

Sept. 12 - at Penn State 48, Bowling Green 3

The Falcons went on the road for the second successive game against a nationally-ranked opponent and ninth-ranked Penn State jumped ahead early and coasted to the win, #300 in the head coaching career of Joe Paterno. Coincidentally, Paterno earned win #200 against the Falcons in the only other meeting, in 1987, between the two programs.

The Nittany Lions scored on their first play of the game, and after a three-and-out series for the Falcons, returned the punt 73 yards for a touchdown to make the score 14-0 just 2:40 into the game.

Two series later, Penn State linebacker LaVar Arrington intercepted a Bob Niemet pass and returned that 16 yards for a touchdown and the Nittany Lions were on their way leading 21-0 at the 7:46 mark of the first quarter.

The Falcons earned their only points of the game at on Jason Strasser 43-yard field goal at the 2:53 mark of the second quarter. The Falcons had a fourth quarter drive of 13 plays for 46 yards, its best drive of the season, which ended at the Penn State 20-yard line on downs in the fourth quarter.

Penn State had 226 yards of return yards in the game which included on other interception return for a touchdown.

The Falcon offense had much better numbers in the game than the season opener winning the time of possession battle while recording 14 first downs and 239 yards of total offense.

Freshman Godfrey Lewis and senior Robbie Hollis combined for over 100 yards from the tailback position as Lewis had 65 yards on 15 carries and Hollis added 51 yards on 11 carries. Senior punter Andy Pollock, who came into the game #4 in the country, had another big day averaging 48.4 yards on nine punts.

Bowling Green                    0  3  0  0  -  3

Penn State                        21 13 14  0  - 48

PS - Cordell Mitchell 77 run (Travis Forney kick), 13:43, 1st qtr.

PS - Bruce Branch 73 punt return (Forney kick), 12:20, 1st qtr.

PS - LaVar Arrington 16 interception return (Forney kick), 7:46, 1st qtr.

PS - Mitchell 16 run (Forney kick), 14:55, 2nd qtr.

PS - Mike Cerimele 2 run (kick blocked), 7:58, 2nd qtr.

BG - Jason Strasser 43 field goal, 2:53, 2nd qtr.

PS - Omar Easy 5 run (Forney kick), 11:01, 3rd qtr.

PS - Joe Dawkins 30 interception return (Forney kick), 3rd qtr.

Attendance - 96,291

Team Statistics - First Downs (BG 14, PS 17); Rushes-Yards (BG 37-146, PS 42-242); Passing Yardage (BG 93, PS 190); Completions-Attempts-Interceptions (BG 9-27-3, PS 13-20-0); Punts-Avg. (BG 9-48.4, PS 5-45.8); Fumbles-Lost (BG 1-0, PS 3-2); Penalties-Yards (BG 5-45, PS 6-48); Time of Possession (BG 31:45, PS 28:15).

Individual Leaders - Bowling Green - Rushing (Godfrey Lewis 16-65, Robbie Hollis 11-51); Passing (Bob Niemet 2-9-13, Ricky Schneider 7-18-80); Receiving (Adam Lige 4-37, Tony Holcomb 2-20, Kurt Gerling 2-31). Penn State - Rushing (Cordell Mitchell 6-104, Eric McCoo 9-52); Passing (Kevin Thompson 8-13-133, Rashard Casey 4-5-39); Receiving (Corey Jones 3-40, Joe Nastasi 2-54).