

JoePa: Lions lack experience

By Brendan Monahan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Joe Paterno isn't betting his whole stack of chips this weekend at No. 1 Alabama.

Paterno will treat Saturday's game as a learning experience because Penn State isn't at Alabama's level yet. At his weekly press conference Tuesday, the Nittany Lions coach said the opportunity to play a big game on the road against a team like Alabama is something for his players to soak in and a reason why players come to Penn State.

"That doesn't mean a miracle's going to happen," Paterno said. "We come home, and we'll be a better team for having played the game."

A key part of Paterno's reasoning: The Nittany Lions lack experience, while Alabama doesn't.

The inexperience doesn't show on paper. The Crimson Tide return 10 starters while Penn State has 12 coming back from their 2009 teams. And Alabama will be without defensive lineman Marcell Dareus, who won't play Saturday because of a two-game NCAA suspension for accepting nearly \$2,000 in improper benefits during two trips to Miami.

Paterno said Alabama's depth comes from the experienced players who didn't start last season — something lacking in the Penn State offensive line, the unit Paterno singled out as a major concern heading into Saturday.

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Andrew Dunheimer/Collegian

Joe Paterno speaks to a small crowd gathered in the Beaver Stadium media room about the upcoming Alabama game on Tuesday.

HOMECOMING

Court gets house calls

By Megan Rogers
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The 2010 Homecoming Court was finalized Tuesday night, and Homecoming officials said they believe those selected for the court best represent the student body.

Members of this year's court are Danielle DaSilva, Marina Johnson, Katherine Larimer, Jessica Pellicciotta, Katy Poole, Dan Cartwright, Dan Florencio, Curran McCready, Jared McKnight and Justin Ross.

The ten students were chosen because of their dedication to Penn State, Homecoming Public Relations Director Caitlin Rush said.

"It's really nice to see all of these students who have done so much with their time here at Penn State being rewarded for all of that," Rush (junior-marketing and public relations) said.

Court member Curran McCready, who found out in the HUB-Robeson Center that he had made the court shortly after the selections were finalized, said his initial reaction was excitement. McCready (senior-finance), the THON Donor and Alumni Relations overall chairman and a Lion Ambassador, said he was surprised to be nominated to the court. He said he's looking forward to Homecoming week already.

"I'm excited to share the experience with the rest of the members of the court," he said.

The other members of Homecoming Court were informed of their selections via late-night house calls from the Homecoming Overall Committee, Rush said.

Homecoming Royalty Director Dave Belliveau said the committee hoped for a court that was focused on students who excelled in the areas of philanthropy and diversity.

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Hosseini to speak at series

'Kite Runner' writer booked

By Hannah Rishel
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Khaled Hosseini, the Afghan-American author of "The Kite Runner," will bring his unique view on Afghanistan to Penn State later this month.

Hosseini will speak as part of SPA's Distinguished Speaker Series at 8 p.m. Sept. 30 in Eisenhower Auditorium.

Tickets for the event will become available Sept. 16 at all Penn State ticket locations during regular distribution hours. Admission is free, with two tickets available per Penn State student ID. General admission tickets will go on sale Thursday, Sept. 23.

"He's been a person we've been very interested in for a while," said Emily McConnell, Distinguished Speaker Series chairwoman. "We've never been able to book him before because he's so difficult to get. We got really lucky."

Unlike the traditional Distinguished Speaker Series format, where the lecturer speaks and does a short question and answer session afterward, Hosseini will take part in an hour-long moderated question-and-answer session. Attendees will be able to submit their questions online prior to the event.

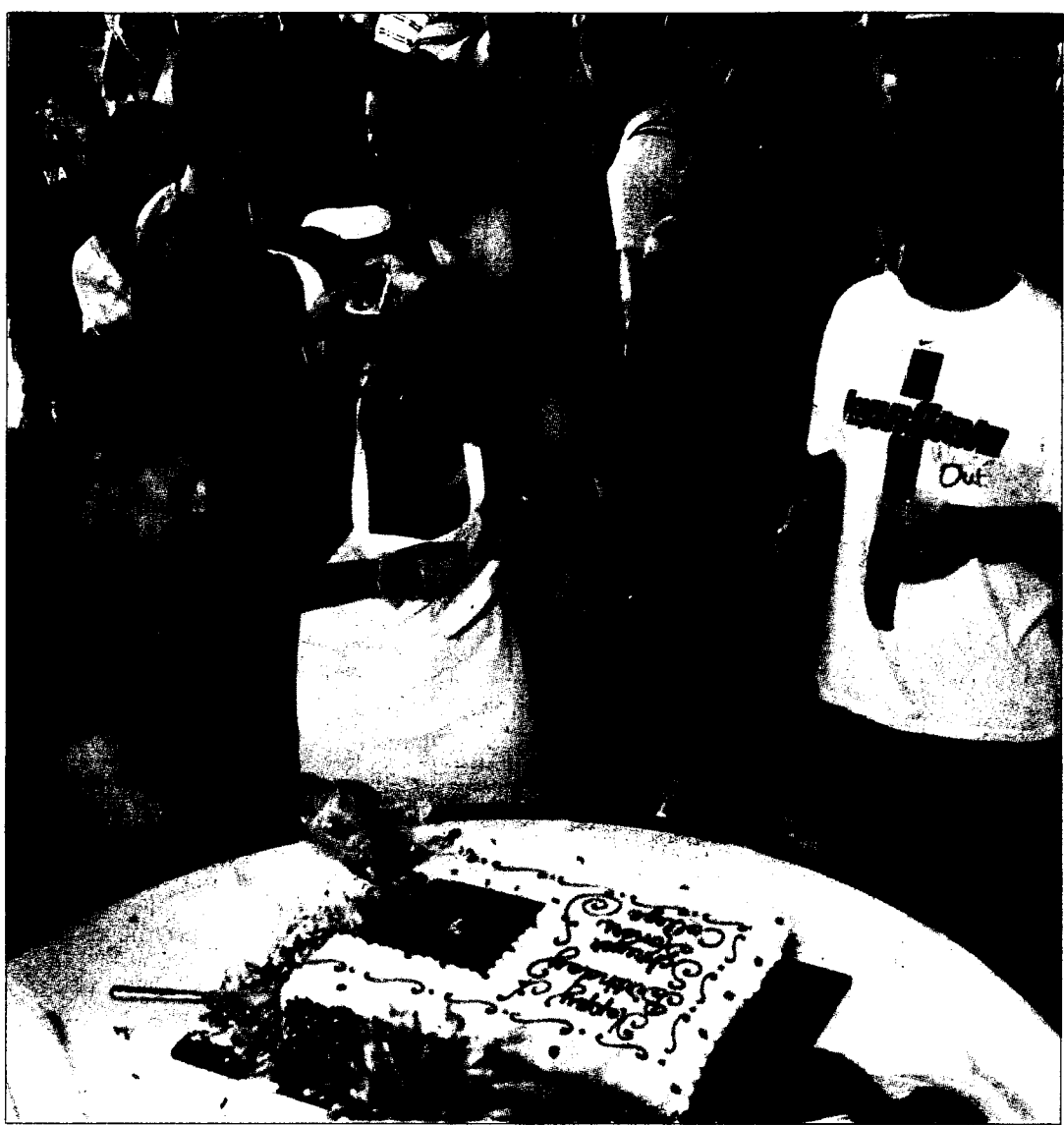
"The content of the event will be determined by what questions students ask him and how much he elaborates on them," McConnell (junior-economics) said.

Hosseini became an international best seller with his debut novel "The Kite Runner." He followed up with his sophomore novel, "A Thousand Splendid Suns." Both his novels involve his homeland and the issues that go along with the country. Before his books were published, he worked as a physician, according to his official website.

And fans said they are very excited for the author's visit.

Ashley Stryker is a fan of the book, calling it a "frightening novel" that helped her reevaluate her view of Afghanistan.

"It wasn't See AUTHOR, Page 2.



Tom Ruane/Collegian

Students wait in line to receive some cake as part of the Schreyer Honors College's 13th birthday.

SHC heralds 13 years

By Julia Anselmo
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Schreyer Honors College (SHC) students and staff gathered in the HUB-Robeson Center's Heritage Hall Tuesday to celebrate the college's 13th birthday and commemorate the success and prestige of the college at Penn State over the years.

SHC students and staff mingled, talked and enjoyed cake and the Berkey Creamery's new signature ice cream flavor, Scholar's Chip.

Christine Arbutina, SHC's college relations coordinator, said the purpose of the event was held to celebrate and recognize the students and staff of the honors college.

"We started this last year as a way to commemorate the college's founding — to celebrate the past, present, and future of the honors college," Arbutina said.

SHC Dean Christian Brady gave opening remarks and said the honors college has always been a special place for talented,

hard-working students and faculty to share their gifts with the Penn State community.

"The Schreyer Honors College is a place of life-long, life-changing significance," he said. "Today we recognize the rich heritage of honors at Penn State and celebrate the special gifts of time and talents given by many."

Three SHC students were then called forward to talk about the important role the honors college has played in their lives and education at Penn State.

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State Theatre leader to step down

By Lindsay Cryer
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Mike Negra, who has helped renovate and direct the State Theatre since 1999, stepped down from his position Tuesday afternoon.

Negra, who served as the executive director of the State Theatre, 130 W. College Ave., since 2006, did not comment on the reasons behind his resignation.

Negra said he is uncertain about who will fill the position — it will be up to the State Theatre's board of directors.

His projected last day at the theater is Sept. 21 and he is willing to help the downtown venue

transition into new leadership, he said.

"I've put too much of my life and there's so many people in the community that have helped make the State Theatre what it is today," Negra said.

"I could never walk away from it in a huff. I gave them two weeks and hopefully that's enough time to help them transition into new leadership."

There were no board members available for comment by press time Tuesday.

Negra said he has no specific plans for the future, other than relaxing, working on his family's goat farm and potentially traveling. His main concern is to aid in the theater's transition, he added.

"It's all about the State Theatre," he said.

State College Mayor Elizabeth Goreham said Negra's work in funding and donations for the State Theatre — as well as his energy and "tremendous effort" — have been wonderful gifts to State College.

"He's contributed to the cultural value of our town and he's created a venue that is a point of pride for all of us in State College and in the area," Goreham said. "He should be commended and we need to honor him in some way."

Negra worked with the State Theatre since its inception in 1999, when he was also the

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Collegian file photo

Mike Negra will leave his position.



Penn State Roller Hockey

Informative meeting about D1 and B Division Club Teams on: **Wednesday, September 8th** At 7:00 PM in 110 Wartik

For more details and contact information, go to: **WWW.PSURH.COM**