

13 women assaulted while sleeping in dorm

A male resident of Snyder Hall has been identified as a suspect and has moved out of the dorm, officials said.

By Lily Henning
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Thirteen women were assaulted while sleeping in their unlocked dorm rooms in Snyder Hall early Sunday morning, Penn State Police Services said.
A male Penn State student, a former resident of Snyder Hall, has been identified as a suspect, police said.

After a request of Residence Life staff Monday, the suspect moved out of the building, said Alison Cummings, assistant director for Residence Life.

"His presence was not conducive to the comfort of the involved students. We approached him on that, and he did leave and is not returning without our staff present," Cummings said.

But it is important that the suspect goes

through due process before the case is discussed further, Cummings said. Neither Cummings nor police would discuss the specifics of the assaults.

"Residence Life is not making any judgment on guilt or innocence; that is a criminal issue and one for Judicial Affairs as well," she said.

Two students, who live in Snyder Hall and know the suspect, went to police last night to testify about the assaults.

The students would not comment on what their testimony was about.

Charges of indecent assault, aggravated indecent assault and criminal trespass are

pending, according to Penn State police.

Police expect the charges to be filed by tomorrow or Friday, investigating supervisor Stewart Neff said. "We have no idea if there are more people out there who haven't come forth yet, if there is anyone, they should contact us immediately," Neff said.

Main entrances in all of the dorms are locked at 8 p.m. on weeknights.

They also are locked between 8 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. Sunday on football weekends.

However each resident is responsible for locking individual room doors.

Caitlin Cakouros (freshman-division of undergraduate studies), who lives in Snyder

Hall, said students were told by Residence Life staff as soon as they moved in that they should keep their doors locked.

"It was standard at the first meeting," Cakouros said.

Cakouros said she locks her dorm room door every night and so does not feel threatened after the recent assaults.

Other female Snyder Hall residents, like Jen Edwards (freshman-computer engineering), echoed Cakouros' opinion.

"I'm not afraid; I think it is an isolated thing," Edwards said.

"I don't think one incident makes State College an unsafe place."

Republican commercial eliminated

A GOP ad was removed for an alleged subliminal message about Al Gore.

By Laura Meckler
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A GOP commercial that subtly flashes the word "RATS" across the screen is coming off the air amid allegations the Republicans were trying to send a subliminal message about Al Gore.

George W. Bush called the notion "bizarre and weird," and his campaign made light of it all. The GOP ad-maker said he was just trying to make the spot visually interesting.

But Gore's campaign and experts in political advertising said the word choice — as an announcer was denouncing Gore's Medicare plan — could hardly have been an accident.

"I've never seen anything like it," the vice president said yesterday in Middletown, Ohio. Running mate

Joseph Lieberman called the ad "very disappointing and strange."

"I'm sure the public will be puzzled by it as we are and want an explanation," Lieberman said.

Bush noted that the word appears only fleetingly — for a tiny fraction of a second. Played at full speed, it's barely noticeable, particularly if the viewer isn't looking for the word.

"One frame out of 900 hardly in my judgment makes a conspiracy," Bush said yesterday in Orlando, Fla. "I am convinced this is not intentional. You don't need to play, you know, cute politics."

Gore aides reveled in the story, which they leaked to the press after being alerted by a careful viewer in Seattle.

"Ad graphics don't pop up out of thin air. Someone sits down at a computer and creates them," said Gore spokesman Doug Hattaway.

The ad, which has been running in several states for more than two weeks, touts Bush's plan for adding prescription drugs to Medicare, arguing that senior citizens will have more control over their health care under Bush's proposal. Gore's plan, the ad says, will be run by bureaucrats.

Words flash on the screen to echo the announcer's message: "The Gore prescription plan: Bureaucrats decide." But just as the announcer says "bureaucrats decide," the word "RATS," in large, white capital letters, fills the black screen.



Jim Rajotte/Collegian

AN APPLE A DAY: Emily Way of Stormstown organizes her apples at a farmers market at the Pennsylvania Military Market in Boalsburg yesterday.

Lawyers ask Spanier to ban Napster use

Penn State is unsure of what its response will be to Dr. Dre and Metallica.

By Heather Cook
and Daryl Lang
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITERS

Dr. Dre and Metallica are not happy with Penn State.

Lawyers for the rapper and the rock band FedEx-ed a stern letter this week to Penn State President Graham Spanier asking him to ban the popular Napster program from the university's computer network.

The lawyer who signed the letter, Howard King, said he sent it to 20 universities that still allow Napster, including Penn State.

Dr. Dre and the members of Metallica say the Napster software encourages people to steal copies of their music, something that violates their copyright and drains money from their album sales. King's law firm, King, Putrich, Holmes, Paterno & Berliner, LLP, is fighting Napster in court.

Penn State's lawyers are reviewing the letter and the 73 pages of legal materials sent with it, said Steve MacCarthy, university spokesman. Penn State is still unsure of how they will respond.

"There will be an examination of the material that was sent and we'll have discussion about the response, but right now it's difficult to say," MacCarthy said.

Recently, Penn State began requiring students to sign a copyright agreement before using the university's network. The agreement mentions Napster in the first sentence.

"Computer programs such as Napster and computer networks have made possession of copyrighted material such as computer programs, music files and videos easier than ever," the policy states. "In many cases, this is in violation of state and federal laws, and University policy. The University takes such violations very seriously."

Students who are caught violating the policy could lose their Internet access, said Kathy Kimball, university computing network and security officer.

"I don't believe in banning technology but infringement is absolutely wrong. We take action against it," Kimball said. "The legal requirement is that if a student is infringing, we take action to block material."

Students yesterday reported that Napster was still working on the Penn State network.

A survey done by Gartner Group Inc. released last month found that 34 percent of colleges surveyed have banned Napster on their networks.

According to the letter, Dr. Dre and Metallica's lawyers specifically named three universities in their lawsuit against Napster this summer.

The three universities, University of Southern California, Yale University and

See NAPSTER, Page 12.

USG extends invitation to Director of Judicial Affairs

By Heather Cook
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Rising concern about the judicial affairs system at Penn State prompted the Undergraduate Student Government Senate to officially invite Penn State's Director of Judicial Affairs, Joseph Puzycki, to next week's meeting.

He will be asked to field questions about the university's Code of Conduct and Office of Judicial Affairs procedures.

The only debate about the issue at last night's USG meeting occurred over wording that some senators believed implied intent to take actions regardless of what Puzycki might say.

"Before we have Puzycki come in here and hear what he has to say, we shouldn't make any mention of it (action)," said Town Senator Mike Byrne, who supported the initiative.

USG hopes that Puzycki will be able to provide basic information about judicial processes at the university before the sen-

ate reaches any conclusions about the department.

"We wanted to take this a little slow and look at it piece by piece," said Mike Fedor, town senator. "We thought the first step was probably to bring judicial affairs here."

The bill also encourages cooperation and communication between the Department of Legal Affairs and the USG Senate.

"Legal affairs is the best resource we have. Saying we want to up the lines of communication with them is the best way to get Puzycki here," said Erik Ives, South Halls senator.

The letter will be sent tomorrow said Mike Fazio, USG Senate president, and because Puzycki has already shown interest in speaking to USG members he is almost guaranteed to accept the invitation.

Senators were asked not to turn the session into a "witch-hunt" if Puzycki attends the next meeting. Fazio also instructed the senators to look through a packet of information Legal Affairs is putting together

See USG, Page 12.

Brockovich emphasizes concern for others

By Kelly Mulligan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Clad in a bustier and high-heeled boots, Erin Brockovich, known for defying stereotypes, described determination as "stick-to-it-iveness" to a packed Eisenhower Auditorium last night as part of the Distinguished Speakers Series.

"You will have bad times in life. You need to hang in there. None of us are exempt from pain, divorce or suffering in our lives. You have to, in your own life, go on...you all have to go on," Brockovich said.

Recognizing her audience, Brockovich opened the nearly two-hour lecture and discussion by congratulating the Penn State football team in its victory against Louisiana Tech this weekend.

Working for the law firm of Masry and Vitoe as a file clerk in 1991, Brockovich discovered medical records with documents for a real estate case. Her investigation into the matter resulted in one of the largest direct action lawsuits in history.

California courts ordered Pacific Gas and

Electric to pay \$333 million to 600 residents of Hinkley, California. Many suffered serious health problems as a result of contaminated groundwater. Brockovich's story was made into a movie starring Julia Roberts, which was released earlier this year.

"What inspires me and who I think are the heroes are the people who suffer at the hands of corporations. I see myself as a vehicle. There is a much greater story in that movie that goes way beyond me," Brockovich said.

She informed the audience that since the settlement in 1996, 50 of the 634 plaintiffs have died.

Describing family as the "most valuable possession on Earth," Brockovich expressed concern about the decay of moral values in America and people's inability to be happy with themselves.

"Most people don't know that I have dyslexia. I don't like to be labeled. We are taught not to judge a book by its cover, but that's exactly what we do," Brockovich said. "People called me stupid — I knew that I could learn, but I just couldn't learn the way that society wanted."

See BROCKOVICH, Page 12.

Inside

Slammin' It

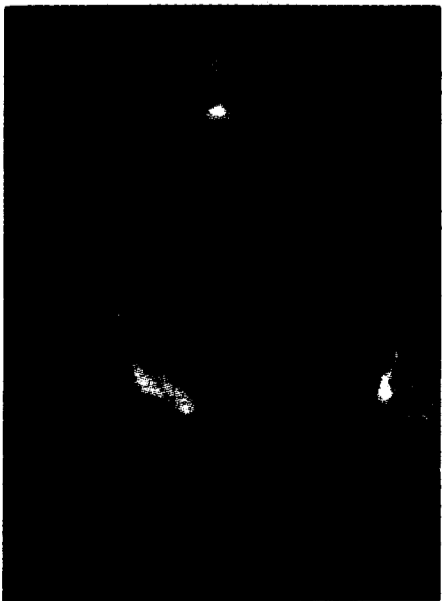
Penn State women's volleyball traveled to Philadelphia last night to take on Villanova. Lady Lions came back with a win, but not without struggles on the court as the team aims for another title. | SPORTS, Page 13

Grooving

A Penn State ballroom dance class, ESACT 297B, requires students to learn both the male and female steps to several types of dances. Students in the class learn the fox trot, waltz, salsa among other social dances. | LOCAL & STATE, Page 4

Record breaking

Amtrak registered the most successful summer in its 29-year history, carrying more than 6.1 million riders during the summer months. Amtrak anticipates breaking the all-time yearly record of 22.2 million passengers the company set in 1990. | NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL, Page 9



Corinne Coulter/Collegian

Erin Brockovich gives a thumbs up to the audience at Eisenhower last night.

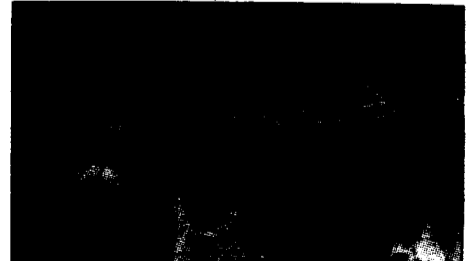


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