey can't stand them for that reason.

He hates losing, in general.

But even Morrissey can agree with Penn State head coach Ed DeChellis, who hopes his team will look at last Wednesday's 64-62 loss to No. 2 Ohio State as the closest a conference opponent has come to the giants from Columbus and not as another tally in "L" column.

One Mike Walker three, and the Nittany Lions walk away a winner a week ago.

"We know we can play with just about anybody in the country," Morrissey said.

"The unfortunate thing is we can lose to almost anyone in the country, as well."

If this 11-game losing streak has taught Penn State (10-15, 1-11 Big Ten) anything, it's that at 8 tonight, when it visits Big Ten leader Ohio State, there will be a chance to win, even if it happens to be against the No. 1 team in the ESPN/USA Today coaches' poll.

There will also be equal opportunities to keep on losing. The Buckeyes (24-3, 12-1), conversely, have won 11-straight games heading into tonight's contest.

Unless you look at the Buckeyes lone in-conference defeat at the hands of AP No. 1 Wisconsin, or at their two-point, close call against Michigan State on Jan. 27, the Lions stuck with Ohio State as well as any team.

In last week's game, freshman phenom Greg Oden got just about his average, 15 points, 10 rebounds and four blocks, and Penn State closed a 21-point halftime deficit when the

Buckeyes shot a dismal 18 percent from three-point range in the second half.

Now the Lions head back onto the road, where they haven't won a game all season.

In order to keep his team loose prior to last Wednesday's game, DeChellis allowed a spontaneous dunk competition in warm-ups to continue on.

"Normally we might say, 'Hey, we don't want you to turn an ankle the day before a game,' stuff like that," DeChellis said, "but I thought it was important for these guys to have some fun, to have some smiles on their faces."

Morrissey doesn't have a smile on his face, as he has only scored in double figures once in the last nine games.

As the team's third-leading scorer with 10.2 points per contest, Morrissey scored just three against Ohio State last Wednesday. With two years remaining in his collegiate basketball career, via a medical redshirt last season, Morrissey still cannot afford to look ahead.

Big Ten opponents are guarding him farther out to the arc, preventing the 43-percent three-point shooter from getting off shots. On Saturday, Wisconsin held Morrissey to two shots.

Now, he wants to get open looks for his teammates, or even start finding open shots on his own off the dribble.

"Finish strong," Morrissey said. "Do not quit. Don't give up. Keep playing hard at all moments. Don't give up on the season. Just because things aren't going well doesn't mean you quit."

Sophomore forward Milos Bogetic, who used the *Rocky* series as inspiration for saying last week that Oden "has a weakness, every man has a weakness," always has a light way of thinking about something.

Bogetic's hope is that a win against Ohio State could make people forget about Penn State's struggles. That would be a real moral victory, plus the "W" bonus.

"It would mean so much to us," Bogetic said. "A lot of people would forget about our losses and talk about our victory. It's a huge motive for us to work hard."

**Men's Basketball at Ohio State**  
8, tonight  
Schottstein Center

## Cornley happy to return to Buckeye territory, home

By Andrew Wible  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | ajw5050@psu.edu

Jamelle Cornley is no stranger to the Schottstein Center.

Penn State's sophomore forward has been playing games on the Ohio State campus since he was in ninth grade, so today's venture into Buckeye territory is nothing new for the Columbus native.

He has had some success in the arena that lies less than seven miles from his home. In fact, his Brookhaven High School squad captured the 2002 Ohio Division I State

Championship there. The Bobcats reached the final again the following season, but lost.

While the crowd at those games may have been bipartisan, he is now an outsider. Instead of having hundreds or thousands of screaming fans, his cheering section will more likely be well under the century mark.

Last year, he was able to secure between 50 and 60 tickets for family and friends. But, now that the Buckeyes are No. 2 in the country, tickets are at a premium. Cornley was only able to secure 30 for his family and friends.

"A lot more people are going to be purchasing themselves because it's pretty rough on tickets right now," Cornley said.

"But it's always nice to play in front of family."

The homecoming has some added sweetness.

His teammate from Brookhaven, Ron Lewis, is a senior guard for the Buckeyes, and they've had their share of fun during their clashes the past two seasons.

Last Wednesday, Cornley and Lewis' names were announced at the same time before the game at the

Bryce Jordan Center and the former teammates made the moment memorable.

Cornley came out as he usually does — yelling and screaming while staring down his high school friend. Lewis couldn't contain himself.

"When they called my name he started laughing and we were just joking around," Cornley said. "I asked him if he was ready and he said, 'Yeah he was ready.' And he asked me if I was ready and I said, 'Yeah, you know I'm ready.'"

But the best exchange between the two happened after the Nittany Lions

made their furious comeback and pulled within two with less than 20 seconds remaining.

Lewis approached the foul line with an opportunity to ice the game for the Buckeyes, when Cornley decided that it was time to speak up.

"When he went to the free throw line, I just said, 'You know if you miss this shot, it's over,'" Cornley said.

Lewis missed the foul shot, the Lions grabbed the rebound and raced down the court, but Mike Walker's potential game-winning three-point attempt bounced off the back iron and

See CORNLEY, Page 14.

## Alford-Sullivan blazes new trail

Track coach does her best during Big Tens despite the men and women competing in different states.

By Tom Brolley and Steve Maslowsky  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITERS  
twb5000@psu.edu, sjm5131@psu.edu

After the first day of competition at next weekend's Big Ten Championships, most of the coaches will take time to rest and prepare for the final day of competition.

Not Penn State track and field coach Beth Alford-Sullivan. She will be traveling between Bloomington, Ind., and Champaign, Ill., as she will split her time between the men and women's championships.

The Big Ten is the only conference that has separate championships for men and women, but because the two cities are only a three-hour drive apart, she has a chance to spend one day with each of the teams.

On May 15, 2006, Penn State announced Alford-Sullivan would coach both the men's and women's teams, making her one of only five women in the nation to coach combined programs.

Associate Athletic Director Jan

Bortner said that when Penn State began the process of finding a new men's coach, they looked at a candidate's experience and philosophy to decide who would replace long-time coach Harry Groves. Ultimately, Alford-Sullivan's success with the women's team was a main reason she was hired.

"We obviously wanted to get the best person for the job," Bortner said. "At Penn State, we look not as much at the gender as we look at the qualifications. We made the decision that Beth would be the perfect candidate."

Though Alford-Sullivan estimates that 60 percent of the nation's track and field programs are combined, there are only three other Big Ten coaches that have combined programs: Michigan State's Walt Drenth, Indiana's Wayne Pate and Purdue's Jack Warner.

Alford-Sullivan's female counterparts, Boston University's Robyn Johnson, Sacramento State's Kathleen Raske, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's

See COACH, Page 14.



Jeff Bast/Colegian

Michael Malizia runs in the 800-meter event earlier this season. He came in 21st place.



Abby Drey/Colegian

Amber Strouse rounds the corner on the track in a race earlier this season.

## Indoor runners climb to No. 13

By Adam McNaughton  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | aam208@psu.edu

The Penn State women's indoor track and field team continues to climb in this week's major national rankings yesterday after beginning the season unranked.

The Lions are No. 13 in both the trackwire.com and U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association national polls. The team retained last week's No. 13 ranking in the trackwire.com poll and moved up from No. 16 in the USTFCCCA poll.

Head coach Beth Alford-Sullivan learned of the team's new national position at practice yesterday, say

See RUNNERS, Page 14.



Alford-Sullivan