

Safe passage

Crossing links Israel, Palestine under military protection

Page 4

Legend perishes

Airplane crash claims life of golf champion Payne Stewart

Page 10

Mostly sunny

Clear and cool tonight

58/40

Extended forecast: Page 2

the daily Collegian

30°

www.collegian.psu.edu

Vol. 100, No. 74 16 Pages ©1999 Collegian Inc.

Tuesday, Oct. 26, 1999

Published independently by students at Penn State

Report urges computer ownership

By CINDY KOONS
Collegian Staff Writer

The university has formed a team to implement an advisory committee report strongly recommending personal computers for incoming students.

The implementation plan strongly recommends that beginning Fall Semester 2000, full-time incoming students own a personal computer or have immediate access to one.

Todd Ellis, student member of the University Faculty Senate, said at its last meeting the Senate focused its discussion on the logistics of implementing the policy.

The opinions of individual Senate mem-

bers were also discussed at the meeting.

The Faculty Senate held a half-hour question-and-answer session during the last meeting, and forwarded the results to Penn State President Graham Spanier, Ellis said.

Spanier's approval made the creation of the implementation team possible, said John Harwood, implementation committee chair.

Although the recommendation suggests students bring their own computers, students will still have the option of using the computer labs.

The number of available computers in the labs will not change, but higher-level technology will be made available through them, he said.

Students would use their computers for baseline academic functions, and the labs for higher-level technology and specialized applications, Harwood said.

The committee recommends specific things that need to be addressed, including computer education and training for students and faculty, Harwood said.

The team has developed subcommittees, which will have interim reports about the specific parts of the report by mid-November, Harwood added.

"We are trying to be sure no important issue is neglected," Harwood said.

The team is working on developing a means of communicating the new policy to

faculty, students and parents, according to the advisory committee report.

Harwood said communication from deans of colleges and special mailings are examples of how information will be made available.

Academic Assembly President Lynn Hendrickson said the assembly passed a resolution at the end of last semester stating they didn't think computer ownership should be required.

However, the assembly supports the current process of implementation because it recommends computers should be made available to all students, and ownership is not required, Hendrickson said.

Fraternity links slurs to quarrel

By SARAH CASSI
Collegian Staff Writer

The altercation that occurred Saturday night between Phi Kappa Theta fraternity and Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity might not have been a simple rivalry between neighboring fraternities.

Scott Rubenstein, president of Sigma Alpha Mu, 338 E. Fairmount Ave., said brothers of Phi Kappa Theta, 329 E. Prospect Ave., allegedly said anti-Semitic comments to prospective members of Sigma Alpha Mu before the fight occurred.

Rubenstein said late Saturday night, some of Sigma Alpha Mu's prospective members were walking between Phi Kappa Theta and another fraternity house when members of Phi Kappa Theta confronted them.

According to Rubenstein, members of Phi Kappa Theta allegedly directed racial slurs toward the prospective members of Sigma Alpha Mu, who in turn asked for an apology.

A fight occurred shortly afterward, Rubenstein said.

"People were drunk. Someone threw a punch — I don't know who — and the fight started," Rubenstein said.

For Sigma Alpha Mu, which is 75 percent Jewish, the comments were highly offensive, even for non-Jewish members, Rubenstein said.

The State College Police Department was called to the scene and broke up the fight, making no arrests.

Police were not told of the alleged comments and the investigation is currently closed, said Lt. Diane Conrad State College police.

When asked why the incident was not reported to police, Rubenstein said it was because no arrests were made.

"No one was arrested; nobody got in trouble. The police came and broke up the fight and we each went back to our houses," Rubenstein said. "We were afraid the cops wouldn't understand."

Arboretum plans in works



Collegian Photo Corinne Coulter

Chad Osborn (senior-horticulture) tends to the geraniums in a greenhouse on campus. The planned arboretum will serve as a resource for various university departments, including biology, forestry and horticulture.

Nature facility to serve as university-wide resource

By TRACY WILSON
Collegian Staff Writer

The 395-acre arboretum envisioned in the University Park Campus Master Plan moved closer to reality last week with the naming of a director for the project.

Kim Steiner, professor of forest biology, will coordinate the activities of the arboretum, which will not be completed without at least a decade of work and millions of dollars in private donations.

Described as a "zoo for plants," the arboretum will serve as a

place for ecological demonstration and observation, said Larry Nielsen, director of the School of Forest Resources.

"It's a living place to learn about plants and natural ecosystems," Nielsen said.

In the same way a zoo is used to display animals, the arboretum will also display native and unusual plants, grasses, wild flowers and large trees.

Students and the community can use it for learning and research, he said.

Although the College of Agricultural Sciences is largely behind the planning efforts for

the project, the arboretum will be a university-wide resource for departments such as biology, landscape architecture, forestry and horticulture, Nielsen said.

"Literally dozens of classes across the university can find it useful for field labs," he said.

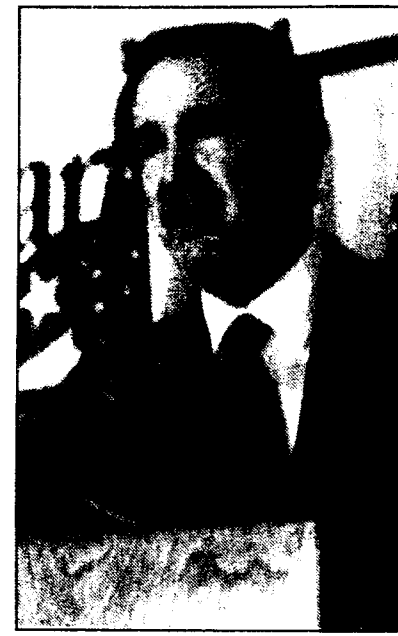
Everything from observing the growth patterns of trees to seeing how plants go together in landscaping can be studied, Nielsen added.

"Our programs will focus on natural resource stewardship, sustainable and compatible land use, and the restoration of degraded landscapes," Steiner

said in a Penn State press release. "The arboretum will be an institute for land health."

The land included in the arboretum lies between the university's farmland north of campus, the Overlook Heights Upland area and the tract of land on which the university president's residence is located, said Robert Steele, dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences.

A reception area, classrooms, meeting rooms, display gardens, an outdoor patio, a 150-seat auditorium and displays for arts performances will be part of the completed facility.



AP Photo Greg Gibson

Pat Buchanan

left GOP to join Reform Party

Party switch ignites bid race

By FRED CICHON
Collegian Staff Writer

The Reform Party may be growing too crowded after the addition of two presidential hopefuls placing bids for the party nomination.

Pat Buchanan's announcement to leave the Republican Party and seek the Reform Party's presidential nomination yesterday follows Donald Trump's declaration Sunday to join the Independence Party, the New York state chapter of the Reform Party.

Buchanan held a press conference in Falls Church, Va., to announce he is leaving the Republican Party.

"Today I am ending my lifelong membership in the Republican Party and ending my campaign for its nomination, and I am declaring my intention to seek nomination of the Reform Party for the presidency of the United States," Buchanan said, according to CNN.

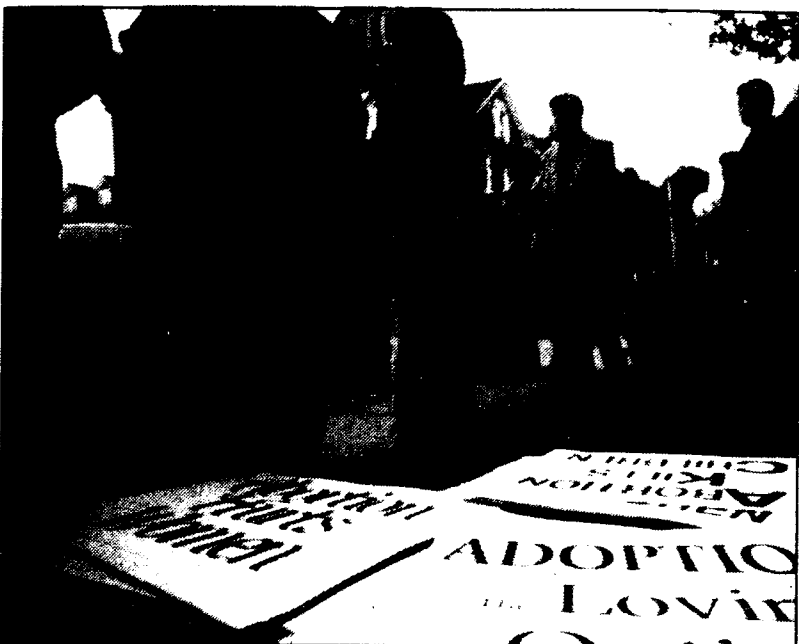
The announcements add excitement and complications to an already intricate presidential race.

"Either one will take more voters from the Republicans than the Democrats, despite whom the Republicans nominate," said Robert O'Connor, associate professor of political science.

Buchanan's move to the Reform Party will lead to a number of his Republican supporters following him to the Reform Party, said Allison Altman, vice president of the College Democrats.

"It helps the Democrats by splitting the Republican vote and giving

Please see PARTY, Page 2.



Collegian Photo: C. Mortensen

Anti-abortion signs line the sidewalk outside State College Medical Services, 477 E. Beaver Ave., where a demonstration took place earlier this month.

Santorum continues support of abortion ban

Local organizations and facilities have also joined the fight against partial-birth abortions in the hopes that the legislation will become law.

By ALLISON KESSLER
Collegian Staff Writer

The U.S. Senate voted 63 to 34 last week in favor of banning partial-birth abortions. By a small margin, the Senate was unable to gain the two-thirds vote it would need to override an anticipated veto from President Bill Clinton.

Sponsored by U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 1999 is the Senate's third attempt to pass legislation banning partial-birth abortions.

"Sen. Santorum is among a lot of Americans against barbaric procedure performed on healthy babies and healthy mothers," said Robert Traynham, Santorum's press secretary.

The legislation defines a partial-birth abortion as one in which a person "vaginally delivers some portion of an intact living fetus until the fetus is partially outside the body of the mother."

The mother's purpose in a partial-birth abortion is to kill the fetus while the fetus is partially outside her body, according to the legislation.

Santorum was deeply moved after he reviewed statistics about partial-birth abortions and made his movement to ban the procedure personal, Traynham said.

"Partial-birth abortion is not about politics. It is about infanticide," he said.

The late U.S. Sen. John Chafee voted against the ban in last week's Senate vote. Chafee died last night.

"Chafee was a supporter of a woman's right to choose and has consistently voted on a rejection of a ban," said Jeff Neal, Chafee's assistant press secretary.

"He consistently said he would reconsider if adequate provisions were made to protect the health of the woman," Neal said.

Centre County's Citizens Concerned for Human Life held a pro-life demonstration outside of the State College Medical Services, 477 E. Beaver Ave., in early October.

While the clinic does not perform the procedure, the group signed a petition against partial-birth abortions with the intention of sending it to Congress.

Maureen Karstetter, director of community relations and development for Centre Community Hospi-

tal, said the hospital also does not perform any partial-birth abortions.

"Any abortion done that far along in the pregnancy is gruesome," said Susan Rogacs, president of the group.

"It's the most nonsensical thing. Our problem is that abortion is legal," she said. "To call it (a partial-birth abortion) an abortion is a misnomer."

Although the Senate was short of the votes it would need to override a presidential veto, Santorum said he would continue to promote the bill until it becomes law.

"It is very unfortunate that two senators stood in the way of ending this barbaric procedure," Santorum said in the release.

"If the President vetoes this legislation, we will work to ensure that this bill becomes law in this Congress or the next," he said.