

## Heel of a break

Men's lacrosse splits two spring break games, losing to UNC but besting Villanova

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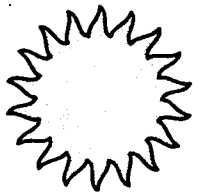
Minority athletes deal with issues such as relationships and housing

— Page 4



Wait a week for whiffle ball. Today, sunny and splendid, high 42. Tonight, clear and chilly, low 18. Tomorrow, not quite as bright, but still dry, high 46.

— by Paul Markowski



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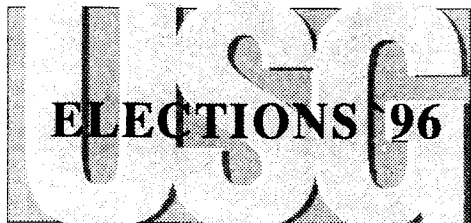
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## Candidates announced in USG elections

By JULIE M. RANDALL  
Collegian Staff Writer

Five tickets declared their intent to run for Undergraduate Student Government president and vice president in the 1996 USG elections yesterday, the first official day of campaigning for the March 27 elections.

Yesterday was the registration deadline for candidates who wanted to have their names on the ballot on election day. Candidates had to submit an application and a letter of intent along with signed petitions to the USG Election Commission by 7 p.m. Candidates were also required to partic-



ipate in an information session with elections commissioners. The commissioners explained campaign guidelines, emphasizing that candidates and anyone working on their campaign will be held to the USG Elections Code.

While most letters of intent expressed the candidates desire to improve the way USG runs internally, candidates said they will be focusing on other issues that concern students.

The candidates listed below are running for the offices of USG president and vice president.

Jack Dunn (junior-economics) and David Beemer (junior-international relations) said improving communication between USG and students is one of their main concerns. Dunn said this objective could be attained if USG was accessible through the World Wide Web.

"It seems a lot of people feel they don't

Josh Pechter announces intent to run for USG president

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have access to student government," Beemer said. "We want to bring that to them."

Dunn, who is not currently involved with USG, said his experience in his high school government will be helpful. He added that their platform will focus on activity fee

implementation and improving computer labs as well.

Sharon Entenberg (junior-public relations) and Ed Kilpela (senior-chemical engineering and philosophy) said the issues their platform addresses are linked by a common theme.

"The theme of the issues is to make students madder at the University," Entenberg said.

Some of the issues their platform focuses on are keeping the HUB open to students 24 hours a day and improving adviser-student relations.

Entenberg and Kilpela said results can Please see USG, Page 9.

## Athletes create own minority

Editor's note: The following is the seventh segment of a weekly, semester-long series focusing on diversity issues in the University community. The stories this week are about athletes.

By ERIN WRIGHT  
Collegian Sports Writer

At Penn State, the word "athlete" has a connotation much different from that of a normal student. They are seen, they are heard, they are known. Joe College Student is a typical student — Wally Richardson is something more.

And some people aren't happy.

Particularly, the minority community is divided as far as the minority athletes are concerned. They have the task of trying to fit into two different worlds — being athletes, which puts them in a different orbit, and being minorities, which puts them in a completely different solar system.

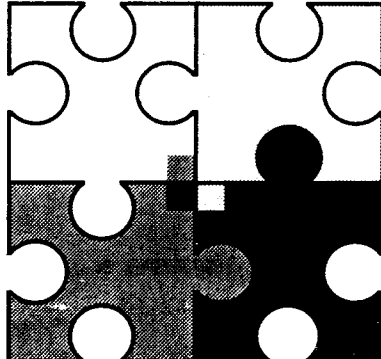
Many believe that the black and Hispanic athletes willingly separate themselves from their "own kind." Opinions range from anger at these players to awe.

Stereotypes have been passed down word-to-mouth since the beginnings of college athletic programs. The question is how they have been passed, why it is such a source of dissension and, most importantly, where is the validity? Is there a difference between being a white athlete as opposed to a black one? Do white athletes try to mix in with the campus community while minority athletes separate themselves?

### Time Won't Give Me Time. . .

To maintain an athletic scholarship, an athlete must carry a course load of at least 15 credits while training and/or playing year-

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## RDIVISION

round and squeezing in time for studying and relaxing. By the time all this has passed, 24 hours has come and gone.

Nittany Lion outside linebacker Aaron Collins has a full course load, a grueling practice schedule, a girlfriend and membership in the United Soul Ensemble and Athletes in Action. By the time his day is done, he barely has time to sleep.

"I hear about parties and I try to go to some, but it's unreal to expect me to be able to do a lot of things. I may not go to 100 percent (of the activities). I don't know how it would be if they possible for me to do so.

"There isn't a lot of time. It's hard to catch me a lot of times, the only people who know my schedule are my girlfriend and a couple of my friends. I don't think (people) understand how pressed for time athletes are."

Minority athletes in particular are under the gun for the fact that in the minority community, warmth and geniality is appreciated. As one student points out, it is an unspoken rule that minorities give each other a greeting, even don't know one another. If the minority athletes don't follow this "rule," then they're being arrogant. Please see Page 4.



Collegian Photo/Natalie DiPietro

### Didja do the didgeridoo?

Kirk Weaver, 23, of State College plays the didgeridoo while walking through the Henderson parking lot this afternoon. The didgeridoo is an ancient aboriginal instrument.

## Youth charged in assault

Whether the boy will be tried as an adult or juvenile is still undecided.

By ANNE SAVANICK  
Collegian Staff Writer

The 17-year-old Altoona-area boy charged with the attempted murder of Laura Schneider remains in the Centre County Juvenile Detention Center after a judge ruled that the case has sufficient evidence to continue legal proceedings.

Probable cause was established on charges of criminal attempt homicide, aggravated assault, criminal conspiracy, burglary, criminal trespass, theft, receiving stolen property and simple assault, Centre County Judge David E. Grine said yesterday.

The teen is two months away from his 18th birthday and is still considered a juvenile. Unless a continuance is granted, in 10 days the teen will have either a delinquency hearing or a certification hearing to determine if he will be tried as an adult, Grine said.

In juvenile court, a delinquency hearing is the equivalent of a trial. However, juvenile defendants cannot be found guilty or innocent, but instead are found delinquent or not delinquent, Grine said.

Schneider, 54, suffered severe injuries to the face and head as a result of the February attack in her 22 Nittany View Circle home.

Schneider was listed in satisfactory condition yesterday at Geisinger Medical Center, said Diane Mensch, a secretary in the public affairs office.

Police believe the 17-year-old used a hammer he brought with him, Ferguson Township Police Investigator David Mulfinger said.

The result of yesterday's hearing was not a surprise to Mulfinger.

"I don't think there was any question that there was probable cause," Mulfinger said.

In addition, police involved in the case expect the teen to have a certification hearing.

"If anyone deserves to be tried as an adult, it's this kid. He was vicious, deliberately vicious," said Ferguson Township Police Chief Edward Connor.

Another suspect in the case has been identified, but an arrest has not been made, Connor said.

"We have an awful lot of paperwork. We're dotting all the i's and crossing all the t's. We're not going to lose this one on a technicality," Connor said.

Although Mulfinger said police believe the juvenile is the one who entered the home and assaulted Laura Schneider, he was not the only person involved.

In addition to the two known suspects, there might have been others in the car, Connor said, but said he would not comment any further.

They planned to rob a house in this area and they picked the Schneider house at random, a news release from the Ferguson Township police said.

Police received a tip, Mulfinger said. Items taken from the home were found in the teen's house on Mill Run Road in Logan Township.

## Ridge calls for gasoline tax hike to pay for road repairs

By JIM KINNEY  
Collegian Staff Writer

Pennsylvania motorists will be paying more at the pump if Gov. Tom Ridge has his way. In a speech before state legislators yesterday, the governor called for a 6 1/2 cent-per-gallon raise in the state gasoline tax.

Tim Reeves, the governor's spokesman, said the tax that would raise \$358 million is earmarked specifically for repairs on Pennsylvania's 4,000 miles of state-maintained roads.

"It is the closest thing this state has to a user fee," he said.

Reeves said damages caused by flooding contributed to the governor's decision, but that is not the only reason.

"The blizzard and the flood is what brought this thing to a head," he said. "At the same time, the governor is taking a look at long-term problems."

Kevin Abbey, executive director of the state Senate Transportation Committee — a committee chaired by state Sen. J. Doyle Corman, R-Centre — said the commonwealth's

road system was in poor shape before the flood but now desperately needs the infusion of tax dollars.

"The bad situation got worse after the blizzard and floods," he said. "It's a situation that we need to repair bridges before they fail and maintain the roads before they get worse."

Democrats charge that Republicans are using the flood damages as a way to make the tax increase palatable.

State Rep. Ruth Rudy, D-Centre, said the flooding is a ruse.

"They are using the flooding as a

way to get this thing passed, but the money will not go to that," she said.

Republicans campaign on a platform of lower taxes but have recently been raising taxes on the goods people buy, she said.

"This is the way they raise taxes," she said. "It's a built-in tax with everything you buy."

Rudy said there was \$2.2 billion in construction projects planned before the flooding, but now the Ridge administration wants to use the new tax income on those projects.

"The money must have been there when they slated it, so where is it?" she said.

Abbey said those projects were delayed because there was no money. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation could start those projects if the tax hike is enacted, he said.

"It was never money that existed," he said. "It was attached to several projects in a draft, statewide plan that PennDOT suggested be delayed, canceled or postponed."

Please see TAX, Page 9.

## The Who's symbolic musical 'Tommy' rocks, rolls into Eisenhower

By MARIE PATRICOLA  
Collegian Arts Writer

Most people expect to find religious symbols in churches and temples, but such icons can permeate other aspects of culture — including Broadway.

The Who's Tommy is being performed at 8 p.m. today and tomorrow at Eisenhower Auditorium and revolves around the story of

a deaf, dumb and blind child who becomes a pinball prodigy in a religious moment of epiphany.

Tommy, most noted for its story of religion and humanity's savior, attempts to tie in religion with rock n' roll, demonstrating the potential stardom of a pop icon along with the fall from fame.

The Who released their epic rock-opera in 1969 telling the story of a man miraculously

cured of his disabilities. Jim Stotts, a teacher from Galveston, Texas, and long-time fan of The Who, said Tommy's story can be paralleled to influential religious leaders such as Christ.

"My take on Tommy is that it has at best oblique parallels to Christ's life and experiences," Stotts said. "Tommy gains an uncanny ability to play pinball while still deaf, dumb and blind. Some people say that it was

a calculated choice to give Tommy a great contrast with sighted, hearing folks thus making his gift more miraculous."

Stotts also said Pete Townshend, guitarist and principle songwriter for The Who, was brought up under the Church of England and was influenced in the 1960s by Indian spiritualist Meher Baba.

Michael Selk, a high school English Please see TOMMY, Page 9.