

# State College gears up for another year of activity

**Town prepares for HUB shooting trial, demolition of fraternity house, diverter controversy and new library.**

By **DARREN ROBERTSON**  
Collegian Staff Writer

Just as University students are gearing up for another semester of classes, the State College Borough is gearing up for the students.

With all the excitement on the University campus a new school year brings, it is easy to overlook the events and issues on the "other side" of College Avenue.

Fall '97 will bring a number of events and changes to the State College area.

Certain to catch the attention of University students will be the trial of the alleged HUB lawn shooter, Jillian Robbins.

More than a year after the shoot-

ing, jury selection for Robbins's trial is expected to begin in October, said an official in the Centre County District Court Administrator's office.

Robbins has been charged with first- and third-degree murder, and multiple counts of attempted murder and aggravated assault.

Centre County District Attorney Ray Gricar said he will seek the death penalty.

Robbins now awaits her trial in Clinton County Prison.

Other issues, such as last spring's borough housing ordinance dispute, have subsided, said secretaries in the borough council and planning offices.

New zoning ordinances, passed last spring in the face of student protests, have taken effect.

The ordinances place restrictions on homeowners who wish to convert their properties to student housing.

In the wake of the housing dispute, few significant zoning

changes are expected in the coming months, said Rochelle Paletta, borough planner.

She said the planning commission is looking into some zoning problems in the Highlands neighborhood, which is the area between University Drive and South Atherton Street, from the downtown to Westerly Parkway.

However, these problems do not relate to student housing.

Some scenery changes will be evident in State College, especially downtown, during the next few months, Paletta said.

He said the recently vacated Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity house at 329 E. Beaver Ave. will soon be demolished, adding that developer A.W. & Sons plans to build an apartment complex on the property.

The new building will house 24 two-bedroom units, with retail storefronts on the first floor of the structure.

However, the developer has not

"We'll have most of the usual problems, alcohol-related and students learning how to be good neighbors again, I suppose."

— **Lt. Diane Conrad**  
State College Police Department

The library has outgrown the building at 100 E. Beaver Ave., which was built in 1924.

A study conducted recently by the library's planning commission suggested a new site at Foster and Allen Streets, one block from the library's current location, said Betsy Allen, library director.

Some municipalities in Centre County have expressed concern about the location, and want further assurance that the new library will serve their residents as well.

"I think we are a long way still from a new building," Allen said. "We are in the process, though."

Something else will be happening for the first time ever in State College this weekend when two historic houses are moved from their current locations on the 200 block of South Atherton Street by Habitat for Humanity.

The homes will be renovated for families with housing needs, Paletta said. The homes will be relocated.

Please see ACTIVITY, Page 30.



Collegian File Photo

**Jillian Robbins**  
accused HUB Lawn shooter

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9-30 **Helmet & The Melvins**

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**"We know for sure we wouldn't be where we are without our time spent at the Collegian."**

— **Michael Signora**, communications specialist at the National Football League, and **Brad Young**, editorial projects researcher at Sports Illustrated

## Want to be a Daily Collegian reporter?

Whether you aspire to work for the NFL, write for Sports Illustrated or simply gain some journalism experience, The Daily Collegian provides excellent opportunities. The Collegian invites any student interested in writing for the arts, campus, metro or sports staffs to try out. No previous experience is necessary. Attend one of the following tryout meetings, where you will be asked to write a short news story based on a set of facts. Bring a pencil and a blue exam book. The tryouts will last an hour and a half.

**6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2**  
**6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 3**  
**4-5:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4**  
**or 3-4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5**

**All tryouts will be at the Collegian office, 123 S. Burrowes St. (see map below)**

If you have questions about the tryouts, call News Adviser Kyle Heim at 865-1828. If you are interested in being a columnist or editorial cartoonist, watch for announcements on the Opinions page. If you are interested in applying for the photography or graphics staffs, watch for upcoming ads.



**Brad Young, left, and Michael Signora covered football and men's basketball at the Collegian. Now they both work in New York City — Brad at Sports Illustrated and Michael at the NFL.**

What's the best part of working for the Collegian? That's like trying to pick a favorite Rockette.

Is it the memories? Going to a New Year's Day Bowl Game in the Sunshine State to cap our season covering the Penn State football team. Interviewing Joe Paterno on a weekly basis. Sitting courtside at the NCAA men's basketball tournament.

Is it the opportunities? While still in college, we wrote daily about Division I sports programs that people in the business 20 years would die to cover. Each day at Sports Illustrated and the NFL, we apply Collegian-taught lessons in writing, organization and time management.

Or is it the people we met? At the Collegian, most of us had the same interests and aspirations, so it's no surprise that lasting friendships were formed through shared triumphs, laughs and gotta-make-deadline all-nighters.

What's the best part of working for the Collegian? Experience it all, then look back and decide for yourself.

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