

## Officials forecast low voter turnout

By Lily Henning and Cindy Koons  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITERS

The Pennsylvania primary has finally arrived, far behind the decisive Super Tuesday elections March 7. However, today's primary still casts votes in national nominations and decides several significant state nominations.

Joyce McKinley, director of the Centre County Office of Elections, said she foresees a light turnout in tomorrow's election compared to previous state primaries.

While she does not expect a large number of student voters, she said registered students can cast their votes at the HUB Alumni Hall in one of the different elections boards. There are 19 voting stations available throughout State College, and students must vote in their assigned location, McKinley said. The race for the U.S. Democratic Senate nomination appears to be the most competitive in tomorrow's primary, McKinley said.

"That's the main race, I believe, this time," McKinley said.

Her office is responsible for preparing and conducting elections, said McKinley, adding attracting voters is the responsibility of the political parties and candidates.

Colleen Evans (senior-art education) is registered to vote in Centre County, but does not plan to go to the polls for tomorrow's state primary election.

The State College native has never voted

### Polling locations

- HUB-Robeson Cultural Center
- Grace Lutheran Church, South Garner Street and Beaver Avenue
- Wesley Foundation, 256 E. College Ave.
- Regency Square, 200 Highland Ave.
- Tau Kappa Epsilon, 346 E. Prospect Ave.
- Elementary School, 235 Corl St.
- Our Lady of Victory School, 800 Westerly Parkway
- State College Municipal Building, 118 S. Fraser St.

in a local election, but plans to cast a vote in November's general election.

As for the state primary, Evans is not enthusiastic about voting or the pool of candidates. "It would be nice to have a non-white male in office, but it doesn't make a huge difference to me," Evans said.

The lack of student interest in the local primaries is not unusual, said Sarah Johnson, president of College Democrats.

Johnson said young people are not aware of the power student voters have.

"I don't think it (student voting) will be as high as I, or active young people, would want it to be," Johnson said.

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Ellen Sue Spicer puts on a Pride Week Rally button while at a stand with her daughter, Basha Starr, yesterday in front of Old Main.

## Students participate in local campaigning

By Heather Cook  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Though the primaries aren't getting as much attention now that Bill Bradley and John McCain have left the presidential race, today's elections mark the culmination of weeks of work for students who have helped candidates with their campaigns.

For other students who are preparing for elections in the fall, the work is just beginning.

Jobs for students working on campaigns include stuffing envelopes, answering phones or making calls. For college students working away from a candidate's campaign office, the job might also include providing people with literature about the candidates as well as going door to door.

In the U.S. Senate primary, Marlene Gummo (senior-international politics) has been working on the campaign of state Sen. Allyson Schwartz (D-Philadelphia), while Christian Jones (senior-political science) is acting as campus liaison for the campaign of U.S. Representative Ron Klink (D-Westmoreland).

Schwartz and Klink are both vying for the Democratic seat in the race against incumbent Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.).



Dan Saalinger/Collegian

Adam Mihlfried (senior-computer science) campaigns outside the HUB yesterday afternoon to rally elections support.

"It's a fun and effective way to meet State College residents, to discuss the issues and to play an active role in the election of a candidate," Gummo said.

Jones, who has been working for the Klink campaign since August, has focused on informing people about Klink and hanging signs for him on campus.

"My favorite part of this campaign is just

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## Reclaiming the past Pride Week rally honors LGBT struggles

By Alissa Wisnouse  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Because rainbows are pretty. Because gay porn is better.

These made the top 10 list of reasons to be proud presented at yesterday's Pride Week Rally outside of Old Main, but the most popular reason seemed to be "because, damn it, we're here," to which the audience responded with a hearty shout of "we're queer!"

The annual rally was a kickoff for Pride Week, a time to celebrate, educate and entertain the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community at Penn State and their allies.

"As we speak, we're making a new history and herstory," presenter Alena Singleton (junior-journalism) said. "Hopefully, we'll have the right to marry soon. Vermont's looking real good."

This year's Pride Week theme is "Reclaiming the Past." Speaker Brandon Forsht (senior-biology), Lambda Student Alliance political co-director, spoke of the persecution of homosexuals during the Holocaust and the silence of closeted peo-

ple because of social pressures. "A lot of those people couldn't stand up here and be proud," he said. "Let's remember those who went before us."

"Reclaiming the Past" was also reflected by one of the T-shirts sold at the rally.

"There is a list of words (on the back of the shirts) that have historically and traditionally been used as expletives," said Heather Solimini (senior-women's studies), LSA political co-director. "It's a way of taking back what other people are imposing upon us."

Describing herself as a lesbian and a woman of color, Singleton compared the struggles of LGBT people to the struggles of ethnic minorities and encouraged collaboration between the two.

"We can fight for a common goal together," she said. "Hopefully, when we start coming together it will give us strength in numbers and we can present a united front."

In his speech, Ryan Acton (freshman-landscape architecture) also made a plea for unity; he called for an end to stereotyping within the LGBTQA community.

"We of all people need to be more accept-

ing of each other," he said. "Let's work with each other and not against each other both within and outside of the community."

The speakers were positioned against the backdrop of a rainbow banner stretched across the columns of Old Main. Rainbow-colored balloons blew in the wind, but the rain predicted for yesterday held off and sunshine prevailed at the rally.

"It was definitely a good kickoff because for the first time in a long time it was a beautiful day so everybody could come here, and the location was perfect for visibility," Tony Kariotis (junior-media studies) said.

Brian Loretz (freshman-management) was happy to see Undergraduate Student Government President-elect Matt Roan and Vice President-elect Kelly O'Brien at the rally. "I thought it was really good of them to come out to this in support," he said. "I think it's important."

The size of the crowd, which included more than 100 people, pleased Adria Pipan (senior-human development and family studies). "To see so many people come out to the event was just amazing, and the speeches left a powerful message."

## Unreturned census forms may affect university

By Amy Looking  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Although Census 2000 forms were mailed to off-campus students, the local census office at Penn State Research Park has not received many completed forms.

"We're not getting as good a response as we'd like," said Phil Cappel, office manager.

This lack of response, Cappel said, could affect the future of the university and the State College area, Cappel said.

"The university may not receive state and federal funding and funds to provide services for senior citizens and child services would be affected," he said.

The results of the census forms also deter-

mine federal transportation funds, and as a result, local developers plan the completion and addition of roads, Cappel said.

Cappel said he thinks many students are not completing their forms because they think they will be counted in the census at their home addresses. However, they are only counted in their college towns, Cappel said.

The top of the census form specifically addresses the issue and states all families with college students living away from home should not include their children in the count, said Amy Jonas at the Pennsylvania State Data Center.

While some off-campus students are not returning their forms, Leslie Phillips (senior-

elementary education) already returned the completed census form that came to her Highland Avenue apartment.

Phillips said she and her roommates received their form before spring break and filled it out. They knew they needed to be counted in State College, she said.

"We didn't have any problems with it, but I think students might get confused with it. They think our parents count us, too," Phillips said.

However, while most off-campus students might have already received their census forms, on-campus students have yet to get theirs in the mail.

Gregg Heny, assistant manager for commons desk operations, said the blank census

forms should arrive at the commons desks by today. He said he is not exactly sure when the local census office will deliver the forms to on-campus students, but said each resident in a dorm room should receive a form.

It is important that each of these students fill out their forms, Cappel added.

The local census office also has worked with Penn State to stress the significance of completing and returning census forms, Cappel said.

"We've made quite a few efforts to get the word out," Cappel said.

Heny said tables will be set up in the residential commons areas to encourage students to fill out forms and to answer any questions students might have.

## Instructor promotes changing perception of disability

By Allison Kepner  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

"My mother doesn't think it's right that my English teacher is deaf," wrote a student in one of Brenda Brueggemann's freshman honors composition classes.

Cultural fears and misconceptions such as this have led to a lack of understanding about disability, Brueggemann said at the 9th annual Kenneth Burke Celebration last night in 111 Chambers.

An associate professor of English at Ohio State University, Brueggemann has moved discussion about disability into the classroom.

By incorporating disability as an underlying theme in her course's reading material and discussion topics, Brueggemann has tried to educate her students about the misconceptions surrounding the term while at the same time expanding the classical defini-

tion of a good rhetorician. Traditionally, the best rhetorician has been a good man, speaking well, said Cheryl Glenn, Penn State associate professor of English and Women's Studies and coordinator of last night's program.

Brueggemann has changed that definition to include a good person skilled in speaking, writing and signing, Glenn said.

Born deaf but skilled in lip-reading, Brueggemann struggled to come to terms with her own classification as disabled.

"This is not a place I thought I belonged to either for a long time," she said.

Now, Brueggemann attempts to show her students that they too have connections with people who have disabilities. The first step is

for her students to understand what disability is.

"The definition of disability always begins and probably ends, too, in its ambiguity," she said. "Disability is as invisible as it is visible."

Whether someone is blind, has a broken arm or suffers from asthma, he could fall into the category of the disabled, she said.

Another cultural problem results because people are often unsure of how to react to someone they deem disabled.

Should we be nice, patronizing, hold the door open, over-enunciate?

Maybe we should just ignore them, Brueggemann said.

"What we say and do and believe about disability suddenly becomes what we say and do and believe about ourselves," she said.

Disability crosses over the boundaries of "hot topics" in society today. From date rape to abortion, there is some sort of connection with disability, she said.

Brueggemann wants her students to look at these social issues not only from gender, racial and class perspectives, but also from the angle of the disabled.

When students leave her class, they should be able to imagine themselves in a disabled person's shoes, she said.

Ralph Rodriguez, assistant professor of English and comparative literature, agreed society needs to reexamine some social issues, such as unemployment, with disability in mind.

"It's very relevant for me to know that 42 percent of disabled people are unemployed," he said.

Whether her students realize it initially or not, Brueggemann said someday they will all have personal connections with some type of disability.

"Everybody is going to be disabled at some time," Brueggemann said. "We have a culture that lives in fear of that."

### Inside



#### National champions

Michigan State took down Florida 89-76 last night in the finals of the NCAA tournament in Indianapolis. Mateen Cleaves came back from a second-half twisted ankle to lead the Spartans to the victory. | SPORTS, Page 10

#### Lockdown

Massachusetts put the nation's strictest gun regulations into effect yesterday, using consumer-protection rules to ban cheap "Saturday night specials" and require childproof locks on any gun sold in the state. | NATIONAL, Page 5

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