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Swan songs

Local trio The Joint packs its bags - and heads for the San Francisco scene

Arts

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Weather

Today, becoming fairly sunny and warm, high 84. Tonight, partly cloudy, low 62. Tomorrow, more clouds and not as warm, chance of a shower, high 79.

— by Steven Hoffert



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Collegian Photo/Philippe Eghba

Morning ritual

Bill Yoder of the Office of Physical Plant prepares for the day by raising the American flag in front of Old Main. Yoder was out last Thursday morning raising the stars and stripes as usual at 7 a.m.

Student drops out

Meredith pulls out of local mayoral race

By MICHELE MARCHETTI and ANGELA POMPONIO **Collegian Staff Writers**

After entering the State College mayoral race just a week ago, John Meredith has decided to withdraw.

Meredith said he was not wellinformed of what the mayor's position entailed when he decided to join the race. This is one of the reasons he decided to drop out, he said.

"Some people got a little mediahappy and let the cat out of the bag prematurely," he said, adding he did not understand all of the details regarding the mayor's job including salary, time commitment and mayoral powers.

If he had become mayor, Meredith said he would have to get another job to support himself.

Undergraduate Student Government President Chris Saunders said he understood Meredith withdrew from the race because he received



John Meredith

son as far as I'm concerned," Saunders said.

Since his decision to withdraw, Meredith said he is considering several other job offers.

Meredith said his residence status was also a deciding factor. In order to run for mayor, it would have "I'm disappointed, but I under- been necessary to sublease his strong candidates for borough stand. He's got a damn good rea- apartment in Ferguson Township and council.'

become a State College resident, he

Although Meredith said he was misinformed and "led astray," he did

not blame anyone but himself. ELMS coalition director Jim Woods said it was Meredith's responsibility to educate himself on the may-

oral position. ELMS endorsed Meredith's candidacy. "ELMS simply endorses candidates that run on the same platform we believe in, and the choice of whether or not to run is totally the candidate's and along with that

comes the responsibility of

researching the position," Woods said. Woods added that ELMS does not have any candidates in mind to replace Meredith, but a write-in campaign could allow someone to join

the mayoral race again. "If there was a feasible replacement we would look into supporting them, but right now we're going with what we have," he said. "ELMS goes on and we still have two very

NATO strikes possible

By JEROME SOCOLOVSKY **Associated Press Writer**

BRUSSELS, Belgium — NATO warned early today that it is preparing to carry out air strikes against Serbs if their "strangulation" of the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo

The NATO declaration came after one of the longest meetings on record of the North Atlantic Council, NATO's political forum.

Ambassadors of the 16 NATO countries wrangled for nearly 12 hours over a U.S. proposal to subject Serb gunners surrounding Sarajevo to the alliance's formidable air power. President Clinton said yesterday that proposal.

The Atlantic alliance said it "has decided to make immediate preparations for undertaking . . . stronger measures including air strikes against those responsible, Bosnian Serbs and others, in Bosnia-Herzego-

Although the NATO declaration focused mainly on the 16-month-old Serb siege of Sarajevo, the Croats have also come under increasing criticism for atrocities against Muslims.

If NATO ultimately agreed to hit Serb positions from

the air, it would mark the first time in the military alliance's history that it undertook an offensive capacity. NATO was founded in 1949 to defend against invasion from the Soviet bloc.

Officials said the North Atlantic Treaty Organization planned to meet again next Monday to hear the recommendations of NATO military advisers on the logistics of protecting Sarajevo through air cover.

The statement stressed that any implementation would ave to occur under the shield of the United U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said yesterday it was his prerogative to decide first.

Sarajevo was surrounded by insurgent Bosnian Serb forces shortly after the Muslims and ethnic Croats in Bosnia-Herzegovina declared independence from the Serb-dominated Yugoslav federation 16 months ago.

Officials may have solicited letters

By COREY GESFORD Collegian Staff Writer

A University student alleges he was asked to write letters to local newspapers in support of University efforts to accommodate people with disabilities.

Isadore Sutton (graduatemechanical engineering) said

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressional nego-

tiators settled all tax issues in President Clin-

ton's compromise budget yesterday, setting up

showdown votes this week in the House and Senate.

Last-minute agreements would ease the sting of

to write a "definitely positive" letter to the Centre Daily Times editorial

Sutton said he was asked to write about efforts the University has made to improve facility and resource accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Sutton is one of seven current and former students who someone at the Office for Disabil- have filed a lawsuit against the

meet requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"It's peculiar they would ask me to do this," Sutton said. "I don't know why or what their intentions were."

He added that he has never been asked before to write a letter on the University's behalf.

Bonnie Ortiz, University affir-

ity Services solicited him during June University for allegedly failing to mative action director, said she was unaware of anyone soliciting people to write letters.

Brenda Hameister, director fordisability services, was unavailable for comment, and no one from her office would comment on the situation.

Charles Andrew, a State College landlord, wrote a letter in July to The Please see SOLICIT, Page 12.

The bill provides for five-year tax increases

estimated at \$242 billion. An estimated \$254 billion

would be saved by restraining the growth of

More than three-quarters of the tax increase

would come from those with incomes over \$200,000

a year. The only provision with direct impact on

most middle-income families is a 4.3 cent-a-gallon

various federal spending programs.

USAB chooses new chairman

By COREY GESFORD Collegian Staff Writer

The University Student Advisory Board has chosen a leader with connections to the administration and past experience with student organizations.

Paul Kasper, Student Organization Budget Committee chairman, was chosen as USAB chairman at last month's retreat. The retreat is designed to give USAB members a chance to learn more about each other in a casual environment.

Kasper would not comment on the future of USAB until he was ernment Vice President Heathable to talk to all USAB mem- er Shore said she has worked with

"He will not be bringing any personal biases to the job."

Council of Commonwealth Student Governments Coordinator

- Ben Stevenson

Kasper (senior-accounting) interned in the Office of Student Affairs.

Undergraduate Student Gov-Please see USAB, Page 12.

a tax on Social Security benefits and restrain the est tax increase in the history of the world." increase in the 14.1 cent gasoline tax. Former Lions tight end adjusts to NFL

Congress ready for tax bill vote

Democratic leaders predicted the legislation,

designed to cut the deficit by about \$496 billion

over five years, would win approval. It calls for

billions in higher taxes on the wealthy and a

gasoline tax increase of 4.3 cents per gallon.

The White House welcomed the agreement.

But Republicans attacked it swiftly. Senate GOP

Leader Bob Dole called the measure "the larg-

Collegian Sports Writer

AP Tax Writer

Troy Drayton says his life hasn't really changed all that much since joining the Los Angeles Rams last

The Steelton native was the Rams' second-round draft pick in last April's NFL draft. But going from a system run by Coach Joe Paterno to the one run by Los Angeles Coach Chuck Knox did not require much adjustment by Drayton.

"They're both tough," Drayton said. "They both run a tight ship."

Drayton added that the college practices tended to be longer mainly because more teaching was required at that level. But in the NFL, teaching becomes less important, and it's a matter of going out and getting the work done.

"I just wanted to come in and get the system down, and try to learn the system as fast as I can so I can contribute this year."

— Troy Drayton former PSU tight end

"Right now, being that we're in camp, it's more or less football all day and getting to know the playbook a little bit at night," Drayton said. "You eat, sleep and live foot-

But the 6-foot-3, 220-pound tightend isn't complaining. When he began his football career, Drayton was a walk-on —a seldom-used, backup wide receiver. Drayton only caught 12 passes before the 1992 season, but came into his own last year catch-

ing 36 passes for 488 yards.

On July 21, Drayton stepped up to the next level — signing a contract reportedly worth \$1.4 million spread over three years. Although he missed the first two days of training camp, Drayton felt his mini-holdout was something of a necessary distrac-

tion — strictly a business move. "I just wanted to come in and get the system down, and try to learn the system as fast as I can so I can contribute this year," Drayton said.

'The way my agent approached it was, 'We want to make a fair deal. We want to get you in camp, but we also want to get you a good deal."

Dealing with the front office, agents and contracts is all part of the football

business. The business aspect of the game is something that Penn State Assistant Coach Kenny Jackson knows about. A former first-round pick of the Philadelphia Eagles, Jackson was hired in February as the wide

receivers' coach. Jackson did not get to work with Drayton — but he did have the opportunity to offer some advice to both Drayton, and former Nittany Lion O.J. McDuffie, a first-round draft pick of the Miami Dolphins.

"They're going to have an opportunity to make a lot of mon-



Please see DRAYTON, Page 12. Tight end Troy Drayton (18) plays against West Virginia last fall.