



# VERSUS

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FIU (1-0) PANTHERS    (1-0) PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS



Graphic by Isabella Viteri  
Photos by Samantha Oropeza, Sienna Pinney, Alex Fischer

# Checks over stripes?

## Franklin on rumored switch to Adidas, injuries

By Lyle Alenstein  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

James Franklin rolled up to his media availability with a towel draped over his gray Penn State cutoff.

What was the towel covering? The Nike logo. This likely wasn't intentional, but the Nittany Lions have been a topic of recent buzz in the branding industry, as reports have gone out that the university will be making an apparel switch to Adidas in a deal that will span for 10 years.

Franklin was asked about the rumor, injury updates and more in his Wednesday press conference.

### Adidas rumors

Late Tuesday evening, Brett McMurphy of On3 reported that the Nittany Lions would be making the switch from Nike to Adidas pending approval from Penn State's Board of Trustees.

Hours later, Matt Fortuna of Inside Zone reported that the deal would be 10 years and it's as good as done.

While the white Nike swoosh was still as big as ever printed on the fences of the practice facility and still embedded on the jerseys, Franklin had no real comment that indicated anything of substance and established he's focused on the season.

"At this point, I do not," Franklin said of whether

he cares about the rumors. "That's something that the administration is working on. I mean, obviously you have an awareness of what's going on, but we're focused on our opponent for Saturday."

### Injury updates

Penn State saw a pair of presumed starters for the 2025 campaign not suit up on Saturday in defensive end Zuriah Fisher and cornerback Zion Tracy. Fisher was listed as inactive on the pregame availability report while Tracy was questionable.

Fisher went through warmups and wore a brace on his right leg, though Franklin previously said he arrived at Beaver Stadium on Saturday wanting to play. Fisher returned to practice after not participating last week, and seems like he will be good to go against FIU.

"We'll probably only play him a limited amount of reps and ease him into it," Franklin said. "Right now, he's a go."

### Young CBs

With Tracy being sidelined, redshirt freshman cornerback Kenny Woseley Jr. stepped into the starting role after a strong spring and fall camp.

"I thought Woos did a nice job. He's a high football IQ guy," Franklin said. "Obviously Zion's played a ton of football for us. Having him back is significant, but Woseley did some nice things in the game, and we'll continue to find a way to rotate him in and get him some work."

There was a ton of buzz for Daryus Dixon as he'll be burning his redshirt, but it was fellow 4-star Jahmir Joseph that Franklin was

asked about, to which he dished out some praise.

Joseph finished second amongst the cornerbacks in snaps per Pro Football Focus against Nevada, only behind Woseley.

"Very mature, very strong, physically put together already. Doesn't look like a freshman," Franklin said. "Consistency, like all these guys, there's still a little bit of an issue at times, but overall, we've been very, very pleased with him, and anticipate him playing at some point this year. We'll see how this develops."

### Nonconference scheduling

While the Nittany Lions' first three games are Group of Six programs, Franklin was sure to mention the Power Four |

programs they have played in recent memory.

He made note of the home-and-home with Pitt, Auburn and West Virginia and even mentioned that the upcoming matchup against FIU was originally slated to be Virginia Tech.

Despite this, the Nittany Lions already faced Nevada, have the Panthers on deck and have Villanova in the hole, so he discussed the philosophy when it comes to scheduling nonconference opponents.

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### Take a look

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**Safety Antoine Belgrave-Shorter grows**

**OL Anthony Donkoh strives for improvement**

## FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL PANTHERS

No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.
0	Johnny Chaney Jr.	LB/Sr.	15	Tyderick Brown	DB/Fr.	36	Nate Henry	RB/So.	70	Mykeal Rabess	OL/So.
0	Dallas Payne	TE/Sr.	15	Jake Helfrich	QB/WR/Sr.	37	Kelvin Reyes	DB/Fr.	71	Antonio Tripp Jr.	OL/So.
1	Keyone Jenkins	QB/Jr.	16	Noah Grant	K/Sr.	40	Orlando Syph-Timmons	LB/So.	72	Jackson Schultze	OL/Sr.
1	Ashton Levells	DB/Jr.	16	Joe Pesansky	QB/Sr.	41	Stone Springman	P/So.	74	Matias Garcia	OL/Fr.
2	Brian Blades II	DB/Sr.	17	Zachary Waters	QB/Jr.	42	Kani Smith	LB/Fr.	75	Miguel Cedeno	OL/Jr.
2	Tar'varish Dawson	WR/Sr.	18	Dwight Nunoo	LB/Jr.	43	Robert Williams	DL/Fr.	76	Samson Chazulle	OL/Fr.
3	Demetrius Hill	DB/Jr.	18	Jojo Stone	WR/Fr.	44	Keegan Davis	DL/Sr.	77	Viliani Makahununiu	OL/Jr.
3	C'Quan Jnopierre	WR/Sr.	19	Olasunkonmi Agunloye	DL/Gr.	45	Lamont Green Jr.	DL/So.	78	Jaleel Davis	OL/Sr.
4	Victor Evans III	DB/So.	19	Ross Fournet	WR/So.	47	LCier Luter	DL/Sr.	80	Andre Brown	WR/Fr.
4	Alex Perry	WR/Jr.	20	Devonte Lyons	RB/Fr.	47	Justin Wood	LS/So.	81	Dylan Herman	WR/So.
5	Kejon Owens	RB/Sr.	21	Semaj Demps	WR/So.	48	Robert Czeremcha	K/Fr.	82	Adrian Hemelt	P/K/Fr.
5	Steven Shannon	DL/Jr.	22	Sterling Joseph	RB/Fr.	48	Richard Nwaukoni	DL/Jr.	84	Maguire Anderson	WR/Sr.
6	Anthony Carrie	RB/So.	22	Shamir Sterlin	DB/Fr.	51	Zaire Flournoy	OL/Jr.	85	Donovan Giles	WR/Jr.
6	Trey Wilhoit	P/Sr.	23	Jessiah McGrew	DB/Fr.	52	Akeem Neal	OL/Fr.	86	Justin Cayenne	TE/Sr.
7	Jai-Ayviaunnn	DB/Jr.	24	Jose Corbo	RB/Sr.	53	Nathan Tveit	OL/Fr.	87	Braden Staten	TE/So.
7	Kyle McNeal	WR/Fr.	24	King Massey	DL/Fr.	54	Chad Staley	OL/Sr.	88	Jackson Verdugo	TE/Fr.
8	Juju Lewis	WR/Jr.	25	Kenton Simmons	DL/Jr.	55	Daniel Michel	OL/So.	89	Sean Burke	TE/Fr.
9	Christian Langford	QB/Fr.	25	Daeveon Buie	S/Sr.	56	Marc Michel Jr.	OL/Fr.	90	Xion Chapman	DL/So.
9	Antonio Patterson	DB/Jr.	26	Myles Cunningham	DB/Fr.	57	Knajee Saffold	OL/Fr.	91	Kyrie Samuel	DL/Jr.
10	Clayton Dees	QB/Fr.	27	Mister Clark	DB/So.	58	Jeremy Smith	OL/Fr.	92	Nick Watson	DL/Jr.
10	Ormond Wallace	DB/Jr.	29	Preston Thompson	DB/So.	59	Jaheim Buchanan	OL/So.	93	Matthew Pointer	DL/Fr.
11	Percy Courtney Jr.	LB/Jr.	30	Jordan Clemons	RB/So.	60	Noah Fernandez	OL/Fr.	95	Quaylen Hill	DL/Sr.
11	Eric Nelson	WR/Fr.	30	Sadonnie Gay	DB/Fr.	65	Julius Pierce	OL/Gr.	97	Aaron Armitage	DL/Sr.
12	Websley Etienne	DB/Jr.	32	Bobby Salla Jr.	DB/Sr.	66	Aydan Cinton	DL/Fr.	99	Germaine Carter	DL/So.
12	Amari Issac	WR/Fr.	33	Toddrick Brewton	DL/So.	66	Takaylen Muex	OL/Fr.			
13	Dante Anderson	DL/Jr.	34	Cam Davis	LB/Fr.	67	Jon Rodriguez	OL/Fr.			
13	Tyson Carter	WR/Fr.	35	Josiah Taylor	LB/Fr.	68	Anthony Smith	DL/Fr.			
14	Kenny Williams	WR/Fr.	35	Nate Henry	RB/So.	69	Trent Sims	LS/So.			

## PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS

No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.	No.	Name	Position/Elig.
0	Dominic DeLuca	LB/Sr.	17	Ethan Grunkemeyer	QB/Fr.	38	Jackson Pryts	LB/Jr.	71	Vega Ioane	OL/Jr.
1	Kyron Hudson	WR/Sr.	17	Kenny Woseley Jr.	CB/Fr.	38	Winston Yates	LB/So.	72	Nolan Rucci	OL/Sr.
2	Liam Clifford	WR/Sr.	18	Joey Schlaffer	TE/So.	39	Ty Blanding	DT/So.	73	Caleb Brewer	OL/Fr.
2	Audavion Collins	CB/Jr.	18	Max Granville	DE/Fr.	39	Jashaun Green	S/Jr.	74	J'ven Williams	OL/So.
3	Antoine Belgrave-Shorter	S/Fr.	19	Josiah Brown	WR/Fr.	40	Anthony Specca	LB/Fr.	75	Matt Detisch	OL/Jr.
3	Koby Howard	WR/Fr.	19	Chaz Coleman	DE/Fr.	42	Mason Robinson	DE/So.	76	Mason Carlan	OL/Sr.
4	Tyseer Denmark	WR/Fr.	19	Jack Lambert	QB/So.	43	Dayshaun Burnett	DE/Fr.	77	Owen Aliciene	OL/Fr.
4	A.J. Harris	CB/Jr.	20	Mylachi Williams	DE/Fr.	44	Jaylen Harvey	DE/Fr.	78	Malachi Goodman	OL/Fr.
5	Daryus Dixon	CB/Fr.	21	Vaboue Toure	S/Fr.	44	Matt Henderson	TE/Fr.	79	Donnie Harbour	OL/Fr.
5	Devonte Ross	WR/Sr.	21	Jabree Coleman	RB/Fr.	45	Enai White	DT/Jr.	80	Jeff Exinor Jr.	WR/Fr.
6	Zakee Wheatley	S/Sr.	23	Tikey Hayes	RB/Fr.	46	Cortez Harris`	DE/Fr.	81	Donte Nastasi	CB/So.
6	Matt Outten	WR/Fr.	23	Jahmir Joseph	CB/Fr.	47	Aidan Probst	DE/Fr.	82	Ethan Black	WR/So.
7	Kaden Saunders	WR/Jr.	24	Corey Smith	RB/Fr.	48	Tyler Duzansky	SN/Sr.	83	Brian Kortovich	TE/Fr.
7	Zion Tracy	CB/Jr.	24	Amare Campbell	LB/Jr.	50	Cooper Cousins	OL/So.	84	Peter Gonzalez	WR/Fr.
8	DaKaari Nelson	LB/So.	25	Quinton Martin Jr.	RB/Fr.	50	Alonzo Ford Jr.	DT/Sr.	85	Luke Reynolds	TE/So.
8	Trebor Pena	WR/Sr.	25	Alex Tatsch	LB/Fr.	51	Michael Troutman III	OL/Fr.	86	Aaron Entertline	WR/Fr.
9	Elliot Washington II	CB/Jr.	26	Cam Smith	LB/Fr.	52	Randy Adirika	DT/Fr.	87	Andrew Rappleyea	WR/So.
10	Nick Singleton	RB/Sr.	26	Cam Wallace	RB/So.	52	Dominic Rulli	OL/Jr.	88	Andrew Olesh	TE/Fr.
10	Dejuan Lane	S/So.	27	Lamont Payne Jr.	CB/So.	53	Nick Dawkins	OL/Sr.	88	Sam Siafa	TE/So.
11	LaVar Arrington II	LB/Fr.	28	Zane Durant	DT/Sr.	54	Xavier Gilliam	DT/Fr.	89	Finn Furmanek	DT/So.
11	Lyrick Samuel	WR/Fr.	28	Karson Kiesewetter	S/So.	54	Ian Harvie	OL/Jr.	90	Liam Andrews	DT/Fr.
12	Anthony Ivey	WR/Jr.	29	Daniel Jennings	DE/Fr.	54	TJ Shanahan Jr.	OL/So.	92	Andrew Dufault	SN/Fr.
12	Xxavier Thomas	CB/Fr.	30	Amiel Davis	RB/Sr.	55	Chimdy Onoh	OL/So.	93	Bobby Mears	DE/So.
13	Kaytron Allen	RB/Sr.	30	Kari Jackson	LB/Fr.	58	Kaleb Artis	DT/Jr.	94	Ryan Barker	K/So.
13	Tony Rojas	LB/Jr.	31	Logan Cunningham	WR/Jr.	59	Brady O'Hara	OL/Fr.	94	De'Andre Cook	DT/Fr.
14	Braz Thomas	S/Fr.	31	Kolin Dinkins	CB/Jr.	61	Liam Horan	OL/Fr.	95	Jordan Mayer	DE/So.
14	Riley Thompson	P/Sr.	32	Keon Wylie	LB/Jr.	63	Alex Birchmeier	OL/So.	98	Matthew Parker	K/Fr.
14	Jaxon Smolik	QB/So.	33	Dani Dennis-Sutton	DE/Sr.	64	Eagan Boyer	OL/Fr.	99	Yvan Kemajou	DE/Fr.
15	Drew Allar	QB/Sr.	34	Tyler Holzworth	RB/Sr.	65	Jim Fitzgerald	OL/Jr.	99	Gabriel Nwosu	P/Sr.
15	Joshua Johnson	CB/Fr.	34	Owen Waffle	DT/Fr.	66	Drew Shelton	OL/Sr.			
16	Khalil Dinkins	TE/Sr.	35	Blaise Sokach-Minnick	SN/Jr.	67	Henry Boehme	OL/So.			
16	Bekkem Kritza	QB/Fr.	35	Tyler Armstead	CB/Fr.	68	Anthony Donkoh	OL/So.			
16	King Mack	S/Jr.	36	Zuriah Fisher	DE/Sr.	70	Garrett Sexton	OL/Fr.			

# PRACTICE OBSERVATIONS

**By Will Horstman**  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Penn State returned to the practice fields after its win over Nevada, and its open practice provided some insights on the availability of players.

Most notably, defensive end Zuriah Fisher was at Wednesday’s viewing session. He was absent at last week’s open practice before being ruled “out” ahead of the team’s game against the Wolf Pack.

James Franklin said at his Monday presser Fisher wanted to play and was close to being active in Saturday’s matchup but was held back since he hadn’t practiced enough. With Fisher at practice Wednesday, he participated in usual drills with the rest of the defensive line.

Alongside Fisher, fellow defensive ends were getting reps to work on their bend. The crew knocked the ball out of an assistant’s hand after running around the edge.

In other defensive injury news, cornerback Zion Tracy, who didn’t play last week after receiving a “questionable” tag ahead of the game, was also at practice. He was with the rest of the defensive



Sienna Pinney/Collegian file photo

**Defensive end Zuriah Fisher** does drills during a weekly media viewing session of a Penn State football practice at Holuba Hall.

backs as they worked on plays against the scout team offense.

Tracy and cornerback Kenny Woseley Jr. were trading reps at nickel as both are the top-two players in the depth chart at the position.

Running back Quinton Martin Jr. was on the practice field as well. According to Franklin’s presser Monday, Martin was recently cleared, which is why he

didn’t play in the Nevada game.

Martin was the No. 3 running back at last week’s opening practice, and he held the role again Wednesday while Corey Smith and Cam Wallace were working with the scout team.

Franklin recently named Ethan Grunkemeyer as the back-up quarterback, but he specified it was just for Week 1.

Grunkemeyer seemed to be

on track to keep the role for at least another week as not only did he stand out to Franklin in Saturday’s game, he was also the second-team gunslinger during the open portions of Wednesday’s practice. Quarterback Jaxon Smolik was with the scout team.

Wide receiver Devonte Ross, who Franklin said is limited in game action after dealing with “bumps and bruises” this sum-

mer, went to work with the rest of the wideouts. He made a bunch of catches throughout different drills.

The offensive line worked on picking up stunts against the defensive line. Left tackle Drew Shelton picked up a blitzing center during one rep.

Amid all the action, Drew Allar got reps in with his top-three tight ends in Khalil Dinkins, Luke Reynolds and Andrew Rappleyea. Allar rifled passes to each as they ran a variety of different routes in the red zone.

Toward the end of the session, Allar and Grunkemeyer teamed up with the wide receivers to work on more routes. Wide receiver Koby Howard was with the ones and twos again as he’s been with them since the beginning of fall camp.

As the two gunslingers dished out throws to their wide receivers, most reps were corner routes. Kyron Hudson and Trebor Peña both flashed a few times throughout the drill after coming off of a standout performance against Nevada, possibly continuing the buzz into the FIU game.

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## Knowles schemes up success

**By Lexie Linderman**  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

In what felt like a mirror image of practice, Jim Knowles walked on the grass of Beaver Stadium pretty much in silence as he observed his players. James Franklin has said before the new defensive coordinator is soft-spoken and only pipes up when he feels it’s necessary.

So in an effort to maybe evoke some emotion out of him, Franklin hugged him pregame and threw a few jabs at Knowles’ chest to maybe get his heart rate up. Franklin said he failed that mission.

But Knowles succeeded in his own mission of calling his first game as Penn State’s defensive coordinator. His team allowed just 11 points in the win over Nevada on Saturday and had three turnovers.

“I credit this win, defensive win to coach Knowles, man,” Dani Dennis-Sutton said. “He had a great game plan.”

2025 is the Nittany Lions’ second straight season with a new defensive coordinator and a different scheme to learn, so the team and staff has been hard at work getting it installed. Week 1 was the first time the public got a look.

Knowles joked at local media day in August it would take him the rest of his life to implement everything he’d like to,

but it seemed as though the defense was prepared and ready in the new scheme.

“I think we know (the scheme) like the back of our hands,” Dom DeLuca said Wednesday. “We’re executing. We’re all watching film together, everyone getting together, watching film, asking questions in practice, outside of practice, texting each other, being ‘Yo, what did you call on this? What did you see on this?’ And I feel like that’s helping us a lot.”

Saturday was also the first time Knowles and the MIKE linebacker communicated with the green dot. Last season, Tom Allen was hard to understand for Kobe King, so now-linebackers coach Dan Connor took over the communication, but Knowles is the guy on the mic now, and Amare Campbell said Knowles is “clear cut.”

Campbell held the MIKE role for most of the contest, and the transfer linebacker said the Beaver Stadium environment was much more intense than anything he experienced at UNC, but there still weren’t many issues hearing and relaying the plays from Knowles.

“Yeah, it was different, for sure, having the green dot at North Carolina, it wasn’t as loud as it was during the game,

but just being able to really focus in on that voice that I’m hearing and just get the call to my teammates,” Campbell said.

Although he’s quiet in most instances, there’s nothing Knowles hates more than something going wrong with his defense, and he’ll make that known to Franklin and his players.

All of the Nittany Lions’ defenders have said Knowles holds them to a higher standard. So while Saturday’s win was certainly a good start for a team with national championship aspirations, there were still a few instances where Penn State’s defense was gashed, and Knowles will have something to say about that.

“He’s not like an excitable guy ... He whispers. Now, on the headset when things don’t go well, you see a different side, on the practice field you see there,” Franklin said. “But besides that, walks down the hallway quiet. He’s thinking in staff meetings. He speaks a little. That’s why I kind of was so animated with him before the game, trying to get a little reaction out of him ... But that’s who he is ... We’re happy he’s with us.”

## Belgrave-Shorter earns stripes

**By Will Horstman**  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Throughout fall camp, safety Antoine Belgrave-Shorter was in a position battle for the starting spot next to Zakee Wheatley. Instead of worrying about if he’d receive the job, he was focused on being himself, and it’s paid dividends already.

Belgrave-Shorter made his presence known through August as he became the “turnover king,” leading the team in turnovers, and was named a starting safety during Penn State’s 46-11 win over Nevada last Saturday, which was a memorable moment for him.

“It was a blessing when I got announced and started,” Belgrave-Shorter said after Wednesday’s practice. “Growing up, playing d1 college football, and then you’re the starting safety for the No. 2 team in the country. It just felt good. I went out there, it was a good experience for me.”

Belgrave-Shorter was a 247Sports composite 3-star prospect out of Mandarin High School in Jacksonville, Florida, ranking as the No. 715 player nationally. He was initially a cornerback but made a switch to safety after Kevin Winston Jr. went down with a season-ending injury last season. While he redshirted in 2024, he still appeared in seven games, recording six tackles. In March, Belgrave-Shorter officially made the position change to safety.

This offseason, Belgrave-Shorter said he dialed in on becoming more competitive and being more prepared. He was pegged as the starter about a week ahead of the game, and he detailed his emotions from that achievement.

“I was shocked, but then also it was like a relief,” Belgrave-Shorter said. “I knew that I earned that spot, and it made me feel kind of good.”

Belgrave-Shorter added it was a “crazy” feeling to run out of the tunnel and be called up with the rest of the starters. He tallied two tackles and only allowed one completion for 10 yards when targeted against the Wolf Pack.

Not only was Belgrave-Shorter a starter, he also saw some of the most playing time of anyone on defense as he played on 34 snaps, which was tied for the most. This allowed the coaching staff to get an extended look at the 6-feet, 198-pounder, and the reviews were positive.

“He’s a guy that’s doing some really good things,” James Franklin said. “Obviously earned the starting job, a name that a lot of people weren’t talking a whole lot about before the season started. But he earned it. Was very consistent all training camp. Created a bunch of turnovers as well. So he’s a guy that we’re expecting to take a big step this week between Week 1 and Week 2.”

Belgrave-Shorter said it’s his I.Q. that makes him unique as a player, but headed into Week 2 against FIU, Belgrave-Shorter noted one area he could improve upon: taking the correct angle for a tackle.

Regardless of what he’s working on, Belgrave-Shorter’s keeping the same goal that pushed him into his starting role in the first place.

“I know what I got to do,” Belgrave-Shorter said. “I got to keep running hard and doing me.”

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Alex Fischer/Collegian

**Defensive tackle Zane Durant and defensive end Yvan Kemajou** line up against Nevada in Beaver Stadium.

COLLEGIAN FOOTBALL STAFF PREDICTIONS

AVERY HILL



PENN STATE: 49  
FIU: 3



LEXIE LINDERMAN



PENN STATE: 50  
FIU: 10



LYLE ALENSTEIN



PENN STATE: 49  
FIU: 10



WILL HORSTMAN



PENN STATE: 54  
FIU: 6



# OL STRIVING TO IMPROVE

By Lexie Linderman  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Coming into Week 1, the two rooms with zero question marks overhead were the running backs and offensive linemen. But in the win against Nevada, both groups left much to be desired on the gridiron, with right tackle Nolan Rucci saying postgame the offensive line left some meat on the bone.

Phil Trautwein’s room is one many think could win the Joe Moore Award, given to the best offensive line in the country. They didn’t play to that standard last Saturday.

“Really directly after the game we kind of sat down together and talked about it was just like, we really do think that we can play tremendously more better than what we did,” Anthony Donkoh said. “Once we all had that common goal and stuff like that, we took that into this week, and we attacked it.”

One big issue with the offensive line group specifically was their play in the red zone. Penn State took four trips inside Nevada’s 20-yard line that ended in field goals, and according to James Franklin, a large part of that was due to some blocking errors up



Samantha Oropeza/Collegian

**Offensive lineman Anthony Donkoh (68)** celebrates with offensive lineman Vega loane (71) and wide receiver Trebor Peña (8) after a touchdown during the Penn State football game against Nevada.

front — especially on the outside zone.

“We can’t not block the three technique on outside zone and get a tackle for loss. We just, we got to be more consistent. I talked a bunch to you guys about having seven offensive linemen that we view as starters, and all those guys have got to play like that,” Franklin said. “They gotta show that they warrant being on the

field.”

When asked about the red zone struggles, Donkoh said he didn’t have an answer for why that was, but he did say the offensive line group is working adamantly this week about what each player’s responsibility is.

There’s also little things that need to be cleaned up, such as combination blocks and even stances. Donkoh, who played both

right guard and tackle last Saturday, said he caught himself in a guard stance sometimes when he was at the right tackle spot, and has a few other wrinkles to iron out in his game.

“For me personally, there were times that I wasn’t really having my hands inside. So my big emphasis this week was being able to have my hands inside, to be able to drive people off the ball

a little bit more, and other guys had other goals,” Donkoh said. “I don’t know what their goals were, but I know that whatever they did, I know they attacked it in that way.”

What the offensive line doesn’t need to work on, however, is its chemistry. Donkoh said the group is very tight, as seen during its interview with CBS Sports last week, but he personally had to adjust to communicating more, as he’s now on the inside next to Nick Dawkins.

With the week almost over Donkoh feels the offensive line has done what it needed to do to shore up the issues it had last week, and he’s expecting big things from himself and the group against FIU.

“We know that we can be way better than what we showed on film and as we know it. So our approach this week, we just felt like we had to put that chip on our shoulder, that we really have something to prove,” Donkoh said. “I feel like this week, we really attacked that, and it’s going to show on Saturday.”

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## ‘I was ready to go’

### Ethan Grunkemeyer impresses in Week 1

By Lyle Alenstein  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

It had been seven months since Penn State stepped onto a football field for game action. Saturday, Ethan Grunkemeyer had felt it.

When he touched turf against Nevada, he was raring to go. He had been appointed the backup quarterback to Drew Allar, for at least Week 1 as made clear by James Franklin, and it was a good possibility he saw the field against an inferior Wolf Pack squad later in the game.

“Once I stepped on the field and for pregame warm ups, I knew all the preparation that we put in during that week — I was ready to go,” Grunkemeyer said on Zoom Tuesday. “Once I stepped on the field, I was just ready to perform.”

The first and only time he saw snaps as a Nittany Lion in his freshman year was in the first round of the College Football Playoff against SMU, where he was thrust into the backup role after Beau Pribula entered the transfer portal.

It was a tough start as his first throw, intended for former Penn State wide receiver Harrison Wallace III, was intercepted by SMU cornerback Brandon Crossley. His only other throw was a nine-yard completion to Wallace.

The last time Grunkemeyer touched the field, he didn’t get to show what he was capable of. In his first snaps of his redshirt freshman season, he did, checking in with 14:47 to go in the fourth quarter as Penn State took over possession on its own 6-yard line.

He led the scoring drive.

“I’m probably most proud of going in there and taking the 94-yard drive,” Grunkemeyer said. “I think that was big for our offense, coming out, backed up and in our own territory from the six-yard line and being able to march down all the way and score, that was pretty cool.

Grunkemeyer showcased on that drive why he was a priority target for the Nittany Lions, ranking as a 4-star in the 2024 recruiting class and the No. 105 player nationally, No. 7 quarterback and No. 5 player in Ohio via the 247Sports composite rankings.

The scoring drive led by Grunkemeyer was capped off by his first career score.

He took a shotgun snap on 3rd-and-goal, this time from the Nevada 6-yard line, scanned the field for his receiving options, rolled to his left and took off. He escaped a tackle from Nevada cornerback AJ Odums, extended toward the end zone and cashed in, prompting offensive lineman Dominic Rulli to pick him up in the air to celebrate as Drew Allar was fired up on the sideline.

“That was always a dream of mine, getting in the end zone,” Grunkemeyer said. “It was just great to be able to celebrate with my teammates, celebrate with the O-line, have them lift me up. That was definitely something I’ll never forget.”

Grunkemeyer cited being with offensive coordinator Andy Kotelnicki for a second-straight season has paid dividends for his development as well as making strides physically, saying all his testing numbers have improved since

arriving at State College.

He also said playing behind Allar has given him a perspective on what it takes to play quarterback at the Power Four level and at a program like Penn State. He’s had someone to look up to in the fellow Ohio native, and a blueprint to follow in how to handle business.

“How to be a big-time QB,” Grunkemeyer said of what he’s learned. “Looking at him coming in, he started his second year, all eyes on him. And then how he’s had to tone that in and how to prepare to be one of the best, if not the best, QBs in the country.”

Grunkemeyer finished his debut outing in 2025 by going 7-for-9 on passing attempts for 86 yards to go along with three carries for eight yards and a score on the ground.

Allar will continue running the offense as he prepares for the NFL draft, but Grunkemeyer showed poise and promise on Saturday, giving a glimpse into what the future looks like for Penn State.

“Grunk came in and played well. I was very impressed with Grunk and his performance,” James Franklin said on Monday. “I actually thought he played in the game better than he’s practiced at times, in terms of he wasn’t holding onto the ball. He was decisive. When he did get pressure, he was able to step up in the pocket and find outlets quickly, get the ball out of his hand.”

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## Rappleyea revived

By Lyle Alenstein  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Andrew Rappleyea made it clear missing last season due to a long-term injury was hard.

He felt the setback. He felt the pain. He felt the urge to be on the field and go to war with his teammates. The injury was something the tight end has never had to worry about, especially to the extent that he did.

“I’ve never dealt with injuries, honestly, in my career. I never thought I would,” Rappleyea said on Zoom Tuesday. “The first bit of adversity had been thrown at me in my life. So kind of just coping with that and realizing I got to take it the right way.”

Rappleyea was slated to see a role at tight end in 2024 alongside Tyler Warren and Khalil Dinkins, but his season was cut short after suffering an injury in the Week 1 road matchup against West Virginia.

There was no dwelling on the injury for Rappleyea. He might’ve fallen off the horse, but he got right back on it.

“When people get hurt, you can sulk about it,” Rappleyea said. “You can say, ‘Oh no! Why

me?’ Or you can get up and go through the process that you have to go through, that many of the greatest athletes and football players have had to go through. So for me, it was trying to keep a positive mindset.”

Rappleyea had the support of the guys around him. His freshman year roommate, running back Cam Wallace, suffered a season-ending injury a week later against Bowling Green and the pair went through the process together.

Veteran defensive end Zuriah Fisher was also sidelined for the 2024 campaign. He had dealt with a season-ending injury before and helped Rappleyea deal with the hardship.

Former Penn State and current New York Giants tight end Theo Johnson, who was on the roster with Rappleyea during his freshman season in 2023, had a helpful conversation with Rappleyea in Miami before the Orange Bowl — Rappleyea warmed up with Drew Allar in sweats and a black beanie, the first time the media saw him in action since the injury.

After going through recovery and adjusting to putting the pads back, Rappleyea saw the field

against Nevada for the first time since the 2024 matchup against the Mountaineers, recording a trio of catches for 33 yards.

“It was really good to have him back. I think he’s been looking really smooth,” quarterback Ethan Grunkemeyer said on Zoom Tuesday. “Kind of been one of those main targets in camp. Me and him had a good connection in the past game. I think, moving forward, he can be a big key to the offense.”

Rappleyea was juiced to be back on the gridiron. He showcased a ton of emotion on Saturday, unleashing a vicious scream during his time on the field.

Now fresh and ready to rock and roll, Rappleyea is determined to make up for lost time a season ago and is grateful to be suited up once again in the blue and white.

“I felt the strongest, the fastest, the best and it just felt amazing,” Rappleyea said. “It brought me life again. Putting somebody in the ground, making a play here and there. It just feels good, man. It feels good.”

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## Stock up, stock down

By Will Horstman  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

With the 2025 season officially underway, players have begun to see what their roles are shaping out to be.

The Nittany Lions took down Nevada 46-11 in the first time seen in game action, giving a look at many key players.

Here’s who’s trending upward and downward following Penn State’s season opener.

### Stock up: WR Kyron Hudson

Penn State has faced receiver issues in the last two seasons, lacking a reliable option out wide.

However, after Saturday’s game, the Nittany Lions seem to have an answer for those issues in Kyron Hudson. Nevada might’ve been a weaker opponent, but Hudson still flashed a playmaking ability, such as his sideline grab in the third quarter.

Hudson finished with six catches for 89 yards and a touchdown, appearing as if he was Drew Allar’s favorite target. His performance is even more notable considering he didn’t play much in the second half due to the blowout score, seeing action on 42 of 72 total offensive snaps.

The separation Hudson generated was a stark contrast from Penn State receivers in recent years, leading to the score he had in the second quarter.

### Stock down: DE Zuriah

#### Fisher

Ahead of the 2025 season, there was buzz that defensive end Zuriah Fisher could have a productive year if he stayed healthy.

Fisher’s stock is down after the Nevada game as he was ruled out prior to kickoff and was spotted wearing a brace on his left leg during warmups. He missed all of last season due to injury and hasn’t played in a game since Dec. 30, 2023.

The sixth-year senior has flashed before, racking up 16 tackles, 3.5 tackles for loss and 3.5 sacks in 2023 as a rotational player. Fisher was widely expected to be a starter if he was healthy, but his 2025 debut will have to wait at least another week.

### Stock up: defensive end Dani Dennis-Sutton



Samantha Oropeza/Collegian

**Wide receiver Kyron Hudson (1)** scores a touchdown against Nevada.

Penn State saw Abdul Carter leave for the NFL draft this year, but it could have its next game-wrecking defensive end in Dani Dennis-Sutton, who tallied four tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss, two forced fumbles and a sack against Nevada.

James Franklin said Dennis-Sutton lost 10 pounds this off-season. He looked a bit quicker, generating pressure from off the edge in a hurry.

The Nittany Lions mostly have an unproven group at defensive end behind Dennis-Sutton, so continuing to play at this level could be important. Opposing offensive lines could be more worried about Dennis-Sutton, which could give whoever is opposite of him an easier time.

### Stock down: wide receiver Devonte Ross

Troy transfer Devonte Ross came to Penn State as a possible playmaker who could stretch the field. However, he only saw 18 snaps Saturday, hauling in one pass for four yards.

During his weekly presser on Aug. 25, Franklin said Ross dealt with “bumps and bruises” this summer, and while the coach noted he’s “ready to go,” he also said Ross could be rotated “a little bit more.”

In other words, it could take some time to see Ross receiving a full amount of playing time for a typical starter. Franklin mentioned how Penn State’s offense wasn’t as explosive as he wanted, and Ross being a bit more limited possibly contributed to that.

### Stock up: Cornerback Kenny Woseley Jr.

Heading into the season, the Nittany Lions’ starter at nickel was expected to be cornerback Zion Tracy, but he was deemed “questionable” ahead of Saturday’s game before missing the contest.

Art: PSU Football vs. Maryland, Kenny Woseley postgame

With Tracy absent, cornerback Kenny Woseley Jr. was the starter at nickel instead, so he could still have a role in the defense this year even if Tracy returns after the buzz he generated in the off-season.

Woseley he played 34 snaps, which was tied for the team high. With the extended chance at playing time, Woseley recorded two tackles.

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## One-time counseling in 30-minutes

By Sara O'Connell  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

CAPS Chat is a student counseling resource where students can meet with professionals for a session and discuss any mental health concerns they or their peers may have.

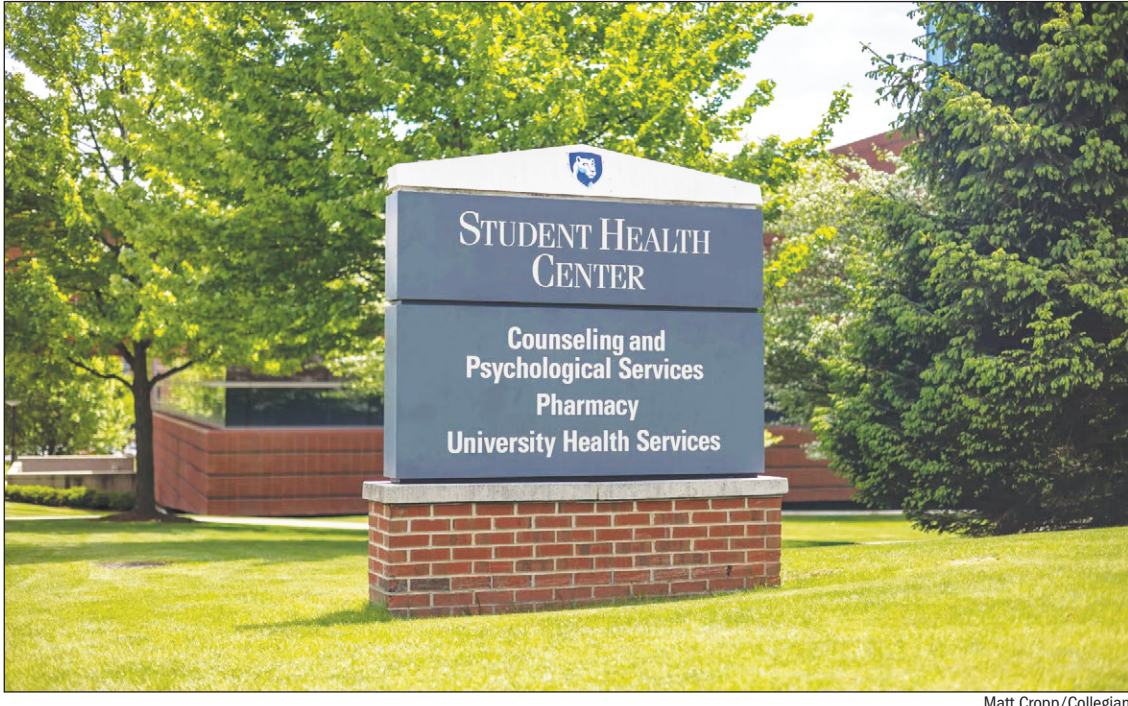
The program within Penn State's Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS), first originated in 2016 in a single office at Redifer Commons in South Halls. Today, it spans across campus from the Dickinson Law Building to the HUB-Robeson Center.

"We had an embedded model (in 2016) where we did all of our counseling services through that office: individual sessions and phone screenings," Jason Yoder, the CAPS Chat coordinator, said. "Then there was one program, which was a drop-in: CAPS Chat."

Now, CAPS Chat offers a same-day signup model with a one-time, 30-minute session designed to support students with short-term concerns.

Stephanie Stama, the assistant director for CAPS, said the program is available during the academic year, Monday through Friday, at different locations on campus, with additional options to talk on Zoom.

"It is more suited for what we might call concerns and struggles where we can offer some coping strategies," John Mitchell, a licensed psychologist and CAPS Chat assessment coordinator, said. "Some easy examples might be a student experiencing



Matt Cropp/Collegian

A sign sits outside the Student Health Center on Wednesday, May 7, 2025 in University Park, Pa.

homesickness or some adjustment to college, difficulty or stress."

Stama said some other common concerns include: roommate disagreements or conflicts, test anxiety, assistance in looking for further counseling options or for students to share personal worries about their peers.

"We can also help students access off-campus mental health services," Mitchell said. "During a CAPS Chat session, if it's clear to us that the concerns the student is having would

warrant longer-term counseling, not short-term counseling, which is what CAPS provides, then we can direct them to those mental health resources in the local community."

Yoder said a CAPS Chat session is split in half. At the beginning of the meeting, the student is prompted to explain why they scheduled the session through friendly communication. During the second half, professionals offer advice and solutions to the student.

"It could range from anything

from 988, the Penn State crisis line or the Penn State crisis text line for certain people who are experiencing higher levels of distress or are concerned about another person," Stama said. "We tend to get creative about how we want to refer students to get help and maintain their well-being."

CAPS Chat started as a way to reduce stigma regarding mental health and is a "low investment strategy" that effectively introduces students to counseling services, according to Stama.

While CAPS can sometimes

have barriers in itself, like scheduling and time regulations of an average five-day wait, according to Stama, CAPS Chat is a relatively seamless medium.

"(It's) an efficient opportunity to sign up online and just drop in," Stama said. "Whether it's online or in-person, hopefully, that variety of options can break down any barriers or speed bumps that might be inhibiting somebody from trying it out."

Yoder said CAPS Chat offers a choice of time and location, which is beneficial to students who are entering counseling for the first time.

"It's the easiest, least intensive form of consultation and treatment that we offer," Mitchell said. "It's a nice entry into talking with a mental health professional and talking about your concerns with someone."

Stama said the CAPS Chat team makes adjustments to the service every year by checking the data and modifying it to meet students where they're at emotionally and physically.

"It's helped thousands of students over the years by being able to come and utilize it, so we're just looking forward to another good year of doing that," Yoder said.

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### INSIDE

Games and events in Happy Valley **B2**

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## UPUA ELECTS NEW VP



Jonah Richmond/Collegian

Noah Youcheff, a third-year studying security and risk analysis, talks with other attendees at the UPUA meeting on Sept. 3, 2025.

By Mia Debelevich  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

The University Park Undergraduate Association's (UPUA) general assembly voted to confirm Noah Youcheff as vice president of the 20th assembly on Wednesday.

UPUA President Rasha Elwakil and Chief Justice Hunter Steach nominated Youcheff for the position on Aug. 18. He was the sole nominee for the position after previous Vice President, Fletcher Port, announced his resignation earlier in August.

Elwakil said they interviewed several people, both internal and external, but Youcheff's "detail-oriented" personality and plan for the student body "appealed to them."

"Noah makes sure all voices and perspectives are shared out to their fullest capacity," Elwakil said. "He is also very liked within the legislative branch ... he's very personable."

Youcheff, a third-year studying security and risk analysis, served on the 19th committee as chair of the Academic Affairs Committee (ACA).

"It's time for UPUA to embrace a student's first approach," Youcheff said. "If they can't find us, we will go to them."

He said in addition to the vice

presidency, he plans to stay on the Faculty Senate, of which ACA is a part of — however, he has plans to move to the Student Life Committee.

"It can sometimes feel as if our organization is three different organizations split up by the branches," Youcheff said. "Regardless, our branches were never meant to have an adversarial or difficult working relationship. They were meant to have a collaborative one."

Youcheff is set to assume his duties immediately, joining Elwakil in leading the 20th general assembly.

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### Take a look

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**Rasha Elwakil reinstated as UPUA president after judicial review**

**Fletcher Port resigns as UPUA vice president**

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Matthew Kemper/Collegian

A sign sits outside the Land and Water Research Building on April 21, 2025 in University Park, Pa.

## Penn State Sustainability launches updated website

By Jonathon Chiu  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Penn State Sustainability (PSS) reintroduced their Education Gateway website to the public on Monday. The website is meant to catalogue and display Penn State's sustainability courses and programs for the community to access.

Elizabeth Smith, a sustainability and climate education intern at PSS, said work on the website had begun prior to her internship at the organization.

"They had started brainstorming this idea and putting it forth to the faculty senate about compiling a list of courses that would broadly fit under sustainability to give students more of a single hub to explore their options within not only education, but also experiential activities such as clubs, internships, labs, things of that sort," Smith, a graduate student studying international affairs, said.

Due to its scale, she said the website has to be updated over time to take into account how a course could have sustainability applications and whether it will remain on academic bulletins.

Smith said she hopes the inclusion of the sustainability course attribute within LionPath will help simplify the process of updating the website through collaborating with other parties within Penn State.

She said many steps need to be taken by people outside of PSS to be granted the attribute.

"We're very excited to work with any teams that are working towards that attribute (to) help them navigate that process

... (and) combine our efforts and hopefully make everything reflective of one another," Smith said.

Peter Buck, the director for education for PSS, said the website was conceived using feedback gained from students who were interested in sustainability.

"The idea really came from probably two things: students saying that they had trouble finding the kind of sustainability educational offerings that they really, really wanted so we wanted to help them overcome this struggle," Buck said. "The second was that there are a lot of faculty and students at Penn State who want to create a school of sustainability so, to do that, we had to understand, 'Well, if we were to create something new, what do we already have, and how are we doing it?'"

He said he hopes the website will help both present and future Penn State students to "see the connection" of how their course materials can be applied towards sustainability.

"Penn State offers some of the most incredible sustainability education in the country," Buck said. "Making this gateway helped me really appreciate how much work and heart go into this, how lucky our students have been and how much this is going to help the next decade of students really immerse themselves into incredible, meaningful work."

Jaida Copeland, a sustainability in the workplace intern for PSS, said it will help to make searching for sustainability in Penn State much easier.

"I've been interested in sustainability since my freshman year," Copeland, a fourth-year studying

corporate innovation and entrepreneurship, said. "I didn't really know much about it and from my perspective, I wasn't really able to find those resources; if I wanted to find a class that had anything to do with sustainability, I had to look through the entire class list."

She said she felt "almost angry" that sustainability within Penn State is often left out of the spotlight and appreciated that the website will allow them to become more visible to students.

Matt Stumpf, the director of academic advising for the College of Agricultural Sciences, said he believes the website will lead to more collaboration between Penn State students through understanding how different majors relate to sustainability.

He said the website, as well as other initiatives to promote sustainability, will have to gain support among the Penn State population in order for them to be effective.

"We want to create that energy and get it ready to go because what we're going to have is a group of students and a group of advisors going, 'What is this sustainability thing here and where can I find those classes?'" Stumpf said. "I think they're going to have to work hand in hand and if we lose grip of that, I think that's going to be a problem."

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‘TOWN AND GOWN’

Decades of collaborations between Penn State and the borough

By Jonathon Chiu  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Ever since its formation in 1973 under a home rule charter, the State College Borough Council (SCBC) has been pivotal in both governing the borough and maintaining relations with Penn State. Here are some of their biggest collaborations through the Collegian’s reporting.

1984

The President’s Community Advisory Committee was founded in 1984 and saw figures such as former Penn State President, Bryce Jordan, and former SCBC President, Mary Ann Haas, discuss measures to improve “town and gown” relations between Penn State and State College, according to a 1988 Collegian archive.

1985

Following reports of vandalism during the 1984 Phi Psi 500, a one-mile race where participants drank at several bars throughout State College, the SCBC, in conjunction with other organizations involved in the race, worked together to improve the event’s image prior to its next race in 1985.

1984

These discussions included the further enforcement of an open container law that had been passed the previous year in order to lessen public drinking by both



Cartoon poster for the annual Phi Psi 500 in 1988.

participants and spectators.

According to the Collegian archive, the issues that occurred during the 1984 Phi Psi 500 didn’t occur during the 1985 race, sparking hopes that the race would continue into the future.

An officer of the State College Police Department said he considered the crowds from the event to be “well-behaved” while also noting fewer reported incidents of destruction or vandalism compared to the 1984 Phi Psi 500.

The Phi Psi 500 was ultimately discontinued in the early 1990s when Penn State banned alcohol on campus and pivoted to become a talent show, according to a 2014 Collegian archive.

1993

In a feature article on a COMM 460 class in 1993, the SCBC allowed students on the class’s local government track to sit in during their meetings in order to gain experience in the field.

According to the archive, council members said they had no problems with the students attending — even if there were personal gripes — with one noting how the questioning of their decisions made them “see an issue more objectively.”

1993

Following a period of negotiation with the University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA), the SCBC passed a resolution to invite a non-voting student

representative to the council to further communication efforts between Penn State and State College on Oct. 19, 2010.

According to several Collegian articles published around this time, the weeks following this event saw the nomination and acceptance of Ben Pugh as the first Penn State representative to the SCBC. Along with that, Penn State Harrisburg’s Student Government Association pursued a similar position within their local government.

1993

The first annual Living In One Neighborhood (LION) Bash was held in State College in conjunction with Penn State.

The bash was preceded by the

LION walk, an annual event that occurred as far back as 2007, with both being meant to strengthen relations between University Park and State College, according to Collegian archives.

2020

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the SCBC and Penn State worked together to develop a plan to combat the spread of coronavirus, should a case appear in or near State College as part of the Infectious Hazards Planning Group.

According to Collegian archives, the plan was considered by a council member as “the worst-case scenario” with another having said it was “always good to be prepared” despite there being no reported cases of COVID in Pennsylvania at that time.

2021

The SCBC approved the appointment of Penn State student Josh Portney to the State College Planning Commission as a student representative.

This appointment followed Portney’s stint as then Mayor-Elect Ezra Nane’s campaign manager with Portney having said that he viewed his new position as “extension of his role in the community” of bringing a student perspective to local government.

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Dr. D leads the crowd in prayer during New Wine Worship night in the Thomas Building on April 5, 2025 in University Park, Pa.

New Wine Worship Night

By Emma Naysmith  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

New Wine Worship Night (NWWN) was created as a collaborative worship opportunity by all denominations of Christian organizations across Penn State University Park and State College.

First held last April, the name “New Wine” was ultimately inspired by the Bible’s New Testament’s parable across the book of Matthew, and its idea of needing new wineskins for new wine, and its symbolism.

“All of these organizations have been doing the same thing for so many years, and you can’t put a new generation into the same model,” Anna Raquel Duiker, current NWWN Director, said. “So, we wanted to make something new and (with) the new students, connect them together, create a new wine.”

Initially an idea shared and executed by three individuals; JoAnn Foley-DeFiore, Bailey McLaughlin and Bailey Weaverling, progressed into a night of worship for over 600 participants, according to Foley-DeFiore, NWWN advisor and biobehavioral health professor at Penn State.

Weaverling, a recent Penn State alum, said he now considers those a part of NWWN’s core group to be some of his best friends. He said he holds immense value in the experience of collaborating so closely with others for a greater cause.

“It was kind of like a breath of fresh air, in a way, and those puzzle pieces just fell perfectly. It was almost too good to be a coincidence,” Weaverling said. “How did three people at a table, that are complete strangers to me,

have the same, essentially vision, for an event, and then six months later, how did we have a team of almost nine people come together with a passion for something that was just a concept?”

Foley-DeFiore said creating a welcoming environment was a priority for the group, with the events being held in the Thomas Building.

Planning for the evening included a hospitality team, decorators and dedicated greeters, according to Foley-DeFiore. Further details like purple lighting and flowers also contributed to a warm mood to distract from the classroom setting.

“We’ve prayed, we prayed together, and then the doors opened, and just seeing this — I’ve taught at Penn State for 15 years — so to see a stream of students coming in when it opened, I started crying,” Foley-DeFiore said. “I was just so touched by their hunger ... that was just incredible and just showed a need that’s here on campus that we really want to help fill.”

With a goal of establishing community through connecting individuals from more than 20 college ministries and allowing them to collaborate in worship, the night brought together several campus ministries and efforts of local churches, according to Foley-DeFiore.

The night featured an opening prayer, several themed worship sets by each organization, a formal prayer in between each set and a call to worship.

“You could feel something in the room, which to us, that’s the Holy Spirit right there,” Duiker, a fourth-year studying Spanish and human development and family studies, said. “You could

ask people that walked into the room and they would say it just felt different.”

Duiker said a highlight after the event has been organically hearing personal stories and praises from students unaware of her involvement with the organization.

In both planning and execution, Foley-DeFiore said she believes the group achieved its goal of unity.

“I saw different people that I knew from different denominations connecting,” Foley-DeFiore said. “Probably the highlight for me was seeing the priest who spoke and one of the pastors who spoke praying together.”

Weaverling said a favorite part of his experience was seeing an idea grow into reality and action toward a goal and foster community.

“Whether it’s your first time getting connected to a ministry or church, or you’ve been going to, you know, a selective ministry, you just kind of want to get plugged into a bigger group,” Weaverling said. “I think it’s anyone who’s looking for a larger community.”

Looking forward, Duiker said the group is planning to increase the event’s duration and continue to advertise through its Instagram to expand reach and increase attendance amongst individuals who may not already be a part of a campus ministry.

Duiker said those interested in joining the organization can contact both her and Foley-DeFiore for more details.

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FENCHAK LAWSUIT DISMISSED

By Kiera Ginn  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

A Centre County judge dismissed former trustee Barry Fenchak’s case against the Board of Trustee’s amended bylaws on Aug. 24.

The bylaws state trustees must support majority decisions and refrain from making negative statements about the board publicly.

Fenchak filed a lawsuit in April against the amended bylaws, citing inconsistency with the law and infringement on the constitutional right to free speech, according to court documents.

Judge Brian Marshall found the amended bylaws are consistent with the law under the context of the board’s self-governing authority and dismissed the lawsuit with prejudice. Additionally, he found the bylaws fit within the state’s reasonable restrictions of free speech within its constitution.

“(The board) may restrict speech when it acts in its

employer role, but the restrictions it imposes must be directed at speech that has some potential to affect operations,” according to the court documents.

Marshall’s dismissal of the case does not allow Fenchak to refile against the board.

Fenchak first sued the board in July 2024 for allegedly withholding access to financial records related to the university’s endowment.

Last spring Fenchak was denied from being included on the re-election ballot for the 2025 election based on violations of the amended free speech bylaws. Despite his name not being on the ballot, Fenchak ran a write-in campaign that in the end was unsuccessful.

Fenchak was permanently removed from the board of trustees in June in a 30-4 vote, the first time a board member had been forcibly removed.

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THIS WEEK IN HAPPY VALLEY

MONDAY, SEPT. 8

Yoga & Meditation: Noon–1 p.m. & 5–6:30 p.m. at 232 HUB  
State College Deutsch Club: 5:30 p.m. at Schlow Library's  
Downsbrough Community Room (106)

TUESDAY, SEPT. 9

Shinrin-Yoku, Forest Bathing: 4–5:30 p.m. at Hartley Wood, Arboretum (Must register online)  
Nittany Valley Writers Network Meeting: 6:30–7:30 p.m. at Schlow Library's Community Room (211)

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10

Ulysses Owens Jr. Big Band: 7:30 – 9 p.m. at Eisenhower Auditorium  
Women's Volleyball vs. Bucknell: 7 p.m. at Rec Hall  
CAPS Inspiration Stations: 12 – 2:30 p.m. at HUB Main Lounge Table  
Well-Being Wednesday: 3 – 5 p.m. IM Building Main

THURSDAY, SEPT. 11

Shinrin-Yoku, Forest Bathing: 5 – 6:30 p.m. at Hartley Wood, Arboretum (Must register online)  
Women's soccer vs. Maryland: 6 p.m. at Jeffrey Field  
Artist Talk: Mark Dion and Alexis Rockman: 6 – 7 p.m. at Palmer Museum of Art

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12

Field hockey vs. Bucknell: 6 p.m. at Char Morett-Curtiss Field

# ‘The arts are integral’

## 3 Dots town hall on federal funding cuts

By Hugh Kibera  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Artists, educators and community members packed into 3 Dots Downtown on East Beaver Avenue for a town hall meeting Wednesday evening that grappled with how federal funding cuts will reshape local creative life.

Taken as a chance to “talk about the future of our community,” the event drew dozens of residents who listened, shared and strategized in response to reductions in federal support for cultural institutions and cuts that trickled down to the local level.

Organizers emphasized the meeting was not just about policy, but about people, creativity and the connections that sustain State College.

Ann Holt, an assistant professor of art education and women’s, gender and sexuality studies at Penn State, spoke about the stakes.

“It’s our public tax dollars that go towards this, but then those taxes are either being closed, or they’re being closed just a little bit,” she said. “These are policy matters. And it’s not just the arts. It’s also the Institute for Museum and Library Services. WPSU is getting hit. It’s anything that is ... part of the fabric of our community.”

Holt said the arts are not a luxury, but a necessity, pointing to their role in social change and individual well-being. She urged



Stella John/Collegian

**Attendees** introduce themselves at a town hall meeting hosted by 3 Dots Downtown to discuss federal funding cuts to the arts on Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025 in State College, Pa.

students and residents alike to recognize that the losses aren’t abstract: they affect neighbors, families and the spaces that make a town feel like home.

For Erica Quinn, executive director of 3 Dots, the conversation was deeply personal.

“I’m a photographer and a poet and artist — to me, it’s just an essential form,” she said. “It’s a means of expressing some

resonant truth about yourself that connects with the resonant truth of another person, or asks a critical question that we can’t get to in any other way. That’s why the arts are integral to the community’s well-being. They’re integral to the well-being of a society.”

Quinn also reminded attendees of 3 Dots’ mission: supporting emerging artists and creative entrepreneurs through grants,

residencies and free or low-cost community space. With funding under threat, she said the ability to maintain those opportunities becomes more fragile.

Sita Frederick, director of the Center for the Performing Arts at Penn State, echoed those concerns while underlining the unique role places like 3 Dots play in State College.

“When you walk downtown,

yes, there are businesses and restaurants and a library, but 3 Dots is akin to a library space,” Frederick said. “It’s a resource. You can come in and find something to inspire you. You might be having a bad day, and here you can find people, ideas, art.”

She called the potential loss of such spaces a “community health issue.” Without them, residents lose outlets for self-expression and opportunities for connection, she said.

“When you take something like that away, you’re taking away the potential for connection in the community,” Frederick said.

Attendees broke into smaller groups to discuss the ripple effects of funding cuts and brainstorm solutions. Conversations touched on everything from pooling resources across organizations to asking local businesses to step up as partners.

For many in the room, the town hall was less about despair and more about solidarity. The cuts are real, participants acknowledged, but so is the collective power of a community that values its artists.

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## VEDAM GRANTED NEW TRIAL

By Kiera Ginn  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Subramanyam (Subu) Vedam’s first-degree murder conviction has been vacated, and he has been granted a new trial after Centre County Judge, Jonathan Grine, found FBI files showing evidence of a different gun and bullet than previously believed.

However, the data was withheld in trial and set the case to be revisited under the Post Conviction Relief Act (PCRA).

Vedam was first convicted in February 1983 for the murder of his former roommate Thomas Kinser, whose body was found in Bear Meadows near Harris Township in a sinkhole in September of 1981. Kinser’s cause of death in 1980 was determined to be by a .25 caliber bullet in the back of the skull, the bullet was located in Kinser’s shirt but the weapon used was never found, according to court documents.

Vedam’s conviction was partly based on the purchase of a .25 caliber gun, which he said he did not obtain until after Kinser’s death.

He was retried in February of 1988 and was convicted again of first degree murder by a jury.

The additional data from the FBI was found after three appeals for PCRA from Vedam’s

attorneys. In 2021, Vedam’s counsel and the Centre County District’s Attorney’s Office agreed that Vedam’s counsel could review all files pertaining to the case.

The PCRA trial was held Feb. 6-7 to determine whether the evidence of a smaller bullet found in Kinser’s body through forensic investigation within FBI files was used in the 1988 trial of Vedam, according to court documents.

Grine found that not all evidence was presented to the jury in the 1988 trial over Kinser’s death, violating Vedam’s Sixth Amendment right to due process.

The evidence left out of the 1988 trial includes forensic analysis of Kinser’s body that found the use

of a .22 caliber bullet instead of the previously thought .25 caliber.

Additionally, the evidence was suppressed be the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and was not found until documents were revisited. A handwritten note of measurements was found and known about in the 1988 trial according to court testimony, according to court documents.

Without due process Vedam’s previous conviction has been vacated with the intent of a retrial. Vedam’s new trail has not been set.

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Kate Hildebrand/Collegian file

**People** gather outside the Centre County Courthouse before Subu Vedam’s hearing on Monday, July 22, 2024 in Bellefonte, Pa.

## FTK trademark battle

By Kiera Ginn  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Katie Tutrow, a former volunteer for the University of Iowa’s Dance Marathon, announced July 30 that the dispute over the trademark “For The Kids” had been resolved with Penn State.

Penn State agreed to grant a royalty-free license to the trademark to any philanthropic groups, individuals, non-profit or charitable organizations who intend to use it to fundraise for medical research and support services for pediatric patients, a university spokesperson said.

Tutrow is a survivor of childhood cancer and wanted any organization raising money for childhood cancer treatment to be able to use the “For The Kids” slogan, according to her petition to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

The dispute originally began when the University of Iowa couldn’t name the street that houses a children’s hospital “For The Kids” due to the trademark held by Penn State.

The slogan has been used for Penn State THON since 1991, with the university securing the trademark in January 2020.

Tutrow filed the petition to cancel the trademark in August

2023, citing the use of the slogan by other hospitals and charities before Penn State filed for trademark status in 2019.



Kayla McCullough/Collegian

**Attendees** hold letters at the 53rd THON on Feb. 22, 2025.

### Kakuro

		6		37			33	15	10	16		
4					18						28	14
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11												

The rules are easy:  
A number above the diagonal line in a black square is the sum of the white squares to the right of it.  
A number below the diagonal line is the sum of the white squares in the sequence below it.  
You may only use the digits 1 to 9, and a digit can only be used once in any sequence.

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### Sudoku

			7					
	5		4		2			1
				5		6		3
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			2	7	9			
	9						2	6
	6	5		4				
	1		7		5		9	
						3		

Copyright Pappocom

### Word Search Birds of Africa

Q V T Z H M A G P I E S T I G I K D  
N Y U B E G U S K U B J I L A L S Z  
S J I Q R U R R G R F U B L N Q C F  
I L E B O O I E H C A F X W N H R R  
W S L W N H Z K B B E V I Z E T A K  
S J L I G P X C P E E M E N T M N I  
T S S I B F R E R W S P M N S U E N  
E R T T A N C P C I C N K U S Y S G  
O J O E M R R D F T O I R H E N E F  
C T O R R I J O T I T B T R T M C I  
V L C X D N C O H E O E P W P S U S  
A J S E Q G S W S Q A S F S V E C H  
G I G T K L U O N K O B S E G I K E  
N U L O O N S L X J O A V K E B O R  
S R E L B R A W L N B Q V I R O O S  
D R L G W B R Q A S V B K R F O S P  
B H Q N U T H A T C H E S H E B T R  
E N R S W I F T P W C T W S Z F V S

Avocets  
Boobies  
Coots  
Cranes  
Cuckoos  
Gannets  
Grebes  
Gulls  
Heron  
Hornbills  
Kingfishers  
Kites  
Loons  
Magpies

Nuthatches  
Osprey  
Owls  
Parrots  
Puffins  
Rails  
Ravens  
Shrikes  
Storks  
Swift  
Terns  
Warblers  
Woodpeckers

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### Crossword

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13							14				15			16
17							18			19				
20					21	22					23			
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27	28	29					30	31				32	33	34
35							36					37		
38					39	40	41					42		
43					44							45		
46										48	49			
				50					51					
52	53	54				55	56	57				58	59	60
61					62						63	64		
65							66				67			
	68						69				70			

#### Across

- Words of wisdom
- Former White House nickname
- Out of port
- Canon competitor
- Barely manage, with "out"
- In place
- Hipbone-related
- Extinct human of Upper Paleolithic in Europe
- Grassland
- Large lizard
- Beloved family member
- Brain passage
- Force unit
- One way to run
- Toxic batrachian
- Bird of prey
- Cambodian money
- Guanabara Bay city
- Wayside stop
- Attempts
- Slalom segment
- Shad delicacy
- "See you later!"
- Double agent
- Common Old World wading bird
- Dangerous situations
- Canon camera

#### Down

- Potato
- Window section
- Invitation notation
- seul (dance solo)
- Pupil of Plato
- All thumbs
- Maui neighbor
- Yoga class need
- Like Vikings
- New Year's Day game
- Good looker?
- Inexperienced
- Upper angle between an axis and an offshoot
- Remove from a manuscript
- Diva's solo
- Manila bean
- Act as a stimulant
- Happen again
- Gumbo ingredient
- Light on Broadway
- Hard-rock center
- Major paperback publisher
- It towers over Taormina
- Many millennia
- Chain letters?
- Refrigerator

#### attachment

- Education initials.
- Provoke
- Spawning fish
- Bake, as eggs
- Camp craft
- Bearded
- Chiseler
- Go public with
- Certain cookies
- Grocery section
- Medicine measures
- Lingering effect
- Debate
- Summer cooler
- Central (Prefix)
- Playground equipment
- Tax preparer, for short
- Kind of class
- Fatty
- Goombah
- Burnoose wearer
- Spanish boy
- PIN takers
- Prelude to a duel
- Large Chinese deer
- Church niche
- British submachine gun
- Kay Kyser's "Reveille"
- Postal creed word

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# Being judgemental vs. making judgements

Alright, before we start, it's time to address the oxymoron in the room, the one that walked in the moment you read that headline: No, I'm not judging you for being judgmental.



Santiago

At some point or another, everyone is judgmental — yes, even you, and especially me. I'm not going to act like I'm above the occasional eye roll, hiss of air through my teeth, or skeptical “ooookaayyyy.”

So, release your white-knuckle grip on your celebrity gossip, your late-night yap sessions and your daytime eyebrow raises. I've only got 800 words, so I wouldn't have room to take that from you if I wanted to.

I'd also argue that judgment isn't even necessarily “low” as my phrasing previously implied, because it's useful in many circumstances. It steers our moral compasses to the people we want to be around, guides us out of danger and shows us who

we want to be.

But as we enter adult life, forming deep interpersonal connections and, for some of us, entering deeply personal careers, we have to bring some nuance into it. Which, for some, might feel like the day they brought letters into math.

I know, I'm sorry, but it's necessary to move forward. Gone are the days of simple arithmetic and whispers by the lockers; we've got x and y variables now, so it's time we draw the line between making a judgment and being judgmental.

Put simply, a judgment is a thought you have about something that leads you to make a decision. For example, you can judge that someone you've met or interacted with a few times isn't someone you want to be around, or maybe is even a little bit (or a lot) of a jerk.

You can judge that someone else's (or your own) decision wasn't the wisest, that your friend is dating someone who isn't good for them, or that you don't like someone's working style or a professor's teaching methods.

Most times, these are based on lived experiences, and my approach to being non-judgmental doesn't require that you abandon those or stop trusting yourself. You can 100% act accordingly by steering clear, giving advice (only solicited, I beg), or finding workarounds — all for your own sanity and safety.

Being judgmental, on the other hand, means that those judgments become you. It's an attitude that doesn't come from a desire for progress, but rather serves a more visceral desire to protect yourself by separating yourself.

And honestly, I don't blame you, it's so easy and comforting to believe that we would never, especially because we're right sometimes. But other times, more than we'd like to admit, we're wrong, because we would, given the circumstances.

Hot take: sometimes we're judgmental because we'd do exactly what we judge others for, and we don't like that about ourselves, so we shame it on others. Oops, did I say that aloud?

Even if you really wouldn't,

that doesn't preclude you from doing something you'd deem equally incorrect in another circumstance. Being judgmental holds you above other people in a way that only alienates you from them, because it assumes that you're flawless — and by extension, the person you're judging is the only flawed person on Earth.

Let me give you an example: like many other intelligent, go-getter women I've met, I've dated some absolute clowns. Social conditioning strikes again!

Knowing that, let me ask you, which response from a friend do you think helped me in those moments: a compassionate plan to help me out of that circumstance, or being treated like I wasn't smart enough to find my way out of a wet paper bag, because I got into that situation in the first place?

That's what I mean. That second attitude provided no solution; it only assumed that shame would somehow pull me out of the circus. And the truth is, it doesn't work.

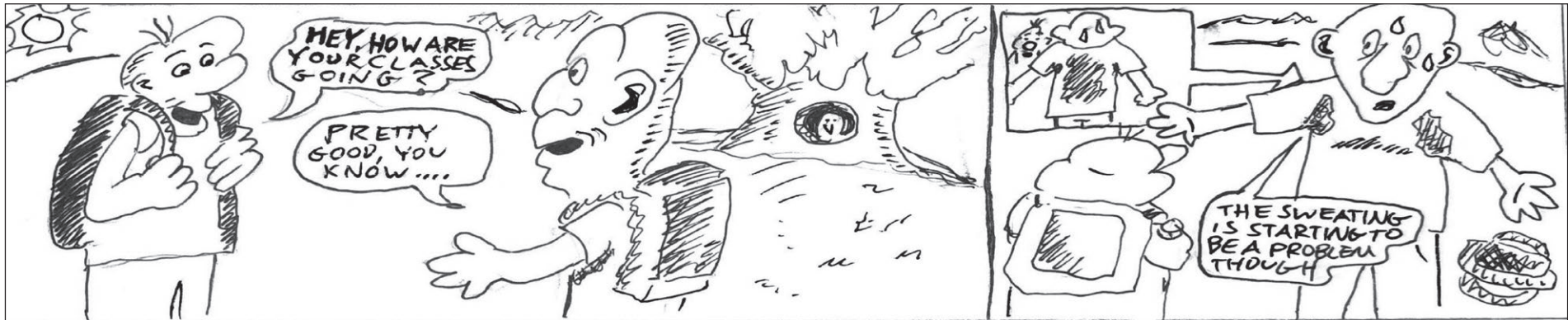
In my experience, when I come to a circumstance with an open mind, people feel much

safer confiding in me. Over time, I've become the person my friends come to for a neutral response and steps toward progress, because I make a point to not impose my own preferences or hold myself above them.

After all, I'm not them, and I'm not you. But I'm human, just like everyone else, and knowing that has made my relationships better. It has improved my career and taught me a thing or two over these three (going on four, sheesh) years, both inside and outside of the classroom.

So, judge all you want, but remember this: a judgmental attitude wastes time kicking and screaming that we shouldn't be here in the first place, while sound judgments ask, Alright, we're here, what's next?

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Cartoon by Nate Campbell

MY VIEW | JULIA KUSHNER

# Modern Madness

The attempt to debut a new Cracker Barrel logo was unsuccessful. The design was both ugly and upsetting.

Case in point, it's been relegated to the dustbins of advertising history. It went from classic country charm to sad modern blandness. And it's not the only one.

There have been numerous attempts at erasure of classic American IP, from Coca-Cola's 1985 catastrophe (“New Coke”) to MSNBC's upcoming name change to MS NOW, which, by the way, looks like an urgent campaign for multiple sclerosis.

There's nothing wrong with modernization per se, but it seems that today's version of modernity requires a certain lack of charm.

There's a reason the classics are classics. Not only have they stood the test of time, but they contain a level of sophistication and nostalgia that modernity simply can't match.

It's been said, even within my own advertising class, where we dissected the Cracker Barrel failure, that the backlash to the hideous new logo is because conservatives deem it “woke.”

This is a clear misreading of the values conservatives hold near and dear to their hearts.

As the left so often does, just because a bizarre new proprietary definition has been created, it doesn't mean the word no longer holds its prior and mainstream definition.

Calling the logo critiques woke is a red herring. It's simply unrelated to the topic at hand.

If poor, disappearing Uncle Herschel (the barrel boy) magically became a character based solely on race and sexuality for no reason other than “diversity,” then we could call it woke.

It seems that liberals are often confused about when conservatives believe there's actually something to conserve, with pop culture being one of those things.



Jillian Wesner / Collegian file photo

A sign sits above Cracker Barrel Old Country Store on Colonnade Boulevard on April 19, 2022 in State College, Pa.

Your average North Dakota Republican most likely has zero connection to the mostly southern Cracker Barrel brand. But this is unimportant. What's important is the threat of our great nation's traditions simply disappearing.

And the erasure doesn't stop at logos. We can see it on our campus as well.

“It seems that today's version of modernity requires a certain lack of charm.”

Julia Kushner

Americans, contrary to the loud minority, like the country. And they like things that remind them of her.

A pertinent example of this would be the traditionally Western Greco-Roman architectural style. Penn State's buildings, past and present, emulated this timeless style, even though many of them have been destroyed.

The utter disregard for the great aspects of the past is clear when you take inventory of the campus's architectural styles.

Ugly, bland modernity is perfectly captured in buildings

like the Osmond, Chandlee and Davey Labs, the Boucke Building, the Millennium Science Complex and the Pollock dorms.

Nothing makes me sadder than walking around campus and seeing giant dirt holes where a stately, beautiful building once stood. Penn State's attempt at modernization has systematically destroyed the once regal and imposing style of classic liberal arts institutions.

These buildings were small reminders of a world that once was; of an America that took pride in herself and the way she looked and Americans who took real pride in the greatness of their homeland.

Though Cracker Barrel's logo and university architecture, in the grand scheme of things, are seemingly inconsequential, it speaks to a broader trend. A trend of Americans who claim to hate America, all that she stands for and all the reminders of her greatness.

Conservation and preservation are essential to the memory and continuity of our truly exceptional heritage, regardless of what it constitutes.

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and solicit advertising for them.

During the fall and spring semesters, The Daily Collegian publishes on Fridays. Issues are distributed in on-campus news-stands, with PDF copies available on The Daily Collegian's website.

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# Double down in Pittsburgh

*No. 5 Penn State women's volleyball falls to No. 24 TCU, drops both matches in Pittsburgh*

By Andrew Deal  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

After suffering its first loss of the season, No. 5 Penn State returned to action at PPG Paints Arena for a battle with No. 24 TCU.

The Nittany Lions dealt with similar problems in their second match in Pittsburgh, falling to the Horned Frogs in five sets.

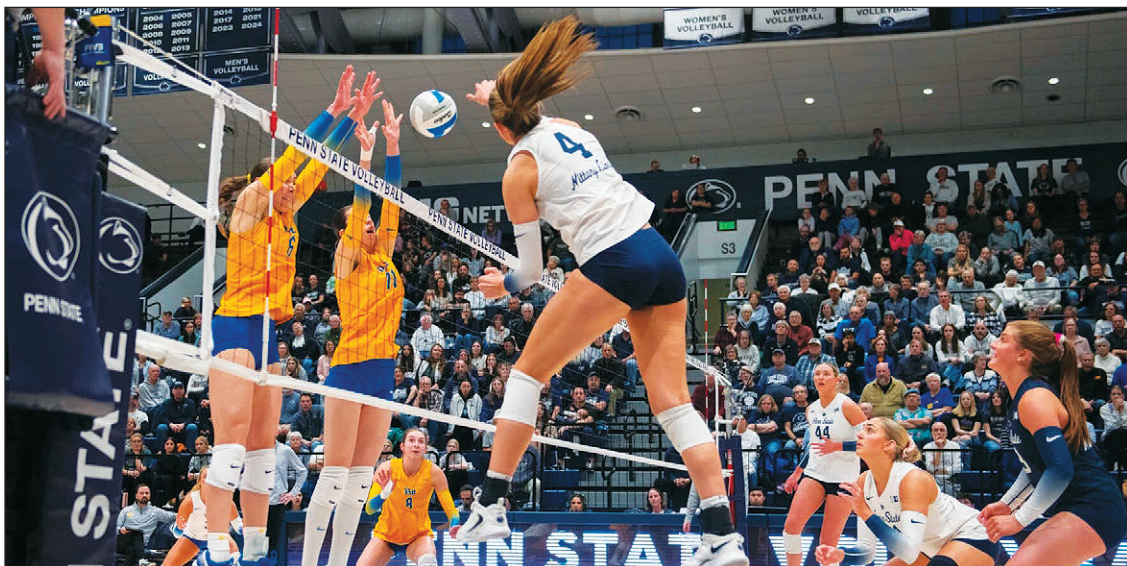
TCU opened up a quick lead in the first set. Libero Alice Volpe served back-to-back aces, igniting a 6-0 run, giving the Horned Frogs an early 9-3 lead.

"I think they were moving the ball well," Penn State coach Katie Schumacher-Cawley said. "They were dropping them short, going deep. I thought they had a great game plan with that."

TCU maintained the lead throughout the first set, with three 3-0 runs behind four kills from outside hitter Evan Hendrix.

Trailing 18-8, Penn State coach Katie Schumacher-Cawley searched for answers on offense, inserting freshman outside hitter Alexis Ewing.

Despite no points from the true freshman, the set became more competitive after her insertion.



Noah Aberegg/Collegian

**Outside hitter Karis Willow (4)** spikes the ball during the Penn State women's volleyball spring match against Pitt at Rec Hall on April 9, 2025.

The blue and white went on a 3-0 run late in the first set to pull within nine of TCU and followed it up with a 6-0 run behind three kills from right-side hitter Kennedy Martin and outside hitter Caroline Jurevicius.

However, the early deficit was too much to come back from as

the Horned Frogs finished off the set on a Penn State hitting error.

TCU survived the late comeback attempt, taking the first set 25-19 after leading by as many as twelve.

The service game remained pivotal in the fast start from the Horned Frogs. After a back-and-forth start to the second set, outside hitter Jalyn Gibson rallied off two straight aces, pushing the total to eight for the Horned Frogs just halfway through the second set.

Trailing 15-10, the Nittany Lions called a timeout to find answers to prevent a 2-0 deficit in the match.

Schumacher-Cawley tried different variations of units to try to combat TCU's offensive onslaught, but nothing seemed to work.

Opposite hitter Ella Foti served her second ace of the match, putting the Horned Frogs up 19-13, which started a 3-0 run.

Penn State middle blocker Gabrielle Nichols made her collegiate debut, as well, but couldn't help a comeback effort in the second set.

A second 3-0 run, behind a Gibson and Hendrix kill, late in the

set was the nail in the coffin and gave TCU a two set lead.

"(TCU)'s a very good team, and they took us out of our game," Schumacher-Cawley said. "We weren't passing well in the first two sets, and I think we made way too many errors and they capitalized on it."

Dropping the second set, 25-15, Penn State was in a spot it hadn't been in since the Final Four match against Nebraska, where the blue and white pulled off a reverse sweep.

In the third set, the teams went back-and-forth with every run being matched. A 9-6 lead for the Horned Frogs was quickly wiped away with a 3-0 run behind the serving of setter Izzy Starck.

After a standstill at 16, the teams traded points with TCU being the first to 20, leading 20-19.

However, the Nittany Lions had an immediate response. Nichols tallied her first kill of her career and Martin sent back a swing for a 3-0 run.

Outside hitter Emmi Sellman's serve also started to take over. Despite no aces, she forced back-to-back setting errors to end the set, 25-20.

The momentum carried over

into the next set, with Penn State starting the fourth set on a 4-0 run. Scoring 10 straight points, TCU was forced to use three timeouts across that stretch.

With momentum completely flipped from the first two sets, the Nittany Lions broke out to a 15-7 lead.

The blue and white controlled the rest of the set as Martin scored three of the last six points of the set.

The 25-19 set four victory forced a deciding fifth set which Penn State has had a lot of success in, winning its last seven five-set matches.

However, the set began in TCU's favor. A 3-0 run, opened up to an 8-3 lead as the Horned Frogs started the final set strong.

But Penn State wouldn't go down without a fight. Trailing 11-4, Sellman put away two kills to force a TCU timeout with the Nittany Lions on a 3-0 run.

A 5-0 run allowed the Nittany Lions to make it close, but back-to-back points from the Horned Frogs forced a timeout with TCU leading 13-9.

The lead was just too much for Penn State to overcome as TCU's 15-12 fifth-set win sealed the upset over Penn State.

The Nittany Lions' five-set loss is their first loss in five sets since 2023 against Purdue. The blue and white fall to 2-2 on the season, dropping both matches in Pittsburgh.

"It's hard to win and we need to take a good look at what we're doing," Schumacher-Cawley said. "I'm hopeful that these experiences will help this group focus on the skills that they need to get better."

## Up Next

Penn State will return to Rec Hall for its home opener against No. 4 Kentucky to begin the Penn State Invitational at 8 p.m. Friday.

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Jacob DeLuca/Collegian

**Penn State women's volleyball** poses before the State Farm Volleyball Showcase against TCU in PPG Paints Arena on Sept. 1, 2025.

# Evans secures save

*Jonathan Evans secures Penn State's deadlock with Syracuse*



Kevin Cheng/Collegian

**Penn State men's soccer** lines up for the national anthem at the men's soccer game against Ohio State at Jeffrey Field on Sept. 17, 2024.

By Andy Ly  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

In a match filled with drama and end-to-end urgency, it was the goalkeepers who stole the spotlight. Penn State's Jonathan Evans and Syracuse's Tomas Hut made huge saves going down the stretch, ensuring that the meeting between the Orange and the Nittany Lions ended in a 1-1 draw on Thursday night at SU Soccer



Megan Miller/Collegian

**Defender Samuel Ovesen** controls the ball during a Penn State men's soccer game against Missouri State.

Stadium.

Freshman goalkeeper Evans made his first career collegiate save for Penn State against the Orange. Despite the pressure of playing in his second-ever collegiate game, Evans proved to be dependable and composed.

Before arriving at Penn State, Evans spent six years in the Philadelphia Union Academy system, where he developed in the MLS Next League and earned a spot on the Union II side in MLS Next Pro. That experience, which included several championship runs, gave Evans a solid foundation to transition to the college game, and on Wednesday night, the potential showed.

Syracuse struck first in the 13th minute when a deflected shot from midfielder Kelvin Da Costa misdirected Evans to give the Orange an early 1-0 lead. However, instead of the match opening into a shootout, both keepers quickly put their stamp on the game.

Penn State's wide style of play and quick ball movement created a series of chances midway through the first half, including multiple opportunities for forwards Kai Phillip and Ben Madore. The breakthrough for

the Nittany Lions, however, came from their captain.

In the 43rd minute, midfielder Freddie Bell unleashed a rocket from outside the 18-yard box, leveling the score at 1-1 and netting his first career goal in the blue and white. While Bell's strike energized the crowd, the remainder of the match belonged to the men between the posts.

On the other end, Hut's composure frustrated Penn State's wingers and midfielders alike. Despite the Nittany Lions outshooting Syracuse 5-4 in the first half, the Orange keeper ensured his side never trailed.

The Nittany Lions showed poise in possession and composure from leaders like Bell and defender Ben Liscum, even as missed opportunities piled up. Penn State outshot Syracuse 13-8, but it wasn't enough. Hut stood firm, finishing with four saves to keep the Nittany Lions off the board in the second half and earning player of the game honors.

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Jonah Richmond/Collegian

**Beaver Stadium** sits on East Park Avenue on July 17, 2025 in University Park, Pa.

# Blades down at Beaver

*Penn State hockey to play at Beaver Stadium*

By Chase Fisher  
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Bundle up Penn State fans, the Nittany Lions will be playing in Beaver Stadium.

Just days ago, Jess Myers of the Pioneer Press reported that Penn State men's hockey would soon announce it will host Michigan State at Beaver Stadium this winter.

Friday, Penn State's official team account made it official. The Nittany Lions will host the Spartans on Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026. A hockey game in Beaver Stadium has been in the works for months, as ESPN reported in February that the NHL was interested in an outdoor contest by the conclusion of the stadium's renovations.

However, with the confirmation of a game in January, the matchup will take place before Beaver Stadium is fully renovated. All parties have been interested since Ohio State hosted an NHL outdoor game at Ohio Stadium in March. The Jan. 31 game will mark the start of a two-game set against the Spartans, with Game 2 scheduled for

Sunday, Feb. 1, 2026, at Pegula Ice Arena. In addition to the men's team, the women's squad will battle Robert Morris on Jan. 31.

"This is a historic moment for Penn State Hockey, our fans and the entire Penn State community," Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics Pat Kraft said. "To bring the excitement of college hockey to Beaver Stadium is truly special. Having our men's program face a premier Big Ten opponent in Michigan State and our women's program face Robert Morris on this stage reflects the incredible growth and national profile of Penn State Hockey and provides an unforgettable experience for our student-athletes, alumni and fans. We can't wait to see Hockey Valley come alive in Beaver Stadium."

The time for both games is TBD.

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Alex Fischer/Collegian

Attendees cheer in the stands during the Penn State football game against Nevada.



Samantha Oropeza/Collegian

Wide receiver Trebor Peña runs with the ball during the Penn State football game.



Samantha Oropeza/Collegian

Wide receiver Kyron Hudson celebrates a touchdown during the Penn State football game.



Alex Fischer/Collegian

The Nittany Lion hypes up the crowd in Beaver Stadium before the Penn State football game against Nevada.



Samantha Oropeza/Collegian

Drum major Ellie Sheehan high-fives attendees.



Samantha Oropeza/Collegian

Quarterback Ethan Grunkemeyer dives for a touchdown during the Penn State football game against Nevada in Beaver Stadium. The Nittany Lions beat the Wolf Pack 46-11.

# LIKE THEY NEVER LEFT



Joe Klein/Collegian

Attendees throw basketballs during “The One Arcade” pop-up hosted by Uber One.



Matt Cropp/Collegian

Hunter Reynolds, of Pittsburgh, stitches a pair of jeans at the FLEAJI Vintage Market.



Matt Kemper/Collegian

A sign sits on the HUB Lawn during the first day of the Penn State campus-wide involvement fair.



Matt Kemper/Collegian

Students visit club tables during the first day of the Penn State campus-wide involvement fair.



Geraldine Cruz/Collegian

Drag performer Diego Man-dana performs at the Welcome Week Drag Bingo.



Jake Deluca/Collegian

Quavo sings during SPA's LightsUP festival.



Matt Cropp/Collegian

Quavo points both hands to the sky during SPA's annual LightsUP festival.



Jake Deluca/Collegian

Abbi The Nomad opens for Quavo during SPA's LightsUp festival.