

Boozin' and Schmoozin'

The Fine Line asks: Is alcohol the best matchmaker at Penn State? Page 12.

the FINE LINE

A weekly look at love, dating and everything in between

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Flames douse Lady Lions' hopes

By Tim Ford
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COLLEGE PARK, Md. — The party wasn't in the student section.

The "other Lady Lions" hopped the three-and-a-half-hour complimentary bus to recreate as much of the Bryce Jordan Center atmosphere as they could last night in the Comcast Center, picking up any straggling fans from Maryland's previous game.

But they were out-screamed by the miniscule Liberty cheering section — parents and the adopted Virginia Tech

pep-band, insulting the "other Lady Lions" with their own rendition of "Hey Baby."

Meanwhile, the real Penn State women's basketball team didn't give its trekking fans much to cheer about on the court, as it was burnt by No. 13-seeded Liberty, 78-70.

The No. 4-seeded Lady Lions (19-11) were one-and-done. The career of the dynamic duo — Tanisha Wright and Jess Strom — ended not with a bang,

but with a whimper. "Extremely disappointed, you never want to go out like this," Wright said, carefully holding back her emotions after her last game as a Lady Lion.

"The bottom line is Liberty came out and played and they wanted it more than we wanted it. They got rebounds when they needed to get rebounds, and that's something we could control," she added. "If you want to go get it, we just didn't do it tonight."

Upsets aren't as common in the women's version of the NCAA tournament. Penn State's loss is the only

instance in this year's first round of a top-four seed going down.

The Lady Lions started off molasses-slow thanks to the "legit" play of the Flames' Yao Ming-like senior center Katie Feenstra, who checks in at a whopping 6 feet 8 inches above the hardwood.

Penn State then seemed to get its act together in the first half, leading at the break, 32-27.

Wright's slashing through the lane forced Feenstra to commit two costly first-half fouls — limiting her to only 15 minutes on the court in the period.

But that's why they play two halves. Instead of coming out of the gate and living up to its second-half team moniker, the Lady Lions looked lame in front of the Flames (25-6).

Liberty played near-perfect basketball in the second half by shooting 50 percent from the field. The Flames dominated the boards, too, thanks to Feenstra and fellow big woman Rima Margeviciute, who combined to pull 23 rebounds down off the glass.

It took a 10-point deficit for the Lady Lions to finally get themselves, and See LADY LIONS, Page 2.

Board approves ballpark plans

At Friday's meeting in Hershey, the Board of Trustees approved plans for Penn State's new baseball stadium.

By Alex Muller
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HERSHEY — Penn State's Board of Trustees approved preliminary plans for a new baseball stadium to be built at University Park, adjacent to Beaver Stadium and the Bryce Jordan Center.

About 1,000 parking spaces for football traffic will be temporarily lost for the upcoming season to accommodate stadium construction, Penn State spokesman Tysen Kendig said. Five hundred spaces will reopen when the ballpark is finished.

Drawings for the new ballpark, which will be built facing east across Porter Road, were presented to the College Township Planning Commission earlier last week.

Plans include a three-level structure that will accommodate about 6,000 spectators, including 18 suites that seat 12 to 23 people each. The park is

scheduled to open in June 2006.

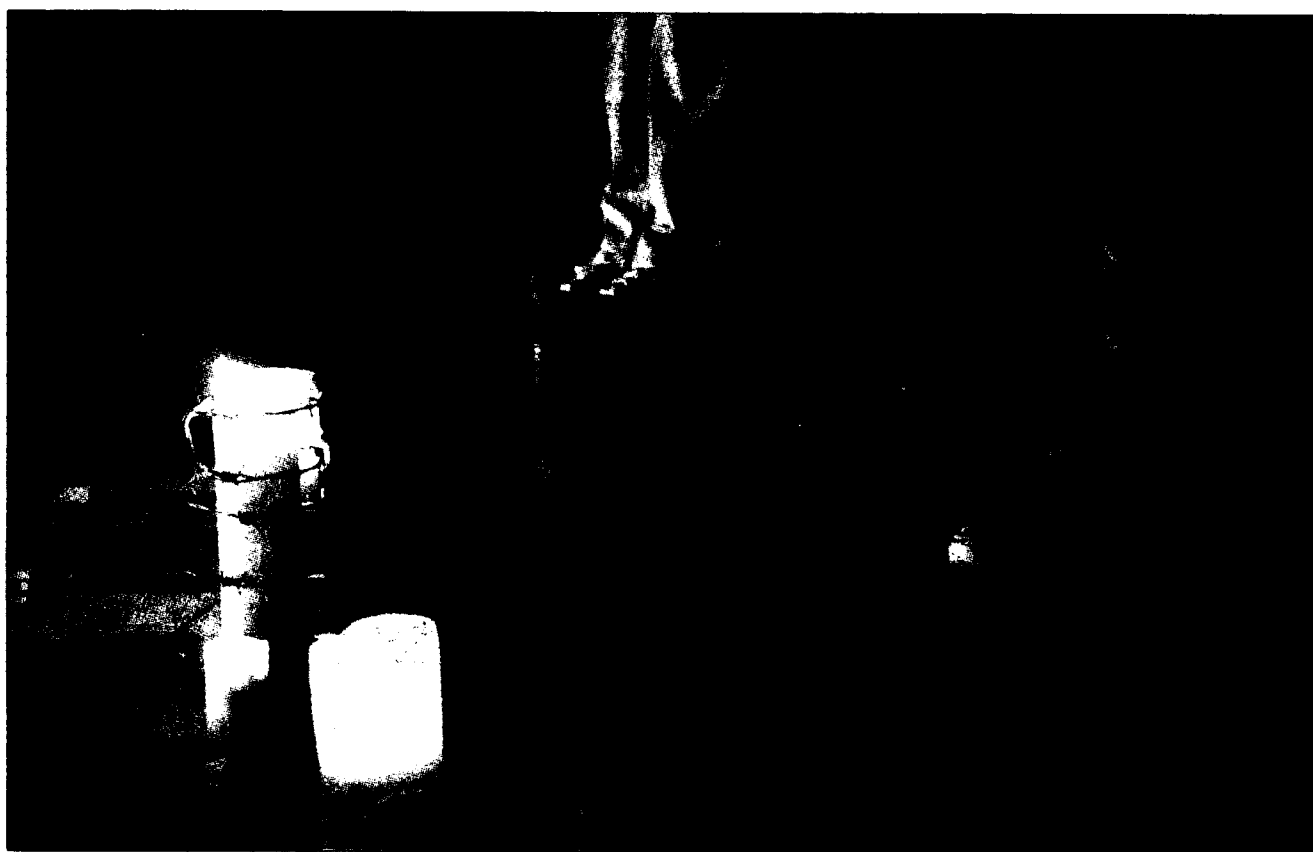
Kendig could not say where the temporary parking spaces would be located, but he said the number of parking spaces for the 2005 football season would stay the same.

"They'll be able to accommodate the same number of vehicles; how specifically, I have no idea," Kendig said. "I don't think it will cause a problem. You have to remember that we built the Bryce Jordan Center on a very big area of parking for football games. It just takes some patience, and we'll do everything we can for the football fans."

Gary Schultz, senior vice president for finance and business, said the stadium will include about 3,600 chair-backed seats, 500 bleacher seats, and See STADIUM, Page 2.

The board approved construction at Hershey Medical Center. | LOCAL, Page 3.

Two years later



Megan Elvrum/Collegian

Community members hold a candlelight vigil at the Allen Street gates to mark the second anniversary of the war in Iraq.

Iraq vigil honors fallen

By Ainsley Maloney
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Pushker Kharecha said that while the U.S. government intended to liberate the people of Iraq, the current occupation is actually denying them basic human rights.

"We're concerned about the full protection that Iraqi people are entitled to — things like health care, education, employment and fresh water. It's a fact that all of these human rights have been violated," he said.

Kharecha (graduate-earth sciences) and about 20 others gathered at the Allen Street gates last night at a candlelight vigil sponsored by Amnesty International to memorialize those who lost their lives since the beginning of the war.

The group stood in a circle holding candles and reflecting on the lost lives of both U.S. military members and Iraqi civilians.

"Since we are here and not over there, sometimes we have a collective tendency to forget, but the situation is

still ongoing," Maya Tessema, local co-ordinator of Amnesty International, said. "There are many people who are being abused, tortured and killed as a result of this war."

While Amnesty International is not opposed to the war, Kharecha said the See VIGIL, Page 6.

Another vigil marking the anniversary was held Saturday. | LOCAL, Page 6.

A workshop taught about becoming a conscientious objector. | LOCAL, Page 6.

WEEKEND TALES

With partner out of town, student does solo concert

Editor's note: This is the tenth in a profile series focusing on Penn State and State College community members and their weekend activities.

By Jason Cox
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It's about midnight on Saturday and an audience of loud and boisterous Penn Staters half-pay attention to an acoustic guitarist doing covers on stage.

But instead of beers and wings in hand, the audience has milk and potato chips. Welcome to one of Penn State's alternative music scenes — Joegies.

For about a year, the eatery in the HUB-Robeson Center has doubled as a venue for local performers on Friday and Saturday nights.

HUB management invited Aaron Anthony (senior-secondary education) and his friend Ryan Macel (senior-electrical engineering) to play together since the beginning, and the two have made it a regular event, performing almost every month. The difference tonight is that Anthony is going solo.

"I kind of like to say that I play the piano, and I pretend to play the guitar," Anthony said before the show. "I like the guitar but I'm certainly not that good."



Jessie Bright/Collegian

Aaron Anthony (senior-secondary education) performs at Joegies. The concert was held on Saturday night.

On any other night, Macel would be on the guitar with Anthony on keyboard, his normal weapon of choice.

"I first got into the keyboard because my older brother was into it, and anything my brother did when I was 7 years old was cool," Anthony said.

Anthony didn't pick up the guitar until college, after digging up his father's old instrument. He laughed at See CONCERT, Page 2.

Ghosthunters seek Rathskeller spooks

By Megan Rundle
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Sometimes when Duke Gastiger is alone in his bar, the All American Rathskeller, he feels a presence.

"It's never been a feeling of evil or goodness," Gastiger said. "It's just a feeling like someone or something else is there."

Last night, 14 members of the Penn State Paranormal Research Society (PRS) conducted an investigation at the Rathskeller, 108 S. Pugh St., searching for what they called "abnormal activity."

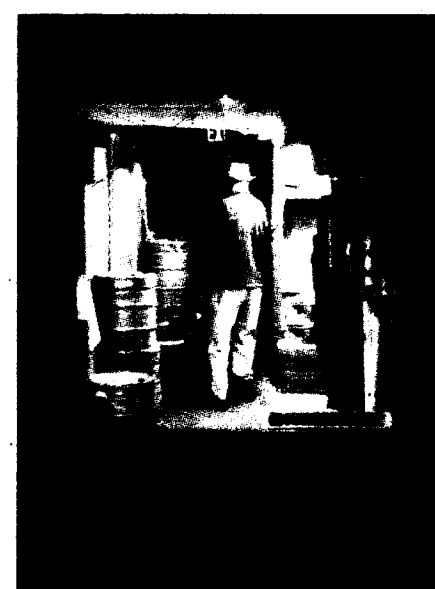
Paranormal Research Society President Ryan Buell said he thinks the bar

has a certain "negative energy," but that does not mean there is something demonic or evil haunting the bar.

"Everyone carries their own energy," Buell said. "At a bar there's a lot of emotion, and people leave energy behind. We're going to find out what kind of energy is here and then go from there."

Using infrared thermometers, microphones and audio and video recorders, PRS spent the evening searching for clues that would help them uncover if anything was lurking in the popular downtown bar.

"I don't think this has anything to do with Salvador Serrano," Buell said. See GHOSTS, Page 2.



Chad Woolbert/Collegian

Paranormal Research Society member Greg Schreier examines one of the rooms in The All American Rathskeller, 108 S. Pugh St.



Women's lacrosse beats No. 1-ranked team again

The Nittany Lions won a 14-13 triple-overtime thriller against top-ranked Princeton on the road Saturday. | SPORTS, Page 10.



Noe-Rooz celebrated by Persian students, alumni

More than 150 people joined the Iranian Student Association in a Persian New Year festival on Saturday. | LOCAL, Page 4.

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