

The Daily Collegian

FOUR THE GLORY
Fourth-seeded Penn State begins the hunt for its fourth straight national title | PAGE 8

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Club protests, drops pants

By Jessica Tully
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Members of Eco-Action dropped their pants outside of the HUB-Robeson Center Thursday to show they were more embarrassed about using coal for energy than being half-naked in front of other students.

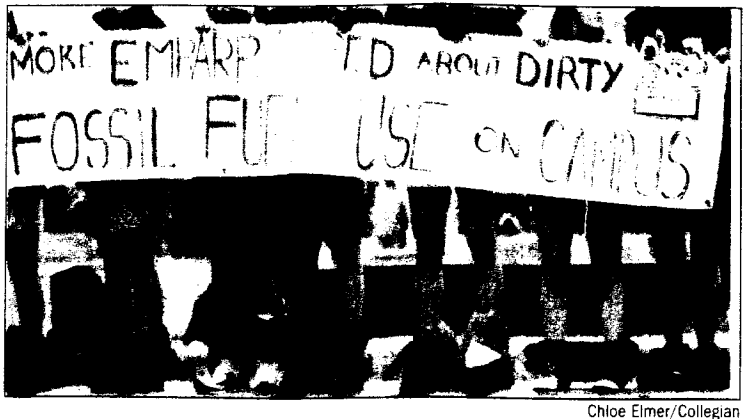
They said they wanted to bring attention to the university's decision on whether to continue to use coal or switch to a natural gas or renewable energy at the

West Campus Steam Plant. A decision on the matter is expected in January.

The West Campus Steam Plant has to be upgraded because of new regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Eco-Action members said they are concerned the university is not seriously considering using renewable energy.

"The West Campus Steam Plant consists of 95 percent all campus heat and hot water. We



Members of Eco-Action stand outside of the HUB-Robeson Center on Thursday afternoon in order to raise awareness about fossil fuel use.

want the university to do more extensive research on all of the different types of renewable energy like wind, thermal or geothermal wind," Eco-Action Vice President Stefan

Nagy (junior-economics) said. One month ago, the club marched to Penn State President Graham Spanier's office to voice its concerns. A coalition was

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Music store moves

By Matt Scorzafave
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Vintage music store The Music Underground moved Monday to a new location, now sharing a space with hookah lounge Chronic Town at 224 W. College Ave.

The move came less than a year after The Music Underground opened on 316 E. College Ave., in a space that was previously occupied by City Lights Records.

Jesse Ruegg, co-owner of The Music Underground and Chronic Town said the move was unexpected, but is confident the move will not affect customers' perception of the store.

"I don't think people who initially came to The Music Underground did so because of its location," Ruegg said.

Ruegg, of State College, said The Music Underground opened this past July, with the intentions to expand into its space with a cafe and full arcade area.

"We knew we weren't going to cover our costs with just a record store," he said.

Ruegg said that when the music store was ready to expand, they discovered that building codes required the store to install a brand new heating and cooling system.

"It would have been a \$20,000 investment that we felt the landlord should be responsible for," he said.

Due to the building code issue, the store decided to move to its new location, notifying consumers with a small press release and updates to the store's website and Facebook page, Ruegg said.

The Music Underground not only sells vinyl records, CDs and other music memorabilia, but also provides turntables and other music equipment available for rental.

According to The Music Underground's Facebook page, the store's new shared space will include a lot of the same features as the original store location, with "even more records."

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PSU awaits bowl

By Andrew J. Cassavell
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

At this time next year, two Big Ten teams will be preparing for the final game of the season — the inaugural conference championship game in Indianapolis.

But for now, Big Ten fans have to settle for a week of relaxation.

That doesn't mean there isn't something to watch for on "championship Saturday." In fact, the 4 p.m. SEC title game between South Carolina and Auburn could play a huge part in where Big Ten teams head for their bowl games — especially Penn State, which appears destined for either the Outback Bowl or the Gator Bowl.

A decision is expected Sunday.

Here's a look at the two scenarios and how they affect the Nittany Lions:

If Auburn wins...

This is the easier scenario to predict, and probably the more likely of the two.

The Tigers are favored and have their first-ever berth in the BCS title game on the line.

If Auburn completes its undefeated regular season, the Gamecocks will lose their shot at a BCS bowl and fall to the mercy of the bowl representatives. That could take them to Tampa for the Outback Bowl against Penn State. The Outback Bowl has expressed interest in the Nittany Lions, despite the fact it could be choosing among Penn State, Iowa and Illinois. The latter two beat Penn State decisively early in the season.

"Penn State is one of the most tradition-rich and quality programs year in and year out," Outback Bowl representative Mike Schulze said Thursday. "This year is no exception."

Schulze cited past experiences of Penn State in the Outback Bowl, where the Nittany Lions have sold tickets and capitalized on the field with a 3-0 record.

He added head-to-head records is one piece of the puzzle, citing performance down the stretch (Iowa ended

See BOWL, Page 2.



Ava Langelaan, 5, of State College, shares her wish list with Santa Claus at the Christmas tree lighting at Allen Street on Thursday. The annual ceremony is topped off with the lighting of a large holiday tree.

Santa brings holiday cheer

By Anita Modi
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Dozens of families gathered at the corner of College Avenue and Allen Street to welcome Santa Claus to State College on Thursday night.

The Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony, held from 5:30 to 7 p.m., not only featured Santa's much-awaited arrival riding an Alpha fire truck, but musical performances, hot chocolate and the lighting of a giant holiday

tree also helped spectators celebrate the winter season.

"It's a carnival atmosphere with a nice Christmas feel to it," said State College Mayor Elizabeth Goreham, who began the evening's festivities. "It's a thrill, and families from all over the region come down to be a part of it."

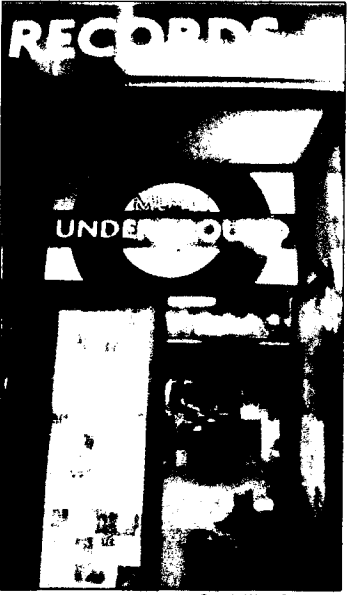
Jody Alessandrino, Executive Director of the Downtown State College Improvement District, said the event usually attracts over 500 people depending on the

weather. While State College originally hosted an annual Christmas parade years ago, the tree lighting ceremony has been held since at least 2002, he said.

The evening program started with a reading of "The Night Before Christmas" by Mrs. Claus, who sat in an armchair sipping hot chocolate and eating popcorn provided by the Lions Club.

"Now this is just tradition," she

See SANTA, Page 2.



The Music Underground has moved to 316 E. College Ave. The store sells records, CDs and turntables, among other things.

BRIDGING THE GENDER GAP

PSU addresses disparities

By Sarah Peters
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Across the country, women have made progress toward workplace equality. But teaching in the college classroom, women still struggle to achieve equality with men.

At Penn State, more male professors than women have earned tenure, and more men hold faculty positions than women.

Carolyn Sachs, head of the

women's studies department and professor of rural and women's studies, said the problem is both historical and contemporary.

Some female professors may be on the tenure track while they're having children, contributing to the problem. And in some fields, women may be expected to work harder than men, Sachs said.

The Faculty-Tenure Flow Rates: 2009-2010 Annual Report, published by the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and the Office of

Planning and Institutional Assessment, looks at the rate of tenure for female faculty who entered the tenure track from 1990 through 2002 and gives individuals seven years to achieve tenure. The typical tenure track is six years, but the report takes into account faculty who may have "stopped the clock" for a year for medical or other reasons.

For the most recent year of entry, 2002, 58 percent of female

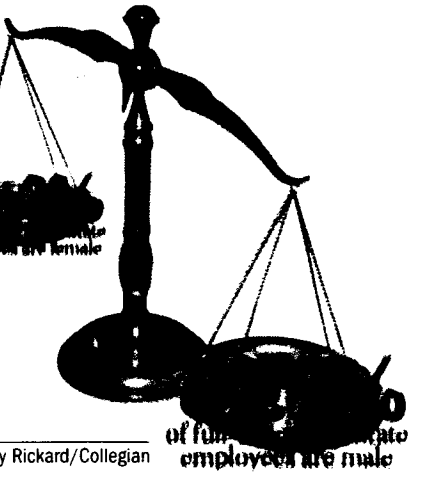
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Tipping the scale

Despite strides toward equality, Penn State still employs more male faculty members than women, and men achieve tenure at higher rates.



Source: Penn State Budget Office



Ashley Rickard/Collegian