

## Making strides

Black people are congregating in D.C. for the Million Man March

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Penn State breaks its losing streak despite five fumbles

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October has returned. Today, capricious, variably cloudy skies, breezy and cool, high 52. Tonight, clear and cold, low 31. Tomorrow, mostly sunny and a bit warmer, high 57.



— by Paul Markowski

# the daily Collegian

30°

## Merchant wins over audience

By JAKE STUIVER  
Collegian Arts Writer

Natalie Merchant let her hair down Saturday night in Eisenhower Auditorium. Literally.

In a performance provided by the University Concert Committee, the rising pop star played almost two hours of excellent music and left the audience with a full and thorough concert experience.

"I thought it was an excellent show. I thought her material live was so much better than the album itself," said Clint Rozelle (junior-art). "The album doesn't justify her as an artist. The concert definitely showed what she's capable of."

Merchant began by having her band start the intro to "San Andreas Fault," which opens her debut album, *Tigerlily*, with the curtain still down. She danced behind the curtain in front of a little spotlight, creating silhouette images of a sultry shadow-dancer. As the curtain raised, she began the vocal entry to the song, her signature wordless voice-notes that sound as if she is calibrating pitch in preparation for an onslaught.

By the end of the tune, her controlled harmony had succumbed to a vehement, emotional howl. Her deep, commanding voice brought more life to the music than is evident on her album. Any audience predispositions that the reserved, docile nature of her studio work signified the extent of her talent were immediately shattered.

But despite a powerful and absorbing entrance, Merchant didn't completely let loose for the first half-hour. It was still questionable whether her constrained, impersonable demeanor was on account of pomposity or simply out of anxious humility.

But once she got through her renditions of the first five songs from *Tigerlily*, as well as a strong version of "Eat For Two," originally by Merchant's old band, Please see CONCERT, Page 12.



Collegian Photo/David S. Spence

Natalie Merchant performs at Eisenhower Auditorium. The former member of 10,000 Maniacs weaved a few of their songs, as well the work of Beck and The Rolling Stones, into her two-hour concert Saturday.

## Many can only send support to D.C. march

By JENNIFER REITZ  
Collegian Staff Writer

When the van departed from State College hours before dawn broke over Happy Valley this morning, most black students stayed behind.

Many wanted to go, but as college life usually dictates, tests and classes took precedent. Although those students could not board the van to Washington, D.C., to participate in the Million Man March with their peers, their support spans the miles.

Adjua Adama, Black Caucus political services chair, said he expects between 150 and 200 participants from the University and one million participants from across the country to be in Washington today.

"I think it will be very successful," he said. "If we don't reach one million, we will be very close."

The Million Man March originated from the preachings of Minister Louis Farrakhan in an effort to bring one million black men to the streets of Washington. The march is intended to show America that black men can and will join together in a positive way and, in doing so, advance in society.

The march was also designed to take the burden of advancement off of black women, who have been shouldering the load for too many years, said Adama, who held a meeting in early September to recruit marchers. In addition to the statement that will be made by the men today, there will be a drive to register black voters.

Omore Jean-Baptise (sophomore-electrical engineering) said he thinks today is an important step for black men.

"It's black men taking responsibility for themselves and their community," he said. "I think that's

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— Omoro Jean-Baptise  
sophomore-electrical engineering

an important idea to support."

Organizers said women cannot participate in the march because the purpose is to show women appreciation for their historical legacy of courage and strength. Farrakhan said it is time for black men to take their place next to black women.

But Adama said that women will be involved throughout the day in some capacity. Civil rights legacy Rosa Parks will be speaking, as well as other prominent black women. Adama said he knows several black women from the University have gone to Washington to support the march.

Although many are unable to join in the event, the spirit of the Million Man March will be felt back home.

Farrakhan asked all black Americans to stay home from work and school today and only patronize black-owned businesses, so the absence of black contribution can be felt across the nation.

But for some students, that request is not feasible. Shannon Bailey, president of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, 203B HUB, said he has a test today and cannot miss it.

Abstaining from institutionalized academia all day would be impossible for many, Bailey explained.

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Collegian Photo/Caroline Root

Members of Delta Gamma Sorority, 10 Shulze, perform a song from South Pacific during Greek Sing yesterday afternoon in Eisenhower Auditorium.

## Greeks sing songs from yesteryear

By KAREN PERRY  
Collegian Staff Writer

Songs from days gone by filled the air of Eisenhower Auditorium yesterday as sorority and fraternity members joined together for Greek Sing 1995. For the first time in a few years, all of the Panhellenic sororities participated in the event. Overall attendance decreased.

Greek Sing, the annual philanthropy sponsored by the Panhellenic Council, is a competition in which each sorority asks a fraternity to join them in performing a musical number.

The theme this year, "Bye, Bye Broadway," featured musicals from the pre-'60s era, said Janet Gaynor, Greek Sing overall public relations chairwoman. The sororities and fraternities performed musical numbers from shows such as *South Pacific*, *Peter Pan*, *My Fair Lady*, *The Sound of Music* and *Annie Get Your Gun*.

The proceeds from the ticket sales go

toward the Gayle Beyers scholarship, which honors outstanding Greek women. Two \$750 scholarships are awarded each year to women who excel in scholarship and community and Panhellenic involvement.

The 1995 scholarship recipients are Shelley Vickers from Kappa Delta Sorority, 101 South Cross, and Christine Madden from Sigma Kappa sorority, 2 Stone.

Sorority participation in the philanthropy increased this year. All 21 sororities participated in Greek Sing '95, an improvement from previous years, Gaynor said.

"We usually have about 18 or 19 sororities. In past years, we haven't had full participation from all 21 sororities," Gaynor said. "This is the highest participation we've had in a few years."

Despite the increased participation of the competitors, the attendance at the event decreased from last year. This year, 2,271 tickets were distributed, but only 959

people attended the event, said Beth Lechner, Greek Sing house manager at Eisenhower Auditorium. This number does not include performers and stage workers who did purchase tickets. Last year, about 1,700 people attended.

Although attendance was low, coordinators of the event thought it went well.

Nancy Cho, Greek Sing overall chairwoman, thought the event went very well and was pleased with the attendance.

Winners of the competition this year were:

■ **First place:** *Annie Get Your Gun*, Pi Beta Phi sorority, 5 Hiester Hall, and Delta Tau Delta fraternity, 429 E. Hamilton Ave.

■ **Second place:** *Finian's Rainbow*, Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority, 101 South Cooper, and Delta Sigma Phi, 508 Locust Lane.

■ **Third place:** *The Most Happy Fella*, Gamma Phi Beta sorority, 108 South Haller, and Kappa Alpha Order, 329 E. Prospect Ave.

## Small businesses struggle to compete with chains

Editor's note: This is the first in a five-part series about big business in State College. This story focuses on how small businesses have been affected by national chains.

By THOMAS A. MURSE  
Collegian Staff Writer

In the building that used to be home to Dank's Department Store, 148 S. Allen St., there is nothing. The floor is bare, the walls are empty — it's just another casualty of big business — big fish devouring little fish.

As large chain stores, such as Wal-Mart, Bi-Lo and T.J. Maxx, move into the State College area, the quaint, unique little shops of State College — stores such as Dank's, Candy Cane and Gypsy Horse — are being squeezed out.



Scott Welham, president of Dank's Department Stores — which went out of business in May — said that as long as big businesses continue to move into areas where population is not increasing significantly, other businesses will suffer in every case.

Dank's, which has been owned by the Welham family for 72 years, could not compete with the larger stores for a number of reasons, he said. And, contrary to popular

belief, the pricing strategies of large chain stores were not a major factor.

It is the variety and convenience, Welham said, that drives people away from small stores. Instead of driving to several different specialty stores, consumers can get almost everything they need from a large store such as Wal-Mart.

"People just don't have the time," he said. "That's the problem."

Another problem, he said, is that consumers look past quality tradition for a couple of extra cents.

"That's as far as they see," Welham said. "A lot of these smaller stores, the owners lived here, the money stayed here. Wal-Mart keeps their money for less than 24 hours and then it's sent down to Arkansas."

Despite the fact that several

other small downtown businesses have closed their doors, Welham has hope for downtown State College.

"It's a tremendously unique place," he said. The businesses that will survive in downtown State College, he said, are the ones that offer unique items, ones that cannot be bought at a large chain store for a few cents less.

"There isn't a future for small department stores," Welham said. "Our problem was that we were too small to be big and too big to be small."

"But things change." Bob Price, executive director of Downtown State College Inc., said anytime large businesses move into a town, there will be a large impact. It is, he said, how people

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## Bye-Bye Business

These businesses closed in 1995.

Bravo Off-Price Clothing  
Closed in April

The Gypsy Horse  
Closed in May

Fairdeh Lingerie et Parfum  
Closed in May

Ethel Meserve  
Closed in June

Lunar Pizza  
Closed in April

In 1994, these also went out of business.

The Artisan Connection

Carriage House

Crabtree Jewelers

Danie's Exotic Pets

Source: Collegian Library

G.F. Murphy Co.

Hardee's Restaurant

The Lodge at Harvard Square

Roy Rogers Restaurant

Surf Club Bar & Grill

Collegian Graphic/Matthew Zitel