

McManis elected borough council president

— Page 4

President Clinton opens his first trip to Europe

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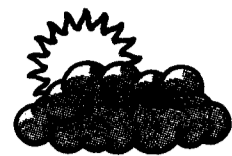


Pounded

Penn State gains respect of nation in rout over Tennessee

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Today, mostly sunny and chilly, high 25. Tonight, mostly clear and very cold, low 10. Tomorrow, becoming mostly cloudy with some light snow, high 32.



— by Adam Canter

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PSU among few in Big Ten without fee

By KATHRYN BRAZEL
Collegian Staff Writer

While University student organizations are researching the possibility of implementing a student activities fee, most other Big Ten schools already have one in place.

Of the 11 schools in the Big Ten, only three, including Penn State, do not have a student activities fee or something similar. These fees pay for different services at different schools but usually fund student governments, clubs and services.

But Penn State has to be careful when

looking at other schools' use of a student activities fee, said Paul Kasper, Student Organization Budget Committee chairman.

"Every school's activity fee covers different things," he said. "It's like comparing apples and oranges."

Penn State student organizations are considering implementing an activities fee to be distributed among different student organizations. SOBC is responsible for distributing the \$400,000 currently allocated by the University.

If the fee is implemented, it could bring in an additional \$2.2 million. Sneha Vira-

tia, Undergraduate Student Government Big Ten relations director, said she is researching the use of a student activity fee at other schools and trying to gather information.

Tony Wagner, president of the University of Minnesota Student Association, said Minnesota charges a \$138 fee three times a year, but the money is not distributed only among student organizations.

Minnesota Health Services receives \$60 of the \$138 and recreational sports assumes another \$15, Wagner said. This leaves \$63 to be distributed among stu-

dent organizations, cultural centers, student unions and a course information book that describes general education classes.

The student government at Minnesota receives about \$100,000 a year, Wagner said. Penn State's USG receives only about \$15,000.

Michigan State University's student government taxes students \$20 a year and uses the money for student organizations. The student government can provide students with free legal counseling in any type of case, said Paul Zelensky, Michigan State's assistant director of student activities.

Purdue University's student government receives a subsidy of \$30,000 from the administration and earns thousands more from fund-raisers. Students also pay a \$28 activities fee for recreational sports and facilities, said Purdue's student body President Angela Hale.

Ohio State and the University of Iowa currently have no specified fee but are researching the possibility, said Ohio State USG President Chris Norman.

Penn State's Executive Student Action Council, headed by Kasper, has formed a student activities fee committee — of

Please see FEE, Page 12.

Weather dampens ceremony

By DEEPIKA REDDY
Collegian Staff Writer

The individuals who braved the icy roads to sit in Rec Hall Saturday looked as much like a bunch of kids graduating from high school as a group of young adults getting ready to face the rest of their lives.

As these students became part of the more than 400,000 University alumni, there were a noticeable number of students missing, many due to the adverse weather conditions.

"We almost didn't make it in time," said Muriel Olivier of Normandy, France, who journeyed 35 hours to see her son Mathias graduate. After a five-hour delay at the airport in Philadelphia, Olivier and her daughter barely arrived in State College in time for her son's 4 p.m. chemical engineering graduation.

David Laird, who traveled from Erie to see his son John become a civil engineering graduate, said those who weathered the storm to make it to the ceremony reflected the extent of achievement earned by four years at the University.

The three ceremonies took place in full amid the weather-heightened coughing, sneezing and throat clearing of the crowds.

During the speeches there was the occasional individual listening intently to the advice of the various speakers. But mostly, there were the groups of friends whispering and laughing among themselves.

"Some of you may feel like experts at starting things, school, friendships... you may feel you've had enough of the forced spoon-feeding," said Forrest J. Remick, commissioner of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, in his address to graduating students from the Colleges of Engineering and Health and Human Development and the School of Communications.

Louise Stubing, a graduate of hotel, restaurant and institutional management, said although the event was reminiscent of a high school graduation, the underlying feelings were quite different.

"You're not just going off to school again, you're starting the rest of your life," said Stubing.



Carrie Jae Sieber, the College of Earth And Mineral Sciences marshal, participates in graduation ceremonies. Sieber received her degree in meteorology Saturday morning in Rec Hall.

Organizations pay big bucks backing political nominees

In 1991-92, \$8.4 million was spent by the National Education Association, the National Council of Senior Citizens and dozens of other groups to pitch candidates to their members.

By MICHAEL BLOOD
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Since 1986, the political wing of the National Rifle Association has given Sen. Arlen Specter's campaign committee nearly \$10,000 and spent another \$120,000 on its own accord to get him elected.

But the NRA could do more. And it did.

Taking advantage of a sometimes-overlooked aspect of campaign law, the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action shelled out an additional \$204,000 during that time writing letters to its members on behalf of the three-term Pennsylvania Republican.

In 1992 alone, when Specter narrowly won a third term over Democrat Lynn Yeakel, the NRA spent \$166,000 on mailings urging its members to back his candidacy — by far the most it spent for any congressional candidate that year, federal documents show.

The expenditures are permitted under the federal election code as "internal communications," and unlike donations to a candidate's political committee there are no spending limits. The NRA and similar organizations can pay for such things as letters, telephone calls or telegrams that endorse or oppose candidates, providing they are targeted solely within its membership.

During campaigns, attention generally focuses on cash contributions made directly to candidates by individuals and political action committees. Yet in some

cases, organizations spend big dollars to make sure their own members know who should be elected to the House, Senate and White House.

Nationwide in 1991-92, \$8.4 million was spent by the National Education Association, the National Council of Senior Citizens and dozens of other groups to pitch candidates to their members, Federal Election Commission records show.

In Pennsylvania, more than \$670,000 was spent on such efforts for congressional candidates in those years, an amount second only to California.

The NRA, one of the most active groups when it comes to partisan letter writing, spent \$2.8 million on political mailings to its members in 1991-92.

"We intend to do quite a bit more of that the next time around," said NRA spokesman Joseph M. Phillips. It's "more effective than PAC contributions."

The NRA isn't the only group flooding the mailboxes around Election Day.

Sen. Harris Wofford, D-Pa., received more than \$450,000 in direct donations in 1991-92 from PACs representing unions.

But, as in Specter's case, the money didn't stop there.

FEC documents show that labor dumped another \$255,000 into his 1991 race in "communications" with union members.

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO spent \$54,000 on flyers, brochures and direct mail supporting Wofford; \$20,000 on Wofford campaign buttons; \$24,000 on videotapes; and \$1,700 on Wofford T-shirts. The PAC representing the national AFL-CIO spent \$155,000 sending pro-Wofford letters.

The communications costs are "another way of showing their support for the candidate, and from their point of view getting the candidate elected," said Joshua Goldstein of the Center for Responsive Politics, a group that monitors campaign financing.

Slush and stinging storms start Spring Semester

By TODD GERNERT
Collegian Science Writer

An icy wind blows through the quads stirring up powdery snow and settling it back into waist-high drifts. Icicles sparkle in the harsh January sun as they dangle from the rooftops. Piles of dark slush line the streets as cars spin their wheels seeking traction.

This is the Happy Valley students returned to — or tried to return to — for the beginning of Spring Semester.

As the Northeast was racked by two powerful storms, dumping a total of 14 1/2 inches of snow on State College, meteorologists had little time to hibernate.

"It's certainly been a crazy week," said Jonathan Merritt, an instructor of meteorology and coordinator of the Penn State Weather Station in Walker Building.

The first of the storms — billed by some forecasters as the "Bliz-

zard of '94" — was a nor'easter that blew through on Tuesday, blanketing the area under a foot of snow.

Ken Reeves, a senior meteorologist with Accu-Weather, 619 W. College Ave., described a nor'easter as a storm front that moves along the East Coast in a

northeasterly direction.

Central Pennsylvania wasn't hit as hard as during the "Blizzard of '93," but this week's measurements for Centre County did range between 12 and 15 inches.

And as if this wasn't enough of a winter wonderland for everyone to dig out, a second storm, this time

an Arctic blast sweeping in from the West, drizzled through the Northeast.

The second storm consisted of little more than 2 1/2 inches of snow mixed in with freezing rain and sleet, but the results were devastating. "Pennsylvania is getting

Please see SNOW, Page 12.

Heavy snowfall curbs borough parking

By TIMOTHY DAUGHERTY
Collegian Staff Writer

When traveling on snow-covered roads, an open parking spot is a welcome asylum. But finding that parking spot in State College may not be easy.

According to a State College Borough ordinance, it is illegal for someone to park a vehicle or to allow a vehicle to remain parked on the paved portion of a street when snowfall reaches a depth of 3 inches.

But there is no penalty for a first violation and notification is sent in the mail. Each subsequent violation warrants a fine between \$2 and \$10 and the cost of prosecution, or a maximum of five days imprisonment.

After the accumulated snow has been cleared, it is legal to park in those areas, according to the ordinance.

Lee Lowry, director of public works for State College, said his crews begin plowing when the snow level reaches a height of 2 1/2 inches and the snowfall persists.

After it stops snowing, Lowry said it takes his crews about eight to 10 hours to dig out all of those areas.

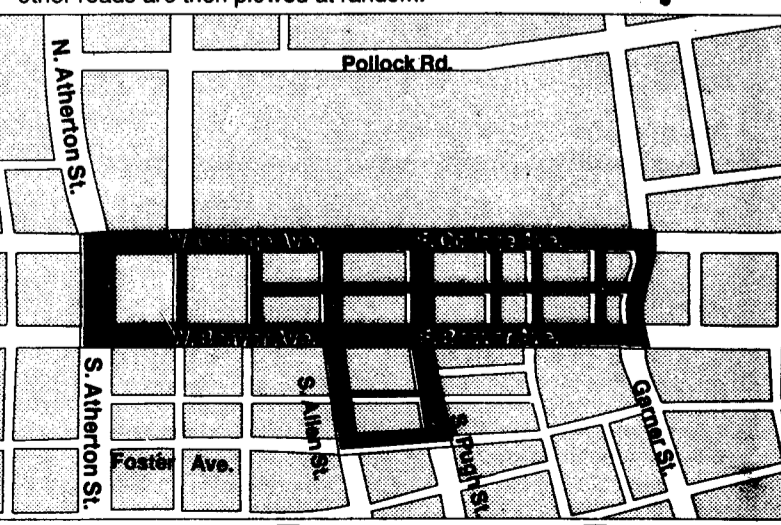
Although Lowry heads the plowing of parking lots downtown, Tom Harmon, University Police Services director, monitors the snow plowing on campus.

"Luckily, the cleanup has been helped greatly by

Please see PARKING, Page 12.

Plowing priority

These areas of downtown State College are the first to be plowed. All other roads are then plowed at random.



■ Plowed first ■ Plowed second ■ Plowed third
If your street has not been cleared and you have any problems or questions, call Lee Lowry, director of public works for the State College Borough, at 234-7140.

Source: State College Borough Department of Public Works

Collegian Graphic/Vernon Taylor