

# NEWS

## National and world news in brief

By Patrick Webster  
managing editor

### Sex offender impersonates middle school student

PRESCOTT, Arizona: A 29 year-old man posing as 12-year-old was discovered to be attempting to register for seventh-grade classes at Mingus Springs Charter School.

Neil Havens Rodreck II was arrested after school administration officials became suspicious of his age. Rodreck had enlisted the help of Lonnie Stiffler, 61, who posed as Rodreck's "grandfather" in an effort to help him enroll.

It was later discovered that Rodreck had already once successfully pulled off his pedophilia scheme at the Imagine School in Surprise, Arizona. Rodreck attended that school for over 50 days while pretending to be 12 year old student "Casey Price" before the school expelled him for poor attendance, never determining that his documentation was false.

"This is the weirdest case I've seen in 18 years," said Susan Quayle, a spokesperson for the sheriff's office. "If it wasn't so sad it would be funny."

The three older men that Rodreck was sharing a house with were also arrested after police found out that he had misrepresented his age to them as well. Rodreck also convinced them that he was a minor, and they were charged with several counts of conspiracy, fraud, and failing to register as sex offenders, among other crimes.

Police have since searched Rodreck's computer and personal possessions, discovering among them child pornography and child sex videos, including one involving Rodreck himself and a yet-identified minor.



Source: CNN.com, Yahoo! News

### Downtown Beirut erupts in battle

BEIRUT, Lebanon: Opposing protests between anti- and pro-government supporters at Beirut Arab University quickly degenerated into an all-out battle Thursday as political unrest grows throughout the country.

Three people were killed and over 150 seriously injured in the early fighting, government officials reported. Government soldiers fired several volleys into the air to try to keep the two groups apart, an effort that failed.

The fighting soon escalated from fists, hand weapons and thrown rocks to machine guns and shoulder-fired rifles, which government officials claim are being used by Hezbollah to further increase the damage and chaos of the situation. After only a brief period, national troops sent to bring the riot/battle under control could only stand back and watch it unfold as the situation became too dangerous to control.

In an effort to bring an end to the fighting, the Lebanese government has decided to impose a strict curfew from 8:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Anyone caught out after those times without good account will be arrested.

"For all those who took to the streets today to express their opinion in some way or another, I would appeal to all Lebanese to stay away from any hot spots and renounce the temptation to fan the flames of tension and conflict," Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniiora said in a nationally broadcast statement.

Various news agencies still reported gunfire emanating from around the area of the university as of 6 p.m. Thursday.

### To-Go option now at Dobbins

By Ashley Bressler  
news editor

With the start of the 2007 spring semester, Penn State Behrend's Food Services is eager to show their new additions with hopes to better accommodate the students. There are three main cafeterias where students, faculty and staff members can buy food on campus: Bruno's Café, Dobbins Dining Hall, and the Café at REDC.

(Research and Economic Development Center). While Bruno's was designed to offer mostly fast food style options like pizza, hamburgers, pre-packaged specialty salads, and a design-your-own submarine sandwich bar; Dobbins is designed for students to actually sit down and eat their meals leisurely. Dobbins offers a rotating schedule of hot entrees, a salad bar, deli, wok bar, and a few other sections depending on the time of day. There are many students who prefer to eat at Dobbins rather than Bruno's because they either like the food better, it is closer to their dorms, or because it is less expensive. However, the serving hours at Dobbins are not always convenient for students says Randy Geering, director of Housing and Food Services at Behrend.

"There are a lot of students that are very busy with either their classes, sports, jobs, or their social lives, and it can be hard for them to get to Dobbins' when it's open. That's why we made it easier for them to get the food they want. They can come in and ask for the To-Go option, put whatever they want in it, then take it back to their rooms to reheat later," said Geering.

The cost for the To-Go option at Dobbins is the same as eating in the dining hall, and students are given a To-Go package, which they can fill as they wish. The package includes: a 12-oz Styrofoam To-

Go container with a lid for salad, soup or ice cream; a 16-oz Styrofoam cup with lid; wrapped plastic flatware; napkins; and a straw.

"We added the to-go option because we would get complaints from students saying they couldn't make it to Dobbins when it was open, especially athletes who have practice from 6:00 to 8:00. They wanted us to extend our hours, but that is a much bigger task then it seems. We would have to worry about employees, cooks and a lot of other resources that we just don't have. This is a way for them to eat their dinner at whatever time they want. We just feel it is a great solution to students with busy schedules or limited time," said Geering.

Geering said the to-go option was established in the sixth week of the 2006 fall semester, and had 500 people use it. Geering said, "I just don't think a lot of the students know about it. We're hoping that if they are aware of this great option, then we will have a lot more takers." It has been a well known and posted rule at Dobbins that students are not permitted to take food out of the cafeteria, excluding one piece of fruit and one ice cream treat. Now, the addition of the to-go option will make it possible for many students who were unable or unwilling to eat in the dining hall to enjoy the same food at their own convenience.

Behrend's Food Services is designed for the students, and they are its main concern, says Geering. All students are encouraged to voice their concerns to the Food Services department by sending then an email to [foodservicebd@psu.edu](mailto:foodservicebd@psu.edu), or attending one of their FAB meetings through out the semester. To find out when the FAB meetings are held contact Al Vogan, assistant director of Housing and Food Services at [amv1@psu.edu](mailto:amv1@psu.edu).

Hours	
<b>Bruno's Café</b>	
Mon - Thurs: 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.	
Friday: 7:00 a.m. - midnight	
Saturday: 2:00 p.m. - midnight	
Sunday: 4:00 - 11:00 p.m.	
<b>Dobbins' Dining Hall</b>	
Mon - Thurs:	
Breakfast: 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	
Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	
Dinner: 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	
Friday:	
Breakfast: 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	
Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	
Dinner: 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	
Saturday - Sunday:	
Brunch: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	
Lunch: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	
Dinner: 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	
<b>The Café at REDC</b>	
Mon - Thurs: 7:45 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.	
Friday: 7:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	

### Woman dies after Wii contest

By Christopher LaFuria  
editor in chief

Not since the release of the Cabbage Patch doll in the early-80s has one product caused such an increase in consumer and buyer traffic than the Nintendo Wii system, which was released in late 2006. The elusiveness of the Wii, since production is not as high as the public wishes, has caused much controversy and struggle for the American public, who are making extra efforts to purchase the gaming system.

Some of these efforts have left many Americans broke, destroyed, injured and even dead. One contest in Sacramento left a 28-year-old mother of three dead after participating. Jennifer Strange died from water intoxication after being a part of a contest put on by a radio station.

The local radio station KDND-FM 107.9 held a contest called "Hold Your Wee for a Wii," in which the contestants were instructed to drink as much water as they can without going to the bathroom. The contestant who "held their wee" the longest would receive a Nintendo Wii game system, valued at around \$250.

Each contestant was given an 8-ounce bottle of water to drink and was given more after a short 10-minute recess. After successfully advancing to the

final two, Strange dropped out of the contest, complaining of a headache. Sources say Strange called off work, complaining of illness and was later found dead at her home in Rancho Cordova, California. Strange had reportedly drunk nearly two gallons of water.

The Sacramento coroner pronounced that Strange had died from water intoxication, in which water throws off the body's electrolytes and dilutes the body's vital fluids and can lead to seizure, coma or, in this case, death.

John Geary, the vice president and general manager of Entercom/Sacramento says, "We are doing everything we can to deal with this difficult situation in a manner that is both respectful and responsible."

In response to the contest, KDND-FM has fired more than 10 of its employees for their involvement. Among the people fired were three of the station's morning disc jockeys. KDND-FM's Morning Rave had the show suspended pending further investigation.

Another contestant, Gina Sherrod, said that she heard from a nurse on the same radio show that drinking an excess of water could be harmful. The contestants signed a waiver before the contest that only addressed publicity issues and did not mention health or safety concerns.

**"We are doing everything we can to deal with this difficult situation."**  
-John Geary  
Entercom/Sacramento

### Quotes on Civility

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is 'What are you doing for others?'"

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Expires 02/09/07

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Cheese and One Topping  
Add a 2 Liter Pepsi Product for \$1.19  
\$7.99+ tax  
Expires 02/09/07

**Two Subs**  
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\$7.99+ tax  
Expires 02/09/07

**Dinner For Two**  
Your Choice: Spaghetti or Penne Pasta. Includes: Meatballs, Tossed Salad and Garlic Bread  
\$8.99+ tax  
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**Chicken Salads**  
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**New Buffalo Style Chicken Sub**  
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