

# NEWS

## National and world news in brief

By Patrick Webster  
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### Police arrest ten in pop can scam

**DETROIT, Michigan:** A smuggling ring importing millions of empty pop cans from other states in order to cash in on Michigan's ten cent deposit return has been broken, with police arresting ten suspects so far and seizing over a half million dollars in cash.

The 67-count warrant includes felony charges that, if convicted, the suspects could face five to twenty years in prison. Millions of cans were shipped, crushed, bagged and processed by the group before being redeemed at grocery stores that they owned or were employed by, leading to

charges including maintaining a criminal enterprise and fraud. The state's deposit fund is used to pay for environmental cleanup and waste services.

"Each year, this type of activity defrauds the state approximately \$13 million," said Michigan State Police director Col. Peter Munoz.

The police probe lists a possible influence for the scheme as a 1996 episode of "Seinfeld," in which the cast of the show begins to hatch a similar plan before being sidetracked.



Source: CNN.com, Yahoo! News

### Ebola outbreak suspected in the Congo

**GENEVA, Switzerland:** World Health Organization (WHO) officials have confirmed an additional 8 cases of the deadly Ebola virus in the Congo, bringing the total to 17 for the past several weeks and intensifying fears that the region may be in the process of a major outbreak.

The WHO took a closer look at the region after the local population reported over 170 deaths to unknown illnesses in the last four months and continues to receive reports that hundreds more are currently sick. Some cases have been identified as other, more common tropical diseases such as shigella or typhoid, but the high number of unknowns is a matter of concern.

"There's no way we can be sure at this time how many cases are shigella and how many cases are Ebola," said WHO spokesman Gregory Hunt. With a mortality rate in excess

of 80 percent, Ebola is one of the deadliest diseases in the world and causes death massive blood loss, thereby classifying it as an hemorrhagic fever. Still, Congolese officials remain hopeful that deaths and infection will be reduced and that the outbreak does not become widespread.

"The number of sick continues to climb, but the deaths are decreasing because they are now being taken care of by medical teams on the ground," Congolese health official Jean-Constantin Kanow said.

The last significant outbreak of Ebola was in 1995, killing a confirmed 245 people and raising global outbreak fears due to the availability of fast air travel. Ebola is transmitted through contact with infected blood and body fluids, and the animal carrier for the virus is still unknown.

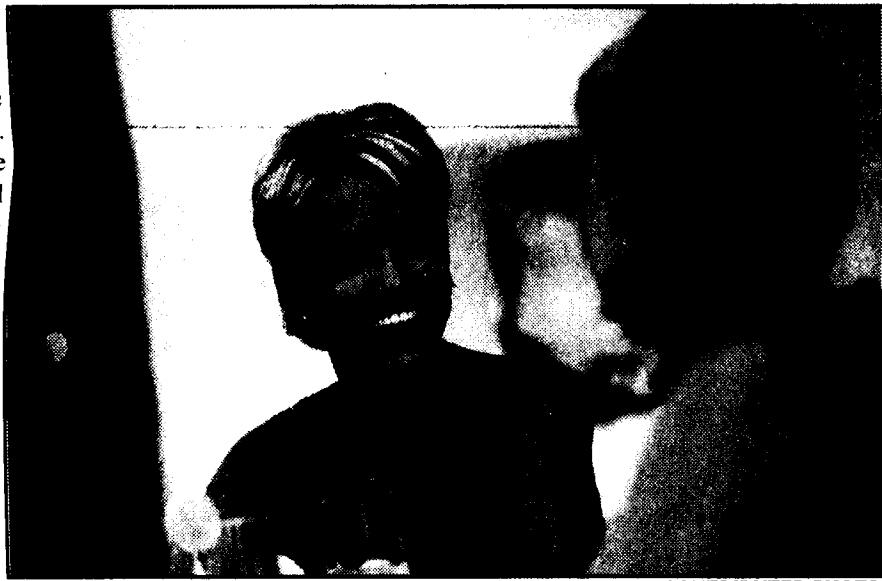
## New research shows increase in breast cancer among female drinkers

By Lenny Smith  
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American researchers announced this week that they have discovered a new risk for women of developing breast cancer. Researchers said that all types of alcoholic drinks could increase the risk of breast cancer.

"Women drinking wine because they think it is healthier than beer are wrong," Dr. Patrick Maisonneuve of the European Institute of Oncology said. "It's about the amount of alcohol consumed, not the type," Maisonneuve said.

The team of researchers met in Barcelona, Spain to unveil their findings at a meeting of the European Cancer Organization. The lead researcher on the project was Dr. Arthur Klatsky from the Kaiser Permanente Medical Care



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Two women share a drink at a party. Researcher have proven that even light drinking such as this can lead to the development of breast cancer in women.

Program in Oakland, California. Klatsky and his team of researchers analyzed the drinking habits of over 70,000 women from 1978-1985. These women were from a diverse group mixed by their races. During this time frame, the women were also asked health related questions during their regular check-ups.

In 2004, the researchers finished by recording how many of the over 70,000 women had developed cancer. Over 2,800 of these women had been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Researchers looked at what types of drinks the women had consumed and how much the women drank. The team found that there were no distinguishable differences between the risk of breast cancer among those women who drank beer, wine, or liquor, leading researchers to believe that it's alcohol in general, not the specific type.

Statistics were compiled in comparison with women who only have about one drink per day. Women who consumed two drinks a day increased their risk of breast cancer by about 10 percent. Even more so, women who had three or more drinks a day increased their risk of breast cancer by 30 percent.

"A 30 percent increased risk is not trivial," Klatsky said. "It provides more evidence for why heavy drinkers should quit or cut down."

Maisonneuve added, "This is a hugely underestimated risk factor."

"People may not realize the risk they're taking when they have a few drinks," said Tim Key, of the Cancer Research UK Epidemiology Unit at Oxford.

However, researchers admit they are not sure yet what link alcohol has to breast cancer. Some of the experts on the subject believe that hormone levels in the blood increase

to the point where cancer can occur because of alcohol. Confusion has the possibility to arise in the public due to the past research that said drinking wine is a healthy way to fight off heart disease.

Even with these new developments, cancer experts still say that other factors play a very large role in developing cancer. Factors such as genetics, age, and weight still have a great effect on the development of cancer, even more so than alcohol, researchers say.

Although this research is new, experts say that it is enough to start educating the public on the adverse sign effect of alcohol of women's health.

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### Behrend safety continued

system and to comply with federal regulations, the report contains many tips and other information to try to affect student behavior.

On the front page, the penalties for underage drinking are listed, stating that for the first offense a fine of up to \$300 and jail time of up to 90 days could be issued, both or either complementing a driver's license suspension of 90 days. Supporting this are several small articles such as "How Much is Too Much?," which is a list of 10 questions one can ask oneself to help determine if one has a drinking problem, and "Smart Students Make Smart Decisions," which has three tips for students to think about before going to a party.

To address the topic of drug use and abuse, the report also contains a list of commonly used and abused drugs with information about their properties. Common names, dependence (both

physical and mental), and the short term, long term, and overdose effects of the drugs are printed in the report to help increase the knowledge and awareness of the campuses of Penn State.

Students and faculty can get a hold of a PDF of the latest "Policies, Safety, and U" at [www.psu.edu/dept/police](http://www.psu.edu/dept/police), where statistics for all of Penn State's campuses can be found.

The police want to make it clear that there is not an enormous problem with crime, and that students should not be overwhelmingly frightened. "It's a campus with a very low crime rate, sums up Amman. "It's good for everybody."

Parts of this article were contributed by Rachel Reeves.

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## Quotes on Civility

**"Americanism is a question of principles, of idealism, of character: it is not a matter of birthplace or creed or line of descent."**

— Theodore Roosevelt, adventurer, politician and Nobel Prize-winning 26th U.S. president (1858-1919)

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