

Arafat orders arrests

Bombings against Israelis killed 25 people and wounded 200.

By Karin Laub
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

JERUSALEM — A series of weekend suicide bombings against Israel killed 25 people and wounded nearly 200, prompting Yasser Arafat to order dozens of Islamic militants arrested and to promise harsh action. But Israel was deeply skeptical, with hard-liners calling for the removal of the Palestinian leader.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon cut short his U.S. trip to rush home after meeting with President Bush, who denounced the bombings as "horrific acts of murder."

Bush and other world leaders pressed Arafat to crack down on militants. The Palestinian leader "must do everything in his power to find those who murdered innocent Israelis and bring them to justice," Bush said.

Images of bodies lying on sidewalks and blood-smeared survivors crying out in agony filled TV screens, and Israelis had a growing sense that 14 months of Israeli-Palestinian fighting had reached a crossroads.

"It must be understood that we are at a turning point," said Cabinet Minister

Matan Vilnai. He did not say how Israel would retaliate but warned the Palestinian Authority was "endangering its existence" by not cracking down on militants.

The carnage began in Jerusalem just before midnight Saturday, when two suicide bombers set off their nail-filled bombs on Ben Yehuda street, an area of cafes and bars packed with young Israelis. Ten people, mostly teens, were killed, and 150 were wounded.

At noon yesterday, a third Palestinian blew himself up in a bus in the northern port city of Haifa.

President Bush condemns the attacks. | INTERNATIONAL, Page 11



Sailors aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt signal to a pilot who is preparing to fly.

American bombs pound Kandahar

By Kathy Gannon
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

KABUL, Afghanistan — American bombers pummeled Kandahar, the Taliban's last stronghold, to open the way for tribal fighters preparing to storm the nearby airport, as U.S. Marines yesterday patrolled the surrounding deserts.

Refugees who fled Kandahar for neighboring Pakistan said attacks by U.S. B-52 bombers and other warplanes were heavy and relentless.

Fighters from Pashtun tribes were waiting out the heavy wave of bombardment before resuming an assault on the airport.

"We're not in any rush," said Mohammed Anwar, an ally of Gul Agha, the former governor of Kandahar whose fighters held positions on a strategic road between the city and Spinboldak, another Taliban outpost targeted by airstrikes.

Anti-Taliban forces claimed U.S. bombing raids had mistakenly destroyed one of their headquarters in Afghanistan's mountainous east early yesterday, killing at least eight people. There was no immediate comment from U.S. officials.

U.S. Groups might be monitored. | OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

Season finale



Andrew Shurtleff/Associated Press

Penn State coach Joe Paterno talks with his defense during the second quarter in a 20-14 loss to Virginia.

Hopes for a bowl game lost in Virginia

By Brian McDonald
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | bmm170@psu.edu

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — All signs pointed towards it. A trip to a late December bowl game seemed inevitable for Penn State.

After winning five of their last six contests, the majority of which came in dramatic fashion, the Nittany Lions arrived in the middle of the scenic Virginia mountains for what was supposed to be the final stepping stone to the postseason.

And when the Lions loaded up for their pregame bus ride from their hotel to Charlottesville's Scott Stadium, the 72 degree, sunny weather had to give them a feeling that the powers that be were sending them a message that access to their coveted destination was going to be granted.

But alas, these Lions used up the last of their nine lives as Virginia (5-7) exacted a supreme second half

defensive effort to knock the Lions (5-6) off the postseason express, 20-14.

"Virginia played a great football game," Paterno said. "They played hard and they hustled and they knew what they were doing and held on to the football. They deserved to win the game."

But it didn't appear that way in the first half as the Lions jumped out to the early lead when tailback Eric McCoo scampered around the right side of the Penn State offensive line for a three-yard score to make it 7-0 midway through the first quarter.

The Cavaliers got on the board the next series with a field goal but the Lions notched their second

touchdown when fullback Mick Blosser hauled in a four-yard toss from Zack Mills to make it 14-3 at the halfway point of the second quarter.

Virginia would go on to tack on a field goal before the break to cut the deficit to eight, but it was apparent the Lions were in control of the game even though both teams' half-time numbers were fairly similar.

But the funny thing about game control is that it can change hands on just one play.

The Lions found that out the hard way.

After stopping the Cavaliers on their opening drive in the second half, the Lions marched deep into Virginia territory and appeared headed for the knockout blow before

See HOPES, Page 11.

Super freshman Zack Mills finally appears human. | SPORTS, Page 13

Football	
University of Virginia	20
Penn State	14

Inside

Afghans face drawn-out talks

U.N.-led talks on Afghanistan's future took an important step forward yesterday with four Afghan factions poring over a U.N. draft detailing terms for the northern alliance to transfer power in the capital, Kabul. | OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, Page 6

Public opinion factor in war

Public opinion might play an important role in the United States' mission to eradicate terrorism, several Penn State professors say. "Public opinion has a strong influence on executive actions and is always a factor in the time of war," Robert LaPorte, professor of political science, said. | OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, Page 8

Lesson to be learned in loss

Despite their careers ending earlier than expected, the 18 seniors on the Penn State football team remain optimistic for the future. They hope this year will be the start of something special. | SPORTS, Page 13

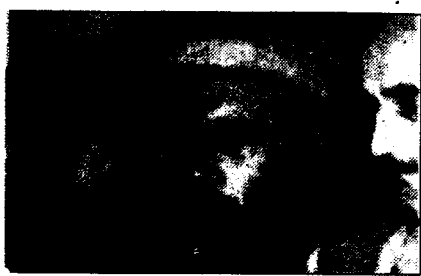


TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Calendar	2
Classifieds	20 & 21
Comics	23
Crossword	23
Horoscope	20
International	11
National	9
Opinions	10
Scoreboard	15
Sports	13
TV Listings	22
Weather	3

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Degrees required for lounging at Hintz

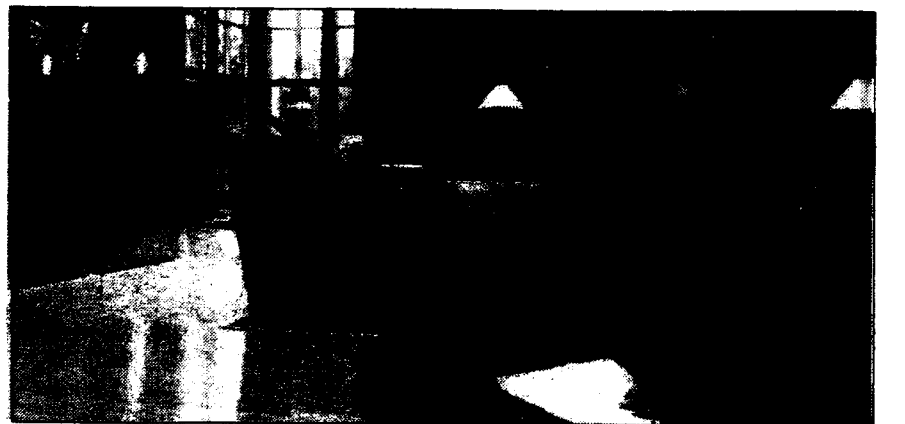
By Jeremy R. Cooke
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As final exams approach this semester, many students are scrounging up slices of extra time and corners of quiet space to study around campus. But employees overseeing at least one cozy spot won't be welcoming too many roving students with open arms. That is, unless they have a Penn State degree.

The seven-month-old Hintz Family Alumni Center — besides housing the Penn State Alumni Association offices upstairs — features Robb Hall, a high-ceilinged centerpiece lounge, and a suite of three conference rooms with adjoining interview nooks.

After association director Diane Ryan and others discovered one too many students sleeping on the ground-floor couches, they decided to start asking non-alumni to find another place to nap, study or gather.

"It was never designed as a study area. It's not like the HUB," Ryan said. Robb Hall has been dubbed a "living room for alumni" visiting their alma



RyAnne Petrof (sophomore-elementary education), on right, gets ready for final exams. Alumni Association employees have been asking students to study elsewhere.

mater, according to a virtual tour on the alumni association's Web site, but Ryan said she doesn't think the room can handle a huge influx of students looking to make it a living room for themselves. As attractive as it is, the room's furniture isn't as durable as the kind of lounge chairs scattered around the

HUB-Robeson Center, she said, and the alumni center does not have as large a maintenance staff, either.

"It was never designed for students. And that's why it was furnished the way it was," Ryan said.

Kate Dailey (senior-English and his- See DEGREES, Page 11.