

## Students, officials speak against hate mailings

By Daryl Lang  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Angered by the hate-filled messages sent out last week, hundreds of students packed the ground floor of the HUB-Robeson Center yesterday to stand against racism.

Penn State Black Caucus president LaKeisha Wolf, one of four people specifically targeted by the threatening mail, shared a podium with former Black Caucus president Joseph Dawkins. Wolf and Dawkins both answered questions from the crowd, which included many Black Caucus members.

"This is not just my problem," Wolf said. "This is not just a black problem. This is everybody's problem."

The event was billed as a press conference but attracted far more student supporters

than it did reporters. Several university administrators were in the audience, but Penn State President Graham Spanier was absent.

Spanier and other university officials met with some students Friday to talk about the mailings and the overall racial problems on campus.

Four people — Wolf, Don Edmond (senior-history), a third student and a Penn State trustee — received unsigned racist threats in the mail last week.

Wolf received two letters; the envelope containing her second letter also included a note for Edmond.

Wolf and some other students visited Edmond at 1:30 a.m. Friday morning to tell him about the letter.

"It was a pretty rough going that night

studying," Edmond said yesterday.

Edmond and Wolf both may have been singled out because of their recent letters and columns in The Daily Collegian.

Despite this, Edmond said it's a positive step when people speak up about racism.

"I think more students have to do what I did," he said. "I wrote a letter to the editor. I spoke out."

Wolf said the university has responded appropriately in addressing her safety. Both her letters contained physical threats laced with racial slurs and profanity.

The second letter to Wolf stated: "Thanks to your picture in the paper, now we know what you look like."

Wolf and Dawkins both said the letters aren't isolated incidents, but reflect a persistent climate of racism on campus.

"We find ourselves in an environment today — we're supposed to be in a progressive, educational, enlightened environment — where a young woman can have her life threatened, her life in mortal danger, for no other reason than the color of her skin," Dawkins said.

Students at the press conference said they hoped the emotions there would carry over to the rest of the campus.

"Right now, I'm outraged but at the same time I'm happy to see so many people together," said Mikaela Marmion (senior-letters, arts and sciences).

Like several other students at the event, Marmion said she would have preferred to see a more diverse mix of races in the crowd.

"I think that, first of all, white students need to recognize that this is a problem," Marmion said.

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Jennifer Borokowsky/Collegian  
**LaKeisha Wolf, president of the Black Caucus, held a press conference last night. The group discussed the racist letters she received.**

## Protesters 'win' case against university

Meanwhile, a former USG senator will not be able to return to his position.

By Fred Cichon  
and Heather Cook  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITERS

A university punishment without consequences is considered a civil rights victory for three students of the Osmond Five, but another student is still losing his battle with Judicial Affairs.

The Osmond Five comprises the five arrested in connection with a banner hung in protest of this summer's National Governors' Conference Annual Meeting in July.

Robyn Stephens, Justin Leto and Michelle Yates were all charged with failing to follow police orders to leave a balcony at the Osmond Building during a protest of the conference. The students were arrested on July 10, but their criminal charges were dropped.

Penn State's Office of Judicial Affairs still charged the students with breaking two university rules. The students said they had permission to be on the balcony and a First Amendment right to hold their demonstration.

In a letter of notification Tuesday, a Judicial Affairs Administrative Hearing found Robyn Stephens and Michelle Yates "responsible for one charge each of failure to comply to a directive or condition

See PROTESTERS, Page 9.



Kyle Petaja/Collegian  
**Frank Edmiston of Bellwood helps put the finishing touches on The Bryce Jordan Center's new scoreboard.**

## New system lights up Bryce Jordan Center

By Kristin Osborne  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Fans of the Nittany Lion and Lady Lion basketball teams will now have an easier time seeing them this season.

The Bryce Jordan Center has finished upgrading the old sports lighting system with the new North Star Lighting Inc. system just in time for the upcoming season.

The new sports lights were used on Oct. 9, when the Philadelphia 76ers played a scrimmage. They operated very well, said Bernie Punt, director of public relations at The Bryce Jordan Center.

When the photographers were holding up their light meters, they informed Punt that it was twice as bright as it used to be.

"They had very big grins on their face. They were obviously very pleased with it," Punt said.

The original system contained 152 lights. With North Star, there are now four quads of 74 lights each, totaling 296 lights. This includes sports lights, house

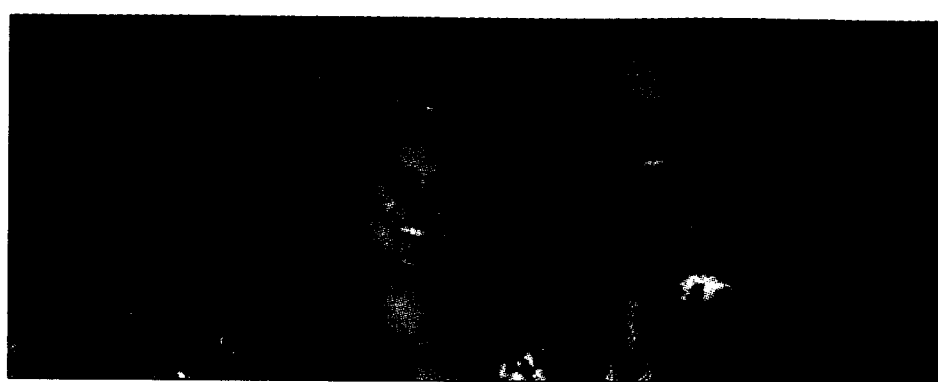
lights, aisles, catwalk lights, the scoreboard and other lights around the arena, said Bill Voigt, engineer staff assistant for maintenance at the BJC.

"We had a lot of problems with the previous system," said Voigt. "We spent a lot of time investigating other systems."

During the investigation, they visited Eastern Michigan University, where they already use the North Star lighting. Also, the United Center in Chicago, where the Bulls basketball team and Blackhawks hockey team play, and the Palace Tower of Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas both use North Star lighting. According to North Star Lighting Inc., they offer sports, commercial, industrial, and architectural lighting, plus camera and light lowering.

"We have more control over the system, now more than ever," Voigt said.

One problem with the previous system was the controls not functioning properly. Also, cost was an issue. Each bulb costs about \$400. They also took three months to ship. With the new system, bulbs cost less and are readily available, saving money and time, he said.



Alex de Jesús/Collegian  
**CROWNING MOMENT:** Kristen Schein and Walt Breuninger were elected this year's Homecoming King and Queen. The couple was crowned yesterday at Old Main.

## Rock-tossing suspects ordered to stand trial

By Allison Kepner  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

BELLEFONTE — Two Penn State students charged with throwing rocks at pedestrians from a dorm roof Sept. 29 were ordered to stand trial yesterday at their preliminary hearings in Centre County Court-house.

Evan Gugliuzza, 18, and William Loftus, 19, were charged earlier this month with one count each of disorderly conduct, criminal trespass and recklessly endangering another person.

Police said the men threw rocks at three black women from the top of Shulze Hall on Sept. 29. No one was injured during the attack. The victims said the incident might have been racially motivated. Other non-black students walking nearby were not targeted, the women said.

According to police, the women were walking near the south side of Shulze Hall when they heard rocks hitting the sidewalk a few inches from them. When they stopped

and looked up, more rocks hit the sidewalk near them. The women walked away, but the rocks continued to fall directly behind them, one rock just missing one victim's face.

The women told police they saw two white males of medium build standing along the south side of the roof. After being summoned by a resident assistant, Penn State Police Services found Loftus, Gugliuzza and another white male on the south side of the roof.

An arrest may be pending against a third suspect. Penn State Police Services Supervisor Clifford Lutz said he anticipates another person will be charged. He could not specify when the third arrest would be but said the investigation is continuing.

Loftus waived his preliminary hearing yesterday. Gugliuzza was bound over on all charges, and two additional charges of reckless endangerment were added.

Loftus and Gugliuzza's pretrial conferences are scheduled for Jan. 25 with criminal jury selection is slated for Feb. 12.

## Low-level fights persist despite Tuesday's truce

By Greg Myre  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

JERUSALEM — The first full day of a cease-fire produced a muddled verdict yesterday: scattered clashes kept tensions high on rock-strewn Palestinian streets, but overall violence dipped as Israeli and Palestinian security teams moved to halt three weeks of upheaval.

Faced with Palestinian militants bent on confrontation, the Palestinian leadership issued "strict orders" to observe the truce reached Tuesday at a summit in Egypt. The Israeli army withdrew tanks from the outskirts of the West Bank town of Nablus and planned to remove more heavy weaponry from other flashpoints if the violence ebbed.

Palestinian leaders said Israel needed to remove soldiers from the fringes of restive Palestinian cities to end the fighting.

Yitzhak Herzog, Israel's Cabinet secretary, said the cease-fire would test Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's ability to "exercise governance over the various gangs swarming around and saying vociferously that they don't intend to honor the agreement."

Meanwhile, Israeli security forces arrested six Palestinians suspected of taking part in the mob killing of two Israeli reserve soldiers last week in the West Bank town of Ramallah, according to Israeli security sources. Israeli and Palestinian leaders both refused to comment.

Israel radio said one of those tracked down by Israeli agents was the Palestinian man who emerged from the killings with blood-coated hands triumphantly raised in the air. The photograph appeared on newspaper front pages worldwide.

In yesterday's unrest, Palestinian gunmen fired at Israeli troops and rock-throwing clashes erupted at several friction points in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, injuring more than two dozen Palestinians.

Also, an Israeli army officer suffered facial wounds from a firebomb in Gaza. An explosive device went off as an Israeli civilian bus passed near the Jewish settlement of Gush Katif in Gaza, the army said. No one was hurt.

But as of yesterday evening, no deaths were reported — a rarity in the 21 days of violence that have left 102 people dead, the vast majority Palestinian.

High-level Israeli and Palestinian security officials held meetings yesterday to implement promises made to President Clinton, who mediated at the summit in Egypt.

Israel said it was encouraged by yesterday's developments, and eased tight restrictions on the movements of Palestinians.

Authorities lifted the internal closure on

See FIGHTING, Page 9.

■ Israeli commandos found suspects who they say took part in a mob attack. | INTERNATIONAL, Page 7

## Jewish group meets to discuss reactions to Middle East conflict

By Alissa Wisnouse  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Troubled by students' lack of knowledge about the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict and negative media portrayals of Israel, a group of Jewish leaders organized a meeting last night to foster discussion.

Penn State Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life sponsored the town meeting in the HUB-Robeson Center to heighten awareness about the current situation in the Middle East.

An Israeli flag hung in the background as Tuvia Abramson, Hillel director, addressed the crowd of about 70.

Abramson began the session by selecting a poem to remember those who have died. "The Parade of the Fallen" had images of soldiers in heaven, at peace and at rest, but solemnly reflective of the families they left behind.

Following the poem, there was an informal question-and-answer period.

"What happened in Israel is the collapse of the peace coalition and the feeling that there is no partner for peace," Abramson said. "There is the feeling that the other side does not want peace."

Marc Herzog, liaison to Penn State Hillel's Israeli political action committee, reminded the crowd that although a cease-fire was called Tuesday, violence continued yesterday.

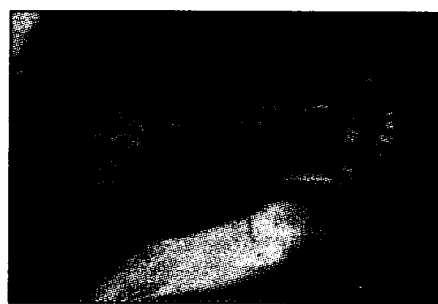
One woman in the audience asked how she could justify Israel's use of force to her friends.

Abramson told her that he, too, has struggled with how to justify the deaths at the hands of Israelis, particularly those of children.

"I don't understand that, but I also don't understand when children shoot guns and

See HILLEL, Page 9.

## Inside



### Memorial service for USS Cole

Under a gray sheet of sky, Clinton addressed a memorial ceremony at a Norfolk Naval Station pier crowded with destroyers and air-craft carriers. Sailors in white dress uniforms lined every deck of every ship, listening to Clinton praise the colleagues lost or injured from the USS Cole. | INTERNATIONAL, Page 7

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