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**Cagers drop third in a row**

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**High 27 Low 27**

Freezing rain and sleet. See page 2 for the extended forecast.

— Campus Weather Service

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# Trial begins in debate

## Clinton trial arguments commence

By DAVID ESPO  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Bracing for opening arguments in his impeachment trial, President Clinton said yesterday he will tend studiously to "the business of the people" while his fate is settled in historic Senate proceedings. House prosecutors said Monica Lewinsky had recently rejected their request for a voluntary interview.

With the first presentation of evidence set for today, Judiciary Committee Republicans said they sought permission to talk with the woman at the center of the scandal. Her attorneys "declined to make her available," said committee spokesperson, Paul J. McNulty.

Legal sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, disclosed a similar request was made to at least one other potential witness, Kathleen Willey.

Apart from Clinton's remarks yesterday, his legal team dispatched a brief to the Senate arguing neither "fact or law" warranted his removal.

"The vote the American people rendered . . . is hanging in the balance," the brief said in a reference to Clinton's election.

"They have their job to do in the Senate, and I have mine,"



House Judiciary Committee staffers move documents pertaining to the committee's impeachment hearing, yesterday on Capitol Hill. Today, the Senate will continue its impeachment trial against President Clinton.

Clinton said in his first public utterance in three weeks on the issue. "I trust that the right thing will be done."

Clinton stands accused of perjury and obstruction of justice in

the first presidential impeachment trial since Andrew Johnson was acquitted in 1868. A two-thirds vote of the Senate is required to convict him and remove him from office.

The trial is to resume with Chief Justice William Rehnquist presiding and the House impeachment team — Republican lawmakers all — starting to present their case.

## Senators, professors lobby for open deliberations

By CHERYL FRANKENFIELD  
Collegian Staff Writer

President Clinton's impeachment trial begins at 1 p.m. today, but the Senate has not decided whether the public will be able to view the entire trial proceedings.

Essentially the trial has three parts: the hearing of arguments, the Senate acting as the jury of the trial and, traditionally, the deliberating on the case in closed session and the reading of the verdict.

Members of the media and some senators hope to open the senate debate to the public. U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, and U.S. Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Min., want to have deliberations between senators made public.

But Clay Calvert, assistant professor of communications and law, said some procedures need to be closed in order to protect the integrity of the process. At the same time, he said, a more open trial would be beneficial to Americans because it would allow them to get more first-hand information.

On the other hand, said Bob Richards, asso-

ciate professor of communications and law, this trial is unusual because it is not a typical civil or criminal case. In an ordinary trial, jury deliberations are closed, but this is a political procedure, Richards said.

"The senate is an open body," he said, "(and I) would be in favor of keeping the entire process open."

Any scandalous material Monica Lewinsky or Linda Tripp might say is "nothing the American public hasn't heard already," he said.

If graphic material is going to be on television, it is up to parents to determine whether their children watch the trial, Jessica Scarcelli (junior-elementary education) said.

"People who care about (the trial) should definitely know everything going on," Scarcelli added.

The public has heard most of the evidence already, so the whole trial may as well be televised, Steve Rice (senior-electrical engineering) said.

If the trial were to be entirely open, Richards said, the public would not just hear

the interpretation of sources through reporters, who are "well plugged" into their sources. Whether parts of the trial are opened or closed, the public will get most information because reporters are close enough to the trial to find and relay the facts, he said.

"We get to see the whole deliberative process of the senate," which is already on television, Richards said, and "I think that is a benefit."

Although Richards said he believes the trial should be left open, he can see some disadvantages to it.

"News organizations will hone into the more intriguing details. The majority of the public will hear sound bites," he said, adding many Americans work and most will not tune into the live coverage.

"Grandstanding" by certain senators and a less-than-candid debate are reasons Richards cited for a semi-closed trial.

Senators may worry about what they look like in front of the camera, rather than the issues at hand, said Brian Senger (sophomore-chemical engineering).

# Penn State plans for toxic cleanup

By DARYL LANG  
Collegian Staff Writer

Penn State plans to remove about 4,000 tons of soil from a contaminated site formerly used for fire training and to keep a careful eye on nearby drinking water wells.

On the training site, samples of groundwater contained more than 11 times the federal standard for perchloroethylene, or PCE, a toxic synthetic chemical, said Vicki Fong of the Department of Public Information.

Even so, Penn State's drinking water always has been within the safe levels set by federal and state environmental agencies, Fong said. The fire training site is located near seven of Penn State's 10 drinking water wells.

Still uncertain are precisely who will pay for the proposed cleanup, estimated to cost between \$600,000 and \$900,000, and the source of the contamination.

"We're still talking to a lot of people. We're not able to pinpoint a single cause," Fong said.

For about 25 years, Alpha Fire Co. trained fire fighters on the three-acre piece of Penn State property on Big Hollow Road. The site closed in 1997 after the discovery of a heating oil leak, which led Penn State to commission an inde-

pendent investigation of the soil and groundwater quality.

The fire company, which started using the site in 1972, sometimes burned flammable liquids there as part of the training program, said Walter Wise, fire administrator for the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG).

In addition, Penn State burned laboratory chemicals on the site in the 1970s, a common practice at the time, Fong said.

PCE, also known as tetrachloroethylene, is commonly used in dry cleaning and as an industrial solvent, said Dan Spadoni, community relations coordinator for the North-central Regional Office of the state Department of Environmental Protection.

PCE can cause damage to the nervous system, liver and kidneys, and the Environment Protection Agency is reviewing whether it causes cancer in humans, Spadoni said.

The report, which was released to the university in December, showed the highest concentrations of PCE were from soil samples taken near a burn pit on the training site, Fong said.

Penn State will pay for at least part of the cleanup efforts but is still working out the details with COG, Fong added.



Tanks are stored outside of the structure used to practice firefighting skills. This building is located on Penn State property, relatively near drinking water wells.

# Slippery sidewalks lead to winter woes

By SUSIE XU  
Collegian Staff Writer

Property owners will see more than snow falling on their sidewalks this winter if they fail to make their clear paths for pedestrians.

In addition to creating dangerous walking conditions, not shoveling pathways within 24 hours after it stops snowing puts residents and business owners at the risk of being fined by State College Borough.

For the first offense, the owner must pay a \$10 fine. For each additional day the walkway is not cleared, a \$25 fine is issued. If the owner continues to fail to provide safe conditions for pedestrians, an \$85 fine is issued with a report filed at the magistrate's office. The borough then will hire someone to clear the area and bill the owner for the expenses.

Mark Henry, State College Borough health officer, said there have

been more than 100 violations so far this season.

However, this is not an unusually high number of violations. He added a majority of citations were issued Jan. 4 and 5.

"Because we had that snow over New Year's weekend, I suspect a lot of people were out of town and did not have their sidewalks cleared," Henry said. "People need to realize that if they leave town, they still need to make arrangements to clear the walks."

As for tenants who rent their property, the person responsible for shoveling the sidewalks may vary. Henry suggests tenants contact their landlords for this information because they may be unaware of their responsibilities.

John Hanna, property manager and owner of Continental Real Estate Management Inc., 256 E. Beaver Ave., said the agency has not experienced many discrepancies about the responsibility of clearing sidewalks.

**The State College Borough Snow Removal Process:**

- Salt roads as soon as storm begins
- After 2 inches of snow accumulates, start plowing main streets
- During the snowstorm, continue plowing
- Keep plowing roads six hours after the snowstorm has ended
- Finally, salt roads again

Source: Public Works Director Mark Whitfield

He added some tenants contact the agency before leaving for long periods of time. The agency then hires a service to clear the walkway and bills the tenants later.

"It's better than getting fined the \$10," Hanna said.

However, in cases of multiple duplexes, the landlord is generally responsible according to the real estate agency's policy.

Neal Generose (junior-agricultural systems management), who rents a unit of a multiple duplex, said his landlord is very efficient in taking care of clearing the snow.

"(The maintenance crew) starts clearing the walks and plowing the parking lot within reasonable time," Generose said.

Many area businesses also have been busy clearing their sidewalks for customers and other pedestrians. But this does not differ from previous years, said Tim Beale, manager of Chili's Grill and Bar, 137 S. Allen St.

Henry said uncleared walkways continue to be a concern for the borough and warns property owners they are subject to a liable suit if a passer-by has an accident due to unsafe conditions.

"It is important to clear these walks because we have pedestrians who use these walks. We have people who are physically challenged, sight-challenged, elderly and everybody else who wants to use (them)."

# Local salt supply depleted from recent snowstorms

By ANGELA J. GATES  
Collegian Staff Writer

Yesterday's sheeting of ice is just another indication "this may be a year for the ice storms."

At least that's what Eric Brooks, operations manager for the State College Borough Public Works, said. Brooks is in charge of dispatching the borough's 10 plow

trucks and snow-removal crews, as well as overseeing the entire process.

Freezing rain, sleet and ice will continue the rest of the week and may mix with snow to cause more poor road conditions — challenging local snow-removal and salt-distribution efforts.

"Ice is definitely worse than

Please see SALT, Page 2.



Shawn Wood, a landscaper for Penn State, loads salt onto a truck. The recent snow and ice storms have decreased the area's salt supply.