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TERRORISTS STRIKE NEW YORK, WASHINGTON

Hijacked airliners level World Trade Center; Thousands believed dead in multiple attacks

Classes will resume at Penn today

By Steve Brauntuch
The Daily Pennsylvanian

Fallout from the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington hit campus yesterday as the University effectively shut down for the afternoon.

All afternoon classes were canceled, and all non-essential staff were sent home. University Police called in all off-duty officers to provide extra security on campus.

In addition, the University barred all vehicles from driving on Locust Walk and placed the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania on alert for overflow patients from New York.

The University plans to resume its normal schedule today, with all classes meeting as planned.

"There will be some disruption, but a sense of trying to resume normalcy, we think, is very important," University President Judith Rodin said yesterday. "We will try to have as normal a day as possible, recognizing that it is anything but."

Rodin said that the administration began work on maintaining lines of communication with students and faculty as soon as the news broke yesterday.

"Obviously, the first set of reactions that we had was disbelief that there could be this kind of tragedy," Rodin said. "We know that there will be many people on this campus whose lives will be touched by what has happened."

A memorial service for the victims of the attacks will be held today at 4 p.m. in Irvine Auditorium, and will be open to all students, faculty and staff as well as simulcast to other locations around campus.

In addition, Penn faculty experts on terrorism will host a discussion tomorrow afternoon. The time and location of the event have not yet been determined.

A team of administrators, including Rodin and Provost Robert Barchi, met at 9:15 a.m. yesterday to discuss what measures would be taken to ensure the safety of students and faculty on campus.

By 10:30 a.m., the group had drafted a plan to secure campus and increase resources available to students and faculty.

Houston Hall has been turned into a 24-hour information and counseling center, with extra phones and computers to allow students to get in touch with friends and relatives.

And Counseling and Psychological Services set up an e-mail chain through the college hous-

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Spencer Platt/Getty Images

Pentagon also suffers major destruction

By David Crary and
Jerry Schwartz
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — In the most devastating terrorist onslaught ever waged against the United States, knife-wielding hijackers crashed two airliners into the World Trade Center yesterday, toppling its twin 110-story towers. The deadly calamity was witnessed on televisions across the world as another plane slammed into the Pentagon, and a fourth crashed outside Pittsburgh.

"Today, our nation saw evil," President Bush said in an address to the nation last night. He said thousands of lives were "suddenly ended by evil, despicable acts of terror."

Said Adm. Robert J. Natter, commander of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet: "We have been attacked like we haven't since Pearl Harbor."

Establishing the death toll could take weeks. The four airliners alone had 266 people aboard and there were no known survivors. Arlington County, Va., fire chief said deaths at the Pentagon ranged between 100 and 800.

In addition, a union official said he feared 300 firefighters who first reached the scene had died in rescue efforts at the trade center — where 50,000 people worked — and dozens of police officers were missing.

"The number of casualties will be more than most of us can bear," a visibly distraught Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said.

Police sources said some people trapped in the twin towers managed to call authorities or family members and that some trapped police officers made radio contact. In one of the calls, which took place in the afternoon, a businessman phoned his family to say he was trapped with policemen, whom he named, the source said.

Firefighter Rudy Weindler spent nearly 12 hours trying to find survivors and only found four — a pregnant woman sitting on a curb and three others in the rubble of a building in the trade center complex.

"I lost count of all the dead people I saw," Weindler said. "It is absolutely worse than you could ever imagine."

No one took responsibility for the attacks that rocked the seats of finance and government. But federal authorities identified Osama bin Laden, who has been given asylum by Afghanistan's Tal-

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"I couldn't believe it was happening. It looked like it was made from a movie."

Alicia Montalvo, Nursing freshman

Attacks leave Penn in shock, disbelief

By Dina Ackermann
The Daily Pennsylvanian

Agatha Darocha, a College sophomore, walked downstairs in her sorority house to find all her sisters intently following cable's top news networks — not necessarily the typical morning activity of the average Penn student.

But yesterday morning also marked the worst terrorist attack in history, shattering any expectations of normalcy and calm at Penn and across the nation.

Students woke up unaware of the tragedies that had transpired in two of the nation's largest cities, but the attacks soon

shook the Penn campus.

Students quickly responded with horror, skepticism and shock when they discovered from television, radio, Internet and by word of mouth that New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Washington had been attacked by terrorists.

At first, Darocha and her friends had no clue how to react.

"No one could say anything," she said. "Everyone was stunned."

"It's surreal," she added. "You just have this sick feeling in your stomach thinking that something like this could happen. It shouldn't happen to us, but it has."

Across campus in the Quadrangle, two

roommates, College freshmen Michael Bean and Clayton Matheson, expected some big news this morning having gone to bed last night after hearing Michael Jordan might return to the NBA.

But instead of waking up to a dream come true, they woke up to a nightmare. When Matheson's mother called to ask if they had heard the news, they thought she was referring to the basketball great. "We didn't have any idea," said Bean. "It totally took us by surprise."

Many Penn students remained clueless even longer than Matheson and Bean, and were first informed of the events by peers and professors in their

early-morning classes.

Carla Frank, a College sophomore, was on the water with crew practice when the first plane crashed into the World Trade Center's North Tower. She had not heard a word about the morning's events until she went to her first class, "Environmental Science," and the professor summarized the news and held a moment of silence for the victims.

All Frank could think of was her mother, who was flying from Newark to San Francisco — a flight she heard had been hijacked. Although she found out later that

■ See REACTION, page 15



The president responds

President Bush addressed the nation from the Oval Office last night, condemning the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington. Bush praised the strength of the American people, while vowing to punish those responsible for the crimes. See page 10.

Terrorist attacks hit close to home

With many Penn students hailing from the New York and Washington areas, hundreds spent yesterday watching and waiting for news of their friends and families. And given the healthy number of Penn alumni working in and around the World Trade Center in New York, the University's close ties to its metropolitan neighbors took on a new significance yesterday. See page 11.



Coming together

Gathering in Houston Hall, on College Green and at various other campus locations, members of the Penn community joined yesterday as news of the attacks unfolded. See page 11.