

## Forum protests Judicial Affairs

By Heather Cook  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Students arrested in State College over the summer told an audience about their experiences and frustrations with the Penn State Office of Judicial Affairs at a meeting last night.

Throughout the forum, hosted by the American Civil Liberties Union, audience members held "Judicial Affairs Report Cards" provided by Radio Free Penn State. The cards gave the Office of Judicial Affairs the grade of 'F' in five specific areas.

The categories discussed included: the lack of an unbiased investigation; absence of an independent judge, jury, and prosecutor; and the lack of choice for the defendant in choosing counsel. The students were also upset that the Office of Judicial Affairs is not regulated at all and lack of information about getting evidence accepted.

"All the guarantees that you get as a citizen (in the United States) are not evident in the Judicial Affairs system," said Justin Leto, who was arrested with four others as he held a banner from the balcony of Osmond Building to protest the National Governor's Association convention this summer.

Criminal charges against Leto and the others protesting the National Governor's Association from the Osmond balcony were dropped after a preliminary hearing, but Judicial Affairs is still pursuing them.

"We've already been found innocent, but here we are guilty all over again," said Michelle Yates, one of the students arrested on the balcony.

The students were angered by the Judicial Affairs policies that don't allow students to bring their own representation to hearings or to ensure that any witnesses called by defendants actually appear.

The Penn State Code of Conduct was also a concern, especially for Martin Austermuhle, an Undergraduate Student Government town senator who can be charged by Judicial Affairs, even though he was arrested off campus because of a part of the conduct policy.

It states students can face punishment for conduct that might reflect badly on the university.

"You move out of your home and away from your parents to Penn State, and then Graham Spanier is definitely your second father," Austermuhle said.

Leto also cited the slow USG reaction to the issue, saying the representatives have been too "soft" on the issue.

The students began with their stories about what occurred during the summer.

The charges filed against Austermuhle were disorderly conduct, which was dropped, and failure to disperse. Judicial Affairs, however, continued to pursue the disorderly conduct charge.

Austermuhle is currently planning to appeal a Judicial Affairs decision to give him a two-semester suspension, a one-semester deferred suspension and 50 hours of community service.

Because he is an international student, the suspension could call his student visa into question.

Austermuhle maintained that throughout the Beaver Avenue riot, he had been trying to help students who had been pepper sprayed, including one who seemed to be having an asthma attack.

Leto, Yates and Robyn Stephens, spoke about being pulled off the Osmond Building balcony by police after receiving permission to hang a banner there.

They cited a university policy that gave instructions for climbing through classroom windows to place the banners on the balcony, though university officials claimed their presence on the balcony was a safety hazard.

"You're looking at a kangaroo court," Leto said.



Hung Truong is taken to appear before District Justice Bradley Lunsford. Penn State Police Services investigator Tom Sowerby escorted Truong yesterday to the arraignment.

## Police arrest PSU student in assaults

By Allison Kepner  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A 21-year-old Penn State student was arrested yesterday in connection with the weekend assault of six female students and the harassment of six others.

Hung "Tim" Truong was charged with one count of aggravated indecent assault, six counts of indecent assault, 12 counts of harassment and stalking, five counts of burglary and 12 counts of criminal trespass.

Truong is being held on \$50,000 bail in Centre County Prison. His preliminary hearing is set for Sept. 20.

On Tuesday, Penn State Police Services reported 13 women had been assaulted. Yesterday police clarified what they believe happened early Sunday morning.

Police said Truong, a Snyder Hall resident, entered 14 unlocked female dorm rooms between 3 and 4:30 a.m.

Truong indecently assaulted six women, including one aggravated indecent assault, police said.

Tom Harmon, director of Penn State Police Services, defined indecent assault as the "touching of intimate parts." Harmon described the one count of aggravated indecent assault as an "indecent penetration." Truong penetrated one of the victims with his fingers, according to a police report.

Police said Truong also harassed six other women. Harassment can include physical contact, Harmon said.

Truong, who was identified by 11 of the victims in a photo line-up, told police he entered two Snyder Hall rooms and attempted to kiss two women, according to the report. Truong also gave conflicting statements during two interviews, stating during the first interview, "I don't want anybody to know I did something so wrong."

In Snyder Hall, a co-ed dormitory, female students live on the even numbered floors, and male students reside on the odd numbered floors.

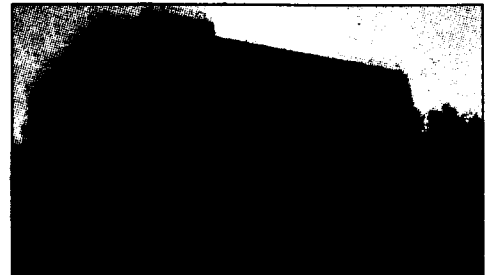
Truong, a third floor resident, entered rooms on the second, fourth and sixth floors, police said.

According to the report, six victims awoke to find Truong attempting to undress and fondle them.

Several victims reported Truong smelled of alcohol and repeatedly told the women he was "looking for Mike."

One victim said two other males entered her room with Truong, according to the report.

The victim told police Truong and the men engaged in small talk, and after repeated requests, left the room.



Snyder Hall, the scene of the assault, housed Hung Truong on the third floor. The victims lived on the second, fourth and sixth floors.

Duty supervisor Wayne Weaver said the other two men have been identified and no charges are pending against them.

Two male Snyder Hall residents told police they found Truong drunk and sleeping on the floor of one of the men's dorm rooms at 3:45 a.m., according to the report.

Truong told the men he "got" with a female resident and offered to introduce them to her. The men followed Truong onto the fourth and sixth floors where they saw him pushing on the doors, the report states.

The men told police Truong is an exchange student from Vietnam. Following Truong's arraignment last night, District Justice Bradley Lunsford said he could not verify whether Truong is an American citizen. Lunsford said Truong's citizenship would affect his sentencing and was unsure whether deportation would be a possibility.

Forbidden from entering any residence hall without a staff member, Truong must contact Residence Life to arrange an escort before he can return to retrieve his belongings, Cummings said.

Penn State spokesperson Bill Mahon said all dorm residents are told to lock their doors when they move in. Penn State's dorms are well secured and do not have a history of non-residents entering dorms and assaulting students, he said.

Mahon said that despite the relative safety of Penn State, students still need to be careful. "Students just need to get in the habit of locking their doors," he said.

Collegian staff writer Lily Henning contributed to this article.

## Snyder Hall residents react to assaults, increase safety

By Allison Kepner  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

While the man accused of entering 14 female dorm rooms and assaulting six women in Snyder Hall early Sunday morning sits in Centre County Prison today, residents of the East Halls dormitory attempt to regroup.

Some Snyder Hall residents said they were shocked to hear about the weekend assaults, and the assaults have heightened safety concerns.

One female resident, who asked not to be identified, said reaction among women living in the dorm varied.

"Some people are a little more nervous than others," she said.

"Everyone is locking their doors," she said, adding she previously left her door unsecured.

Other women living in the dorm said they

### On the Web

■ Answer The Digital Collegian's online poll: "Do you feel safe in your dorm?" at [www.collegian.psu.edu](http://www.collegian.psu.edu)

felt secure but were more aware of safety concerns since the weekend attacks.

Representatives from Penn State Police Services, Center for Counseling and Psychological Services, Residence Life and a victim's advocate met with male and female Snyder Hall residents Monday night, Alison Cummings, assistant director of Residence Life, said.

Residents were told about the assaults and informed that the suspect at the time, Hung "Tim" Truong — now charged with

See ASSAULTS, Page 2.

## New aroma overtakes Pattee Library

By Kathy Hsieh  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The smell of freshly roasted coffee permeates the air. The sun shines through the open café doors. Soft music lingers in the background as customers eye the baked goods.

No, this scene isn't from a café in Paris, but from Pattee Library.

MacKinnon's Café gives students the opportunity to take a study break without walking too far from the library.

The new café is located on the ground floor of west Pattee with a door leading into the library.

"If people are done studying and are tired from studying, they don't have to walk very far.

They can walk outside and get a drink," said Christina McKay (freshman-elementary education). "That's smart on their

See PATTEE, Page 2.



Students enjoy sunny weather and a quiet place to relax at the new café outside the Pattee Library. The café is a popular place to stop for lunch or to take a study break.

## Local drug task force eradicates marijuana plants

By Alex Weininger  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Over the last three weeks, members of the Centre County Drug Task Force have been combing the Centre County area, searching for signs of growing marijuana.

The task force conducted Marijuana Eradication throughout the county and found more than 100 marijuana plants in about five different locations. According to Scott Merrill, the Centre County Drug Task Force coordinator, they found plants range from about five feet to over eight feet in height.

The estimated street value of the marijuana is more than \$100,000.

The task force is an organization formed by State Attorney General Mike Fisher to help strengthen the war on drugs. Since Fisher began his term, his top priority has been waging the battle against drug abuse, said Kevin Harley, Fisher's spokesman.

The task force is made up of various officials within the Centre County region who are officers at their respective departments. Many departments, such as the Patton Township, Spring Township and State College Police Departments, and others partici-

pate in the drug sweep. Other departments, such as the FBI, the Pennsylvania State Police and Penn State Police Services also assist with eradication.

"(The Attorney General's Office) provides the expertise and some funding, and we provide the manpower," said Sgt. Dana Leonard of the State College police.

Leonard also said that although outside departments assist with the sweeping, such as the state police and Penn State police, only municipal officers get reimbursed overtime for the extra hours needed to perform marijuana eradication.

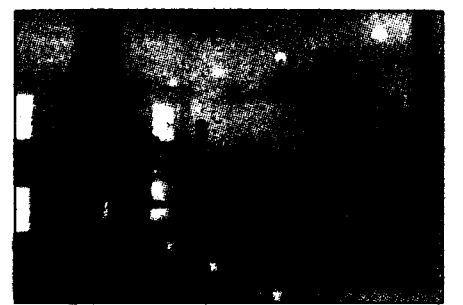
And the amount of marijuana that was found during this particular sweep was not unusual, Merrill said.

Marijuana sweeps are done every year, usually at the end of summer, Merrill said. Marijuana is typically grown where "the climate is good for it ... where you can grow it, and it can go undetected," he said.

And although marijuana is used and grown throughout the nation, Pennsylvania has proved to be a particularly desirable place to harvest the "Gateway" drug.

"The unique thing about marijuana is ... See MARIJUANA, Page 2.

## Inside



### Campus workouts, no sweat

Penn State's exercise facilities and classes offer students opportunities for staying fit, not to give excuses. Activities ranging from aerobics to weight training exist. | SCIENCE, Page 8

### Montgomery reflects on career

Five years ago, Pilar Montgomery nearly chose Nebraska as her college of choice over Penn State. Five years later, the Nittany Lion women's tennis star looks back on what has been an excellent career thus far with Penn State, with one more to go this fall. | SPORTS, Page 13

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