

@E-mail Overhaul
WebMail will be phased out and replaced with WebMail Lite.
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, Page 16.

Hit This Henne
Penn State might not get the...
this weekend.
SPORTS, Page 10.

The Cutting
State College's first...
is still thriving after...

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Police might seize shop

The Gopper's Pizza shop could be seized after the owner was found to be selling marijuana.

By Megan McKeever
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A local man arrested for selling drugs from his State College pizzeria may have his property seized, the State College Police Department said.

A property or vehicle can be seized if an owner sells drugs from the property, and police said Mark Regopoulos, 42, owner of The Gopper's Pizza, 114 Hetzel St., fits the criteria for such a seizure.

On Aug. 31, police charged Regopoulos and three of his employees with selling marijuana from his establishment to a confidential informant.

The informant worked at Gopper's during a yearlong investigation and bought marijuana from Regopoulos on multiple occasions.

He is charged with six counts of delivery of marijuana, three counts of criminal use of a communication facility and three counts of possession of a controlled substance, according to court documents.

Centre County District Attorney Michael Madeira said the commonwealth is looking into a seizure of his property, but nothing has been finalized, adding that it needs to be determined whether the property was bought under Regopoulos' name.

Regopoulos said last week that his property is for sale, and he has lowered the price to sell it "quickly."

Regopoulos said that he has prospective buyers and believes the property will be sold by October.

Regopoulos said last week that he has owned the pizza shop since October 2000.

Centre County Assistant District Attorney Lance Marshall said that usually a property is not seized until after the accused has been sentenced, which means the commonwealth may not have enough time to seize his property.

Once a property is sold, it can no longer be seized, Madeira said. "At that point, we would have to go after whatever assets he took from the sale," he said.

Regopoulos' attorney, Andrew Shubin, said last week that the property was for sale "before [Regopoulos] was charged."

Regopoulos is set to appear in court Nov. 20 for his pretrial.

Shubin and Regopoulos could not be reached for comment before press time.



Amanda Greenly (senior-social studies education) reads while waiting for Michigan tickets at the BJC.

Ticket fever hits town

Students began lining up Sunday night for a chance to get Michigan tickets.

By Margaret Miceli
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If this morning is the first you know of it, chances are you won't be getting tickets to the Michigan game.

In an effort to be first in line for today's first-come, first-served away game ticket sale, some students began lining up days early at Gate B of the Bryce Jordan Center. The number of students in line for tickets topped 130 by 7:30 p.m. yesterday.

About 200 tickets will go on sale at 7 a.m. today.

The first students, a group of seven or eight, arrived at about 8 p.m. Sunday evening, just hours after a press release on Penn State Live announced the sale would begin Tuesday morning.

"We happened to check PSU Live and saw that it said 'if line forms beforehand' [on the announcement about the ticket sale]," said Michael Barrish (senior-international politics). "We figured that meant a line would form."

The group called the police to ask if a group was allowed to set up their tent, Barrish said. The police said they couldn't, so they slept on the concrete in front of Gate B, finally pitching their tent at about 5:15 Monday morning.

"We were the beginning and end of

the line for a while," Barrish said, adding that the line really began to grow after noon Monday.

By 7:30 p.m. yesterday, about 11 tents were pitched in an orderly line directly in front of Gate B. The number of people waiting for tickets led Mike Krueger (junior-finance) to start a list marking each student's spot in line.

"We started this list at about 3:30 to offset confusion tomorrow morning," Krueger said, adding that he was number 106 of about 139.

Krueger and Nisang Shah (senior-accounting) also said that to keep the list current, they will be taking roll call at about 2 a.m. Every student who signed up for a ticket must be present at 2 a.m. or they will be

See FEVER, Page 2.

Students partake in Constitution Day

By Margaret Miceli
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Constitution Day isn't just about reading a copy of the Constitution anymore.

In celebration of the national holiday yesterday, students participated in a series of events aimed at engaging citizens in constitutional debate.

At the "Illicit Literature Lounge" in front of Pattee Library, students in ENGL 474 (Literary Public Spheres) and CAS 506 (Contemporary Rhetorical Theory) stood on top of a wave-like structure reading excerpts from banned books.

"Students can read whatever they like, which seems to me in keeping with the First Amendment," said Rosa Eberly, professor of both classes.

Throughout the day, students read excerpts from books such as Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax*, Ayn Rand's *The Fountainhead* and Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Frequently challenged or banned books were also displayed, along with the reasons why they were controversial, including *The Catcher in the Rye* (sex), *Lord of the Flies* (racism) and 1984 (politics).

"Now, in the early 21st century, it's easy to forget that people were once killed for reading and writing books," Eberly said, "so the connection between this and Constitution Day is claiming our right to read, write and think for ourselves."

The Writer's Block exhibit in front of the Palmer Art Museum invited students to scrawl their opinions with chalk on large black cubes. Signs in front of the blocks posed questions such as "Should the Ten Commandments be posted in public spaces?" and "Is federal funding for abortion a violation of the Constitution?"

A particularly contentious question was "Do you feel that the war in Iraq is justified?" with chalk-written responses ranging from "Getting rid of a terrorism-funding murderous tyrant - what do you think?" to "No - bring my little brother home."

Alexis Opp (freshman-engineering) agreed that the blocks were eye-catching.

"Everyone's been looking at it whenever I walk through here," she said. "I think it's pretty cool."

Eight orange panels on the raised grass bed near the Thomas Building presented both pro and con points of views on the death penalty. The panels were arranged so that the messages - "Cruel & Unusual?" and "Just & Necessary?" - only became clear from two specific locations.

An orange sign to the side read "Are you listening?" and provided information on the death penalty.

Architecture students in a first-year seminar, A&A 104 (Art & Design Studio II), came up with the ideas for all three events, professor Peter Aeschbacher said. They then designed and built the orange panels, blocks and wave-like lounge, he added.

The project helped students think about how to make

See CONSTITUTION, Page 2.



Kimberly Timinski (junior-fine arts) writes on the giant cubes in front of the Palmer Museum.

Appointment of attorney general seen as favorable

By Jennifer Lynch
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After President George W. Bush announced his nomination of Michael B. Mukasey to replace Alberto Gonzales as the next U.S. attorney general yesterday, local politicians and campus political groups said the choice was a step in the right direction.

Mukasey has received praise from both political parties for his "thoughtful and fair handling" of past high-profile terrorism-related cases, according to a White House

press release. If confirmed by the Senate, Mukasey would bring with him a lifetime of legal expertise as an attorney and as well as 18 years of experience as a federal judge.

"He has potential, but I'm cautiously optimistic," said Alex Weller, president of the Penn State College Libertarians. "While I like that he supported the right to a lawyer for enemy combatants in the case of Jose Padilla, his support for the Patriot Act concerns me."

Gonzales resigned from the attorney general position on Aug. 27 after

See APPOINTMENT, Page 2.



Mukasey is shown at his nomination.

Penn State rising in diversity rankings

By Arianna Davis
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A recent review of Penn State's ongoing diversity initiatives has shown an increase of more than 1,000 minority students in the last year, resulting in several high rankings for the university.

A midpoint review of Penn State's second "Framework to Foster Diversity," which was designed for 2004 to 2009, was released in a report to Penn State's Board of Trustees Sept. 7. The framework, which was a fol-

low-up to the original plan created in 1998, was created by the Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity.

Assistant vice provost Victoria Sanchez said she believes the plan has contributed positively to increasing a diverse environment at the university.

"We're seeing much more interest and commitment across the campus," Sanchez said. "I think the framework is an opportunity for everybody to benefit in the community."

See RANKINGS, Page 2.

Weather: Today: High 75



Tonight: Low 45



Tomorrow: High 77



Extended forecast | WEATHER, Page 2. Courtesy of Campus Weather Service cws.met.psu.edu

Contents:

Local2
Briefs3
On Tap9

Comics15
Crossword15
Horoscope13

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