

ТнЕ DAILY

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llegian

Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2008

Published independently by students at Penn State

Police defend tactics

Chief says pepper spray was safest tool

By Heather Schmelzlen COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | hrs5029@psu.edu

Two days after students poured into Beaver Canyon in a boisterous celebration following Penn State's victory over Ohio State, law enforcement officials defended their plan of action, including the use of pepper spray.

State College Police Chief Tom King said using pepper spray is "the least intrusive and the safest tool" police have to disperse people, adding police do not use tasers and do not want to use night sticks or tear gas.

"We don't want to use force that is going to cause any lasting, long-term injury," he said. "[Pepper spray]

almost, in a way, goes away so quickly, we had people coming back that had been sprayed."

Though some students said the use of pepper spray was excessive, Penn State Police Capt. Bill Moerschbacher said it was warranted.

King said police had extra staff on hand Saturday night to keep celebrators safe from traffic and heavy pedestrian flows in the area.

"We were anticipating, if Penn State won, that people would be excited and would come out and celebrate and enjoy the special night," he said. "We didn't anticipate that people would start to cause damage as part of the

Video and past coverage: www.psucollegian.com

King said 25 to 30 officers were employed to control the crowd of about 4,000 to 5,000.

Penn State Police were on hand to assist State College Police before the game was over.

"We had most of our officers in the area right after the game got over," King said. "It was obvious within about two minutes of the game getting over, or actually two minutes from the interception in the end zone, that we need to bring all of our available officers up for crowd control."

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Michael Felletter/Collegian

A riot control officer warns a man to back on to the sidewalk during the events that ensued on Beaver Avenue early Sunday morning.

FAMILY MATTERS



Aaron Stidd is recovering two years after he was struck by a drunken driver in the early morning hours of Oct. 28, 2006 while crossing Atherton Street at Beaver Avenue. The other victim, Richard Smith, was killed, and Stidd sustained traumatic brain injury as a result of the crash | **LOCAL**, Page 3.

Students prepare for Palin

Volunteers paint signs and anticipate Sarah Palin's arrival on tonight.

By Mandy Hofmockel

COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | amh5256@psu.edu

Lauren Hemrick knelt on the floor of Rec Hall painting a blue sign with white lettering that read "We [love] Sarah," complete with a red heart, in anticipation of Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin's arrival to the venue tonight.

Volunteers picked their way through still wet signs and their peers in a hallway at the entrance to the floor of Rec Hall where doors for the event will open at 6 p.m.

Hemrick (freshman-veterinary medicine) said she is volunteering at the event guarding the VIP section. "I'm the only girl," she said, "but I'm a hardass."

Hemrick said she had never seen the candidate before and likes the idea of a woman vice president.

"I'm just so excited to see this election, to see them win," she said. Heather Sage, a senior majoring in science) made more than one sign



Volunteers make signs in Rec Hall Monday night supporting Sarah Palin. Palin will be speaking at Rec Hall on tonight.

mass communications at Bloomsburg University, said she had been to five rallies so far.

'When you're standing at these rallies, it makes you feel like an

American," Sage said. She said the event at Penn State would differ from those that she had been to before because the sound would be "like a mini rock concert."

youth getting out to vote, Sage said. "We're our nation's future so we

have to get out and act like we are, not just talk about it," she said. Andrew Ryan (freshman-geoIf you go

What: Sarah Palin speaking

When: Doors open at 6 p.m., speech begins at 8 tonight

Where: Rec Hall

Palin will most likely talk about the Monday night, including one that

read "PSU 4 PALIN." Although he had never seen the vice presidential candidate, Ryan said he saw Palin's husband Todd when he tailgated with students and alumni at See STUDENTS, Page 2.

Clinton to visit, support Obama

By Danielle Vickery COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | dev5010@psu.edu

President Bill Clinton will visit College Wednesday, Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama's campaign firmed late Monday afternoon.

Clinton's stop will be the day after Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin's speaks in State

Zachary Zabel, president of Penn State Students for Barack Obama, said the timing is coincidental.

"I know he's going to be talking in support of Barack, obviously," Zabel said. "I think it's definitely going to be focused on Barack Obama himself and also on the leadership abilities of Joe Biden and how important they are for Pennsylvanians.'

Clinton last visited Penn State in March, speaking to a full Rec Hall, when he was campaigning for his wife and then-presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

Meloy, who introduced Bill Clinton at the Rec Hall event, said he is looking forward to seeing him again. "He's awesome — he's just amaz-

College Democrats President Sean



Collegian file photo

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Former President Bill Clinton spoke in the Rec Hall in March, while campaigning for his wife.

ing," Meloy said. "He's going to remind people what it was like to have a president that cared about college students and the middle class.

Knight relates tales, gives audience advice

By Ben Skalina

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When Michael Jordan had 19 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists in a half of basketball, Bob Knight asked him why he wasn't setting screens.

Jordan responded by telling his coach he was setting screens, they were just happening too quick for

Knight to see. That anecdote, from the 1984 Olympic Games, was one of the many highlights of Knight's speech at Eisenhower Auditorium, the first in

this year's Student Programming

Association Distinguished Speakers Series.

Scott Press (senior-journalism) said he "didn't really know what to expect" from the famously volatile coach, but he liked the quick, witty responses Knight gave.

Knight, the all-time leader in NCAA Division I men's basketball coaching victories with 902 wins, kept the Eisenhower crowd laughing throughout the 70 minutes he was on stage. Despite the humor, the former Army, Indiana and Texas Tech coach mixed in plenty of serious advice about success during his speech.

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RAIN RAIN GO AWAY



A worker rakes a drying agent on to a rain soaked infield during Game 5 of the baseball World Series in Philadelphia Monday night. | SPORTS, Page 8.







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