

## 2008 Penn State Nittany Lions College Football Predictions

Contributed by Dave Price  
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Penn State will once again be among the most solid teams in the Big Ten Conference, but College Football Predictions Expert Dave Price feels its schedule could be the thing that keeps the Lions from contending for a Big Ten title. Online sportsbook BetUS.com has the Penn State Nittany Lions +5000 odds to win the 2009 BCS Championship. Check out Expert Football Handicapper Dave Price's 2008 Penn State Nittany Lions predictions for Point-Spreads.com to get the inside scoop.

**Offense** - The Nittany Lions don't have a clear cut starting QB so we could see a two QB system this season. Joe Pa has done it before. The two QB's are Daryll Clark and Pat Devlin. Clark was Anothony Morelli's backup the past two seasons. He complete 56 percent of his pass attempts and ran for four touchdowns in limited action. His claim to fame was a game tying 11-yard run in the Alamo Bowl win over Texas A&M last season. Devlin originally committed to Miami and he looks to be the future. He set a Pennsylvania high school record with more than 8,000 career passing yards. With a veteran line and some nice offensive weapons to put around the two QB options, I think they'll play good enough to win a lot of games in Big Ten play this season. The line is led by center A.Q. Shipley and left guard Rich Ohrnberger who are both in their third year as starters. Wide receivers Deon Butler, Derrick Williams, and Jordan Norwood all rank in the top six in career receptions at Penn State. Evan Royster rushed for 500 yards in his freshman season at tailback and he will be joined by speedy frosh Stephfon Green. Don't be surprised in Joe Pa reverts his offense back to the 2005 style led by Michael Robinson which scored more than 34 points a game.

**Defense** - The Lions were dealt a huge blow this spring when linebacker Sean Lee tore his ACL. The Big Ten's second leading tackler will miss the entire season. It's a shame too, because this guy has been compared to recent Penn State linebacker greats Dan Connor and Paul Posluszny. Josh Hull and Chris Colasanti will compete for his spot. Returning starter Tyrell Sales will start at one outside linebacker spot and Bani Gbadyu will likely start at the other. Penn State's strong defensive front will take some of the pressure off the linebacking corps. The Lions have great depth up front as they are able to rotate up to eight guys without losing anything. Maurice Evans starred at defensive end last season with 12.5 sacks. With so much depth up front, it comes as no surprise that Penn State was one of the best in the country against the run in 2007. The secondary needs to be better and it should be with three starters returning.

**Special Teams** - A great kicking game is a major asset for the Lions. Punter Jeremy Boone was named to the All-Big Ten First team last season after averaging 43 yards per punt. Place kicker Kevin Kelly already has the school record for points and field goals. Punt return specialist Derrick Williams and kickoff return specialist A.J. Wallace both ranked among the best in the Big Ten in the return game last year.

College Football Predictions on the 2008 Penn State Nittany Lions &ndash; 4th in Big Ten

With good offensive and defensive lines and good special teams, the Lions will be in every single game this season. Having to go to Ohio State and Wisconsin is likely what keeps this team from finishing higher, but we do expect them to finish above Michigan and Michigan State.

BetUS.com has posted college football predictions betting odds to win the 2009 BCS Championship:

LSU +1200

Southern Cal +300

California +4500

Ohio State +1000

Wisconsin +3000

Boston College +12500

Florida +600

Kentucky +10000

South Florida +5000

Oklahoma +900  
Georgia +900  
West Virginia +1600  
Oregon +4500  
Virginia Tech +1400  
Texas +1200  
Missouri +1400  
South Carolina +4500  
Arizona State +4000  
Rutgers +8000  
Clemson +2000  
Nebraska +7500  
Cincinnati +8000  
UCLA +6000  
Miami Florida +6000  
Florida State +5000  
Michigan State +7500  
Kansas +3000  
Kansas State +10000  
Alabama +5000  
Auburn +2000  
Louisville +8000  
Notre Dame +6500  
Oklahoma State +12000  
Penn State +5000  
Tennessee +3000  
Texas A&M +10000  
Texas Tech +5000  
Wake Forest +10000  
Washington +10000  
Iowa +10000  
Illinois +3300

Georgia Tech +10000

Pittsburgh +8000