

Protection law debated

Gay rights may be in jeopardy if states follow Colorado's lead

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Lady spikers take out some ACC competition

— Page 10

Today, a less bountiful amount of sunshine, high 65. Tonight, mostly cloudy, low 44. Tomorrow, partly cloudy, high 68.



— by Paul Markowski

the daily Collegian

30°

Million Man March leaves mixed feelings

Students react to march attendance discrepancy

By JENNIFER REITZ
Collegian Staff Writer

Numbers never lie, but some who attended the Million Man March in Washington, D.C., said the people who count might.

"How can the media tell a lie when there are so many people witnessing it?" said Marvin Smith, president of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity.

The march, which intended to bring one million black men to the capital Monday afternoon, is the center of a statistical controversy. During the march Monday, figures flew. Newscasters and speakers threw around numbers throughout

the day, the highest coming from Minister Louis Farrakhan, who estimated a crowd of two million.

Adjuha Adama, who attended the speech, said at 10 a.m. the crowd was told one million people were at the march. When people kept coming, it led Farrakhan to believe the number had swelled to two million, he added.

"I knew the park service was going to underestimate," said Adama. Black Caucus political service chair, referring to the organization that estimates the official head count through aerial photographs.

But when newspapers across the country reported about 400,000

people attended the event, Adama said he was shocked and the figure was a gross underestimate.

"There was mad discontent over the 400,000 figure," Adama said.

Adama said he estimated a crowd of between 800,000 and 900,000, if not one million.

James Stewart, vice provost for educational equity, said he attended marches with crowds estimated at 400,000. Stewart, who marched Monday, said the Million Man crowd well exceeded anything he has seen before.

"My estimate is on the order of 700 to 800 thousand," Stewart said.

But Laurie Roig from the National Parks Service said the estimate



is at most 20 percent too small. Roig, of the service's chief information command post, said the service has a fairly accurate method of estimating crowd size.

She said the service is frequently accused of underestimating.

"What happens a lot of time is Please see MARCH, Page 9.

Attendees leave march inspired

By CONNIE CASS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Black men energized by the huge rally in the nation's capital began spreading the spirit yesterday, making plans to clean up inner-city neighborhoods back home, register voters and simply help each other survive.

As Washington, D.C., got back to normal, meanwhile, both black and white members of Congress urged President Clinton to create a commission to study America's racial divisions.

After the long day of prayer, songs and speeches on Monday,

many men traveled all night by bus, car or train to return home in time to go to work yesterday, tired but still inspired by the brotherhood that they felt on the National Mall. Others who only saw the event on TV said they too were uplifted.

"I hope it reverberates around the country in energizing people right where they are," Joseph E. Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, told ABC-TV.

Some men said they already are volunteers in their communities but left Washington, D.C., determined to take on more responsibilities.

Minority students harassed

By AMY BROSEY
and THOMAS A. MURSE
Collegian Staff Writers

When Sandra Choute returned to her room on the fourth floor of Ewing Hall in the early morning of Saturday, Oct. 7, everything seemed, and was, normal.

Before laying down to sleep, she walked down the hall to the bathroom, taking no longer than five minutes. When she returned something was different — someone had drawn a swastika on her message board that was hanging on her door.

Now, more than one week after she found the drawing, Choute (sophomore-premedicine), who is black, has taken down the message board, but is keeping the message in tact.

"I kept it as a constant reminder that I'm here to get my education and nothing else," she said. "Some people don't want me here, but you know what? I'm gonna stay."

University Police Services said six other fourth floor Ewing residents — some of whom are minorities — also reported finding swastikas and "KKK" written on their message boards at the same time Choute did. Also, police said, several gay bashing posters were taken from message boards on the fourth floor.

"It's ridiculous," said Saulo Santiago, director of the Undergraduate Student Government's Diversity Outreach Program, "that we have to live in this kind of environment — ridiculous that human beings have to act that way."

Both the main office and South Halls office of University Residence Life refused to comment on the matter.

Santiago, who labeled the incident an "act of violence," said the perpetrators planned to be hurtful, to cause discomfort among minorities, to create terror and to instill pain in the minority community.

"This isn't pranks," Santiago said. "If it is, it's not funny at all. Please see SWASTIKA, Page 9.



Collegian Photo/Emily L. Forwood

Painting pleasures

Regina Tancini (senior-art) finishes her oil painting, which is due today, in front of Palmer Museum of Art. She was painting for her Art 250 class, Beginning Oil Painting.

USG Senate in transition

By BETH YOUNG
Collegian Staff Writer

The Undergraduate Student Government Senate suffered both gains and losses at its meeting last night as four new senators took office and one resigned.

Town Senators Matt Brinkman, Coni Zingarelli and Corey Gesford and South Halls Senator Kendra Ciesla attended their first senate meeting last night after being approved by the USG Town Caucus earlier this week.

Some of the senators expressed a positive outlook concerning the new positions.

As a town senator, Gesford said he has an opportunity to work with important student issues, such as the problems of absentee landlords and the University's corporate sponsorship.

Gesford said he is optimistic about his ability to make an impact on the issues he plans to work on.

"I'm not afraid to get my hands dirty," he said.

Zingarelli also said she is confident about her new position as a town senator and is planning to work on problems, such as the computer labs and state funding for higher education. Zingarelli has not been a part of USG before and sees the senate seat as a way to bring new ideas to the organization.

"I think it's an opportunity for people with fresh ideas, who are new to the position," she said.

Although Zingarelli and others are entering the senate with optimism, former town Senator Steve Wakefield expressed his frustration with the organization, prompting his resignation at last night's meeting.

Wakefield said he was tired of last minute work on important issues and poor relations between the senators.

"Why should I waste six months of my time — six months of senate's time — for work that will just be thrown out," Wakefield said. "I'm tired of fighting for things. I just can't give anymore."

"I think it's an opportunity for people with fresh ideas, who are new to the position."

— Coni Zingarelli
new USG senator

With Wakefield's resignation, three seats remain open on the senate. The seats were vacated earlier this semester. Senate is currently accepting applications for the positions. Candidates must go through an open application and interview process. The positions are open to all students.

The four senators are not the only new change within USG.

The Town Caucus was formed just last week to fill the void left after the Organization for Town Independent Students merged with USG in Spring 1995, said Senate Appointments and Review Board Chairman Mark Sosnowsky.

"With OTIS gone, there's a vacuum in how we appoint (the senators)," he said.

OTIS was a resource for students living off campus that provided information on landlord/tenant rights and downtown living options. OTIS also made the final approval for the town senators that needed to be appointed mid-term, Sosnowsky said.

With the recent senate resignations, it was necessary for the senate to appoint new senators, three of which were town positions. Because OTIS no longer exists, the senate formed the Town Caucus to take over the appointment process, said town Senator Joshua Pechter.

But the responsibilities of the Town Caucus will not end with the appointment of new senators.

Town Caucus is a way to effectively organize the town senators and will provide manpower for the USG Governmental Relations Committee and the USG Department of Town Affairs, Sosnowsky said.

State College affects rest of Centre Region economic growth

Editor's note: This is the third in a five-part series on big business in State College. This article focuses on State College as a regional center of business growth.

By RACHEL HOGAN
Collegian Staff Writer

State College's retailers, resting their storefronts at the foot of Penn State's campus, are in prime economic position to catch the spill-off of University dollars.

But towns outside the Centre Region do not have that luxury, and they are forced to find another way to stay alive.

In Bellefonte, a bedroom community of the University, the game is



survival, said Walter Peterson, borough manager.

"For Bellefonte, it's like surviving. We can't quite turn the corner to become healthy," he said. "We're not sliding down the doomsday tunnel, either."

That tunnel is always in sight, though, and the marketplace in Bellefonte has, out of necessity, shifted to one of local service.

Still, Bellefonte's store owners feel the presence of State College's malls and Wal-Marts, and have no way to compete.

"They're putting pressure on our retail and commercial business just like they are on the other townships," Peterson said. "The people who would compete with the malls and Wal-Marts are long since gone."

As towns surrounding Centre County are working to keep afloat, the exact reasons behind the continuing growth of State College elude some, including Michael Berkman, assistant professor of political science.

"It is somewhat of a mystery, isn't it?" he said. "Clearly (State

College) is becoming more of a tourist destination."

Berkman, searching for the reasons behind the area's growth, points to cultural and environmental amenities, and the access to "high-tech" development through the University.

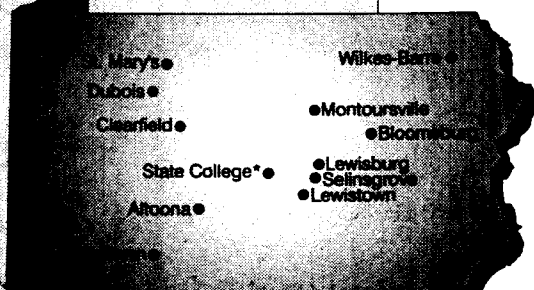
"We have this big weather industry that's built directly off the University. We have Accu-Weather, the National Weather Service," he said. The University's military research is also a catalyst for growth, he said.

State College is footing the bill of all this growth, though, Berkman said, noting that the surrounding townships are the ones that are

Where's Wal-Mart?

As Central Pennsylvania continues to grow, Wal-Marts are popping up all over. The following illustrates some of the locations in the state.

*State College has two Wal-Mart locations.



Source: Melissa Frisk, Wal-Mart representative

Collegian Graphic/Alicia Ma

Please see BUSINESS, Page 9.