



The Daily Collegian

psucollegian.com

Published independently by students at Penn State

Vol. 110 No. 29

Friday, Oct. 2, 2005

30 cents off campus

Altoona campus honors lost lives

A group honored Penn State student Joseph Dado and other alcohol-related deaths.

By Peter Panepinto
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Following the death of Penn State freshman Joseph Dado, Penn State Altoona held a candlelight vigil Thursday night to honor the lives of college students who die from alcohol each year.

"We have never lost a student because of alcohol, and we don't ever want to," Essie Auker, assistant director at Penn State Altoona's health and wellness



Courtesy of Jendi Schmelzen

Essie Auker, the assistant director of health and wellness at Penn State Altoona, and Michael Kenney, the president of the student government association, light a candle at a vigil held Thursday at Penn State Altoona.

center, said. "We want to raise awareness about the dangers of alcohol and a responsibility to others."

The campus held its Friends For Life event from 8 to 11 p.m.

Thursday, in the Slep Student Center. Auker said it was originally planned for later in the month, but after Dado's death, she moved the date up.

See ALTOONA, Page 2.

ATO avoids nat'l rebuke

By Somer Wiggins
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Although the Interfraternity Council (IFC) suspended Penn State's Alpha Tau Omega chapter Tuesday, an official from the national fraternity said they won't pursue action against the chapter at this time.

The State College Police Department said Monday that they are investigating incidents of furnishing alcohol to minors at the Alpha Tau Omega property and the Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji) property. Both incidents are associated with the death of 18-year-old Penn State freshman Joseph Dado, who was found dead Sept. 21 in an exterior stairwell of the Steidle Building.

The results of a toxicology report that will reveal whether Dado consumed alcohol before his death is expected in the coming weeks, officials said.

"At this point, we have no reason to believe Joseph Dado was served alcohol while at Alpha Tau Omega," Wynn Smiley, chief executive officer of the national Alpha Tau Omega headquarters, said. Smiley did not return a call for further comment by press time Thursday.

Multiple members of Alpha

Tau Omega declined comment or were unavailable by press time Thursday.

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) suspended Alpha Tau Omega on Tuesday after police said the fraternity was under investigation.

Dado was last seen leaving Fiji, 319 N. Burrowes Road, at about 3 a.m. Sept. 20, police said. Friends said he visited Alpha Tau Omega, 321 E. Fairmount Ave., earlier that night.

Under IFC terms of suspension, Alpha Tau Omega is unable to vote in council meetings or hold social functions.

IFC President Luke Pierce reiterated his organization's suspension of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity Thursday night and stood behind the IFC's decision.

"Suspension is a standard procedure in our judicial process and exists to preserve the integrity of the investigation and to provide for the safety of a chapter and its members," Pierce (senior-economics) said.

The IFC suspended Fiji on Sept. 22 after police began the investigation. Fiji's national headquarters has also banned alcohol from the chapter's property.

To e-mail reporter: ssw5070@psu.edu

Whitehouse noise recorded at game

By Samantha Kramer
and Laura Nichols
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITERS

For big game days, Penn State football fans wear all white — and now, officials are tracking the white noise in the Whitehouse.

Engineers in Penn State's graduate program in acoustics are measuring the sound generated by the crowd at a football game using a HEAD visor, a device that can measure and pinpoint sound levels.

Andrew Barnard, a senior research assistant at the Applied Research Laboratory, said the athletic department approached him two years ago to measure the

sound levels at Beaver Stadium.

"The department wanted to know how loud the crowd was, and they wanted recordings to use during the team's practice," Barnard said.

Twelve different sound level mefers have been installed inside and outside of the stadium. When Penn State played Iowa in the Whitehouse game last weekend, Barnard and other graduate students in the acoustics program stood at each 10-yard line and held sound meters pointed toward the crowd.

At points during the game, sound levels reached up to 110 decibels.

See WHITEHOUSE, Page 2.



Daniel Bott/Collegian

NEIGHBOR

State College resident Liz Pierce poses outside her home on Locust Lane. Pierce said she doesn't mind the high number of fraternity houses near her home, but other residents disagree.

Locals, fraternities coexist

By Greg Galiffa
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Sometime last year, State College resident Liz Pierce was awoken in the middle of the night by someone screaming and fumbling around on the first floor of her Locust Lane house. Thinking it was one of her children, she rushed out of her bedroom to see what was going on.

But after barreling down the stairs, she discovered it wasn't one of her children making the noise. It was a Penn State student. And he was half naked.

"He thought he was at a frat house," Pierce said. "All he had on were boxer shorts. I talked to him and got him out of the house."

Once outside, the student real-

ized how cold it was and tried to re-enter the house through the back door. Pierce said. Before he could, Pierce ran through her house and locked the door. The student was livid.

"He came back around front and started screaming," she said. "He kept yelling, so I told him to stop and go away. I was afraid he was going to break something, so I called the police."

By the time police arrived, the Penn State student had already left. Pierce was asked to give a description of what the student looked like.

"I said, 'He's the only boy running down the street in gray-and-blue boxer shorts.'"

Events like these are commonplace for those who live along

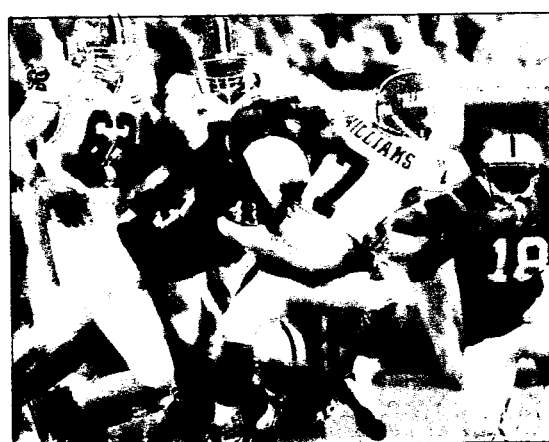
Fraternity Row, Pierce said. During the 30 years she has lived there, she said she has woken to several interesting discoveries. Some of the more frequent have included belongings stolen from her front porch, trash and empty beer cans wedged into her hedges and the occasional hungover student using her lawn as a makeshift bed.

Fighting fire with fire

Despite all of this, Pierce said she and her family have never considered leaving Fraternity Row.

"I love where I live, and I'm not moving," she said. "It's always exciting and interesting. If you choose to live here, you should do your homework. I knew what I

See NEIGHBORS, Page 9.



Collegian file photo

Julce Williams is sacked by Josh Hull during last year's Penn State-Illinois game in Beaver Stadium. The teams will meet again this Saturday in Illinois.

Penn State readies for first road test

By Matt Fortuna
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State is coming off its first loss of the season, has dropped 10 spots in the AP poll and will now be playing in a venue other than Beaver Stadium for the first time this season.

Leading a team looking to regroup, captain Daryll Clark wouldn't have it any other way.

"It definitely brings us together," the senior quarterback said. "It's all about the focus we gotta have. We're not gonna have the 100,000 fans behind us. We're gonna have to have an 'us against the world' mentality."

The No. 15 Nittany Lions (3-1, 0-1 Big Ten) will bring that mentality to Champaign, Ill., for a 3:30 p.m. contest against Illinois (1-2, 0-1) Saturday at Memorial Stadium.

Penn State's last trip to Illinois resulted in a 27-20 loss in 2007. As they are this year, the Lions were then coming off a conference-opening loss, that time on the road at Michigan. Opposing venues have not been friendly to the Lions, who are just 4-6 in their last 10 road openers.

In fact, they are just 20-28 on the road overall dating back to 1999.

"The crowd's not gonna play the game, so you just gotta go out there and you gotta get used to their field, because

you're used to your field," cornerback A.J. Wallace said.

Wallace and his teammates will be facing a desperate Fighting Illini team that is coming off a 30-0 loss last Saturday at Ohio State. Illinois' only win is a 45-17 home victory over Illinois State, a Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) school, on Sept. 12.

Following a sub-par start to a season filled with high expectations for the Illini, the Illinois athletic department is pulling all its tricks out of the bag this week, declaring an "Orange Out" for Saturday's game.

To e-mail reporter: mjf5217@psu.edu