

## USG Endorsements

Local groups tab favorite election candidates

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## Swimwomen set to make waves at NCAAs

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## Weather

Today, partly cloudy and cool with a high temperature of 50. A few clouds around tonight, low near 35. Mostly cloudy and remaining cool tomorrow with a high rising to 52.

—Bob Tschantz

# the daily Collegian

30¢

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Members of the 1st Infantry Division drive a self-propelled howitzer down the highway in northwest Kuwait. The division was taking new positions inside Iraq yesterday.

## Athletic Dept. investigating Rene Portland

By DANA DIFILIPPO  
Collegian Staff Writer

The University's Athletic Department is investigating allegations that Lady Lion basketball coach Rene Portland discriminates against lesbians, an athletic director said at Tuesday's Faculty Senate meeting.

"Indeed we are dealing within the athletic department on this particular matter at this time," Ellen Perry, associate athletic director, said.

During an interview Tuesday, Portland responded to questions on her policy regarding lesbians by saying, "I will not comment on that issue."

An article in the Philadelphia Inquirer on March 10 quoted former and current team players and other coaches who said Portland openly prevents lesbians from joining her team.

People quoted in the article suggested that Portland seeks to shelter her players from the stereotype that labels female athletes as gay, and from the possible dissent on the team if lesbians were allowed.

"(The article) has caused a bit of a stir," Perry said. "Intercollegiate Athletics at this University is well aware of our responsibilities to uphold the rules and regulations."

After the meeting, Perry refused to



Courtesy Penn State

Rene Portland

identify specific actions being taken and said only that it is a personnel matter. Perry also would not comment on a news article in the Chicago Sun Times in 1986 about Portland's policy, saying she was only recently hired.

Director of the Women's Studies Program Lynne Goodstein and another faculty senator asked Perry to comment further on the article and on what actions the athletic department is taking. Perry, however, declined to specify

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## U.S. fighter shoots down Iraqi jet But Allies don't foresee resurgence of hostilities

By MARTIN MARRIS  
Associated Press Writer

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia — A U.S. jet fighter yesterday shot down an Iraqi warplane over Saddam Hussein's hometown in the first air attack since the cease-fire in the Persian Gulf War.

U.S. officials said the Iraqi plane was flying in violation of the 3-week-old truce, but they said the engagement did not signal any new round of fighting.

The incident vividly demonstrated the American dominance over Iraq's skies that helped the allied

coalition oust the defeated Iraqi army from Kuwait. Now, the focus of fighting has shifted inside Iraq, where Saddam's forces are trying to suppress Kurdish and Shiite Muslim insurgencies.

Iraq on yesterday accused Iran — its enemy in an eight-year war — of inciting the uprisings. Iran has denied involvement, although its president has urged Saddam to resign.

Iran and Saudi Arabia, Iraq's neighbors and the largest Persian Gulf states, announced yesterday they were restoring diplomatic relations after a three-year rift. Iran, which has been moving to mend relations

with Arab states, also reopened its embassy in Amman, Jordan.

The U.S. Central Command said an Air Force F-15C shot down the Iraqi Su-22 jet fighter over Tikrit, Saddam's hometown. The fate of Iraqi pilot was not known for certain.

But the wingman on the attacking American plane, interviewed when he returned to base in central Saudi Arabia, said the Iraqi pilot was down to 100 to 150 feet when he ejected. "I don't think he made it. The chute never blossomed. ... It crumpled as it hit the

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## Collegian business manager chosen

By TOM SMITHYMAN  
Collegian Staff Writer

Wendy L. Frank was selected last night as The Daily Collegian's new business manager. She will take the year-long position May 3.

Frank (junior-marketing) said she was sad to leave her present position as a sales representative but is looking forward to the challenge of being business manager.

"I want to have cohesion in the business division," she said, adding she would achieve this goal through group-motivation techniques.

"Just a lot of positive motivation brings staff together," she said.

After an hour and 45 minutes of discussion, Collegian Inc.'s Board of Directors announced Frank had won.

The board consists of 11 voting members, including University students, faculty members, community members, the editor-in-chief and business manager. One board member was on sabbatical.

Several board members said the decision was a difficult one to make.

"I've been involved with the Collegian for 11 years — this is in my memory, the hardest choice I had to make," said Board President Rosa Eberly.

"I can honestly say it was the toughest decision I ever had to make in my entire life," said current Business Man-

ager and board member Ty Strohl (senior-broadcast cable).

Frank was chosen because she is able to deal well with people, Eberly said.

Strohl agreed, saying: "Wendy will make an excellent business manager — I have all the confidence in the world for her."

Anne Kluk, an office representative said Frank is "very approachable, very level-headed. She's very business-oriented, a good businesswoman."

The business manager oversees the Collegian business division's five departments and is responsible for all operating procedures associated with them.

Frank will begin training, or "boot camp," for her position next week.



Collegian File Photo

Wendy L. Frank

## Opening the closet door doesn't always shut out friendship

By MARISKA VAN AALST  
Collegian Feature Writer

Nick Conrad had known Jeff Kemp about a month before he found out Kemp was gay. The two were next-door neighbors in McKean Hall and were friends since school had started last year.

"I'm really into blues music, and Jeff was a music major at the time, so we just started talking about music a lot. You know, the way everybody goes around and talks to each other in the beginning of the year."

Conrad (sophomore-biochemistry) said Kemp (junior-rehabilitation services) and a gay friend came into his room and asked frankly, "Would it bother you guys if we told you we were gay?" Conrad said no.

The process of coming out can often tear apart the most stable of friendships between homosexuals and heterosexuals. The future of the friendship depends on the open-mindedness of both friends.

As traumatic as it is for gay men and lesbians to take this huge leap of faith, it also puts pressure on their straight friends to re-examine their own prejudices or uninformed views.

"We were up for hours after that, talking about it, becoming . . ." He pauses, and his face widens in a nostalgic smile. "Becoming educated."

Jean-Marie Duff's (junior-rehabilitation services) experience with Kemp was a more gradual awareness, as their friendship grew over a several years.

"Jeff was just going through coming out when



Onkham Rattanaphasouk (senior-accounting), left, and Theresa Sumner (senior-speech communications), at right chat on the steps of Hammond building.

we were freshmen. I was just getting over my brother coming out," Duff said.

The two lost touch for a couple of years, during which time Jeff came out publicly on National Coming Out Day, and his picture appeared in the paper. "I remember seeing it and thinking, 'Oh, that guy was in my class,'" Duff recalled.

Fear of rejection often causes the gay man or lesbian to shield their friends from the truth, as was the case for Onkham Rattanaphasouk (senior-accounting) and Theresa Sumner (senior-speech communications).

Rattanaphasouk met Sumner three years ago when the two women went to Behrend campus together freshman year. They lived across the hall from each other in the dorms.

"I always suspected she was gay, but I would never assume things like that," Rattanaphasouk said. When Sumner finally did tell her that she is a lesbian, the two had been sharing an apartment with another woman for a full semester. It was so gradual that Rattanaphasouk said she can't even remember Sumner's actual declaration.

"She was so afraid that I might not accept her. She was really glad when we talked about it and I didn't reject her," Rattanaphasouk said. "I would not let things like that jeopardize our friendship."

Sumner was more direct with her friend, Rich Hoover (senior-parks and recreation), whom she had known since kindergarten.

"I don't think I ever suspected it," Hoover said. "We were having a conversation and I just asked her why I'd never seen her dating any guys, and she said 'Because I'm gay.'"

Conrad said he and Kemp talk about all aspects of homosexuality, from stereotypes to relationships to "the shower thing" (whether homosexuals should be allowed to shower with heterosexuals). "I've definitely learned a lot. I can speak more intelligently about the gay subject," Conrad said.

Kemp gave Duff several books, such as "Rubyfruit Jungle" by Rita Mae Brown, which sparked an interest in lesbian rights as an aspect of feminism, and also helped her to understand the torment of growing up gay, Duff said.

However, some experience cannot be gained from books. Hoover cites his social life as having the greatest educational merit.

"I work at a restaurant and a lot of people who work there and hang out there are gay. I get invited to a lot of parties and I don't pass them up — I go," he said, shrugging his shoulders.

Conrad said he's been to a few parties with Kemp, but he sometimes feels out of place. "Usually they're parties with 50 percent gay people and 50 percent progressive people, and since I'm not gay and not progressive, I kind of

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## Mother admits to murdering her infant child

OIL CITY (AP) — The mother of a 6-week-old child that was reported snatched from a grocery store shopping cart and later found dead in a trash bin admitted late yesterday to killing the infant, according to a police affidavit.

Lisa Lazzell, 23, of Oil City was arraigned before District Justice Charles Thureau on a charge of criminal homicide and ordered held on \$50,000 bond in the Venango County Jail. Oil City Police Chief Fred Weaver said in a written statement.

A preliminary hearing was set for April 9.

An affidavit filed by Oil City police said Lazzell admitted to causing the death of her son at her house and admitted placing the boy in a green plastic bag. She admitted putting the bag in the trash bin behind the Kmart shopping plaza in Reno between Sugarcreek and Oil City and then traveled directly to the Bi-Lo Market in Sugarcreek and made up the story of the child being taken, according to the affidavit.

Police would not discuss a possible motive in the slaying but said the death occurred sometime Monday. Venango County District Attorney Marie Veon did not immediately return telephone calls seeking comment.

The body of Brandon David Lazzell was found in a trash container about 5:10 p.m. yesterday along state Route 8, Sugarcreek Borough Police Chief Rick Baker said.

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