

**Outdoors**  
 The Penn State football team's season is over, but the excitement of the game lives on in the memories of fans and players alike. The team's performance was a mix of highs and lows, but the fans' support was unwavering. The team's season was a roller coaster, but the fans' love for the team was the constant. The team's season was a mix of highs and lows, but the fans' support was unwavering. The team's season was a roller coaster, but the fans' love for the team was the constant.

**Lions on the links**  
 Former Penn State football players get together for a golf outing | **SPORTS**, Page 6.

**Coach heads west**  
 Penn State's former coach Gay VanAartsen has taken a new coaching job at Colorado College | **SPORTS**, Page 6.

THE DAILY

www.psucollegian.com

# Collegian

Monday, Aug. 3, 2009

Published independently by students at Penn State

Vol. 109 No. 206

## State workers may get wages

By Peter Panepinto  
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | ppp5017@psu.edu

A month after Pennsylvania's deadline to pass the state budget, Gov. Ed Rendell could sign a bill that would authorize wage payments to state employees, which have not come in full during the budget impasse.

Tor Michaels, chief of staff for Rep. Scott Conklin, D-Centre, said a portion of the state budget could be passed within the next week in an effort to get state employees paid.



State employee Renee Jones protests in the Capital rotunda Tuesday in Harrisburg.

"The governor is requesting that the leadership in the caucus run one of the existing bills," Michaels said. "We anticipate he is going to blue line it, which is to accept the portion that gets state employees paid, and reject the rest."

In the past month, state workers have been protesting to receive pay for working. Rendell has yet to pass a state budget, and some legis-

lators say he could sign a portion of Senate Bill 1850.

Michaels said Senate Bill 1850 is the "cleanest" version of the budget, and it was already passed through the Pennsylvania Senate and was sent to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. If it gets to Rendell's desk See **WAGES**, Page 2.

## Student charged in attack at urinal

A Penn State student was arrested after he threatened to kill a man in an alley early Friday, police said.

By Kevin Cirilli  
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | knc5063@psu.edu

A Penn State student was arrested Friday, just hours after police say he threatened to kill the student he is charged with assaulting July 15 in a McDonald's bathroom.

Police say Collin Rowe, 24, told them Collin A. Flood, also 24, threatened to kill him at about 1 a.m. Friday in Calder Alley because he went to authorities about the McDonald's incident, according to court documents.

Rowe told police that Flood said to him, "I'm gonna kill you," according to court documents.

Eleven minutes later along the 100 block of West College Avenue, Flood was taken into police custody, according to court documents.

Flood, 913 Old Boalsburg Road, is in the Centre County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$50,000 bail and now faces one count each of felony aggravated assault, felony retaliation against a party, terroristic threats and simple assault, according to court documents.

At about 1:30 a.m. July 15, Flood turned around from a bathroom urinal in McDonald's, 442 E. College Ave., and struck Rowe in the face, causing him to black out, according to court documents.

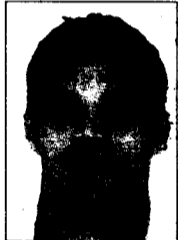
Rowe awoke and realized he was bleeding on the bathroom floor, according to court documents.

He was treated at Mount Nittany Medical Center for multiple facial injuries, including fractures in both of his orbital bones and a broken nose that required surgery, he told police.

Flood and Rowe knew each other before the McDonald's incident, and they did not get along, according to court documents.

Security video footage recorded the night of the McDonald's incident shows Flood exiting the bathroom and approaching his two friends while rolling up his shirtsleeves, according to court documents.

Sometime after Flood exited the bathroom, the video shows Rowe leaving the bathroom with paper towels or toilet paper pressed to his face, according to court documents.



## STUDYING AMONG NATIONS



Patrick Greer (senior-health policy and administration) works in the Malloy Diversity Studies Room with the photo exhibit "Scattered Among Nations: Jewish Communities of India, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Peru and Uzbekistan" Wednesday inside Pattee Library.

## Alumna writes PSU-set novel

By Paige Minemyer  
 FOR THE COLLEGIAN

For S. J. Foster, writing started as just a hobby.

She was a columnist for a local paper and developed a fan base, but she did not want to pursue writing as a career. Her friends and family, including younger sister Alisa Mason (senior-health policy administration), pushed her to give it a shot.

"I told her, 'You have a gift,'" Mason said.

Foster, Class of 2001, is now a professional novelist. Her second and most recent book, *Champagne & Butterflies*, was released this summer and revisits Penn State.

It's an opportunity Foster relished. The school is described in a very fun light, she said.

"My overall Penn State experience was so positive," she said. "I enjoyed the opportunity to show that in my writing."

The book tells the story of two well-to-do sisters who attend the university and their struggles with love, parties and completing their degrees.

"People say it's like Paris and Nicky Hilton," said Teresa Hale, pro-

motions coordinator for publisher iUniverse.

The book features powerful conflict between the sisters and addresses racial issues, Hale said.

Outside of her emotional connection to the university, Foster said Penn State's size makes it a great setting for a book. Because the campus is like a small city, she found it to be the perfect place for her young, rich protagonists.

The book's main characters, Kimari and Kyla Fontaine, visit many locations that Penn State students will recognize — but getting them right wasn't easy.

"The campus has changed a lot since I was here," Foster said. But she had some help from her little sister. Mason made sure that she got the locales correct.

For instance, Foster referenced the sisters meeting up at the downtown Gap, a site that no longer exists.

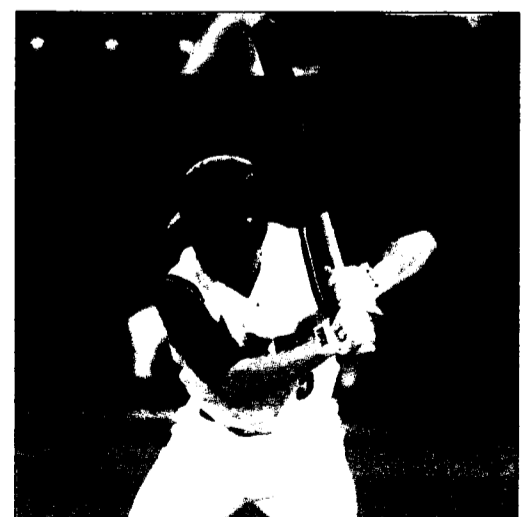
See **NOVEL**, Page 2.



Foster



Left: Brock Holt holds Linlee Oyler, a member of his host family. Right: Holt bats for the State College Spikes.



## Families bond over Spikes player

By Audrey Snyder  
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | aas5220@psu.edu

While Spikes infielder Brock Holt did a post game interview July 24 at Medlar Field at Lubrano Park, a group of seven people looked on with excitement.

Laughing and conversing as if they knew each other for years, they snapped photos of him in his Spikes uniform and cheered as he answered questions.

To an outsider, it may seem like the seven people are part of one big fami-

ly, when in reality, they had only known each other for four days.

What makes these seven people from two families so close is the relationship they have with Holt. Holt's mother, father and sister made the trip from Stephenville, Texas, to watch him play baseball, and the second group of people has been his host family for the last month and a half.

Holt is just one of the many players on the Spikes' roster who is living with a host family. It's an experience Holt said he wanted to do to help ease the transition of moving to a new area.

Coming out of Rice University, the 21-year-old Holt moved to State College and had to spend his first few nights alone in a hotel.

Once the Spikes were able to pair him up with a host family, Holt immediately discovered some of the perks of living in a family environment: home cooked meals, children running around the house and people to talk to after games.

"It's a lot of fun," Holt said of living with his host family, the Oylers. "That family is awesome. They are so great" See **SPIKES**, Page 2.