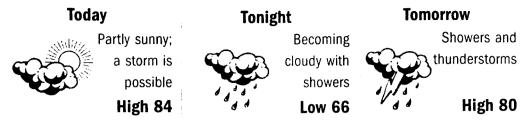
MONDAY, June 26, 2000

LOCAL & STATE

UNIVERSE OREC -SUR

It will be warm and humid in Happy Valley today ahead of an approaching cold front which will bring the threat of showers and thunderstorms through tomorrow. Behind the front expect comfortable temperatures and drier conditions. The next threat of any rain will come toward the end of the week as the next system approaches the region.

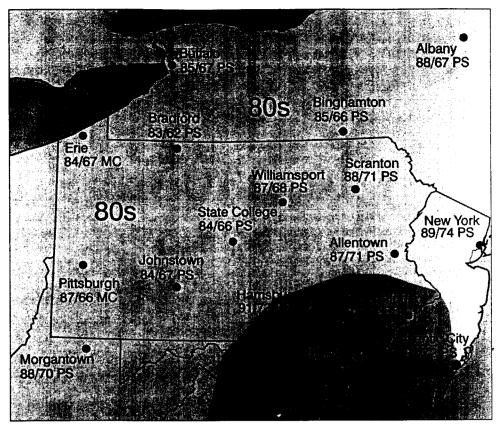


The extended outlook

Mostly cloudy with lingering showers.	Low 61.
Partly sunny. High 77, low 57.	
Partly sunny. High 77, low 59.	
Showers and thunderstorms possible.	High 80, low 61.
	Partly sunny. High 77, low 57. Partly sunny. High 77, low 59.

ALTRANA

Today	Today's Weather				Today	Tomorrow
Normal high	University	Hi/Lo	Conditions	City	Hi/Lo	Hi/Lo
Record high	Illinois	82/62	Thunderstorms	Allentown	87/71 PS	86/68 TS
Normal low	Indiana	84/64	Thunderstorms	Altoona	85/68 PS	83/64 TS
Record low	lowa	80/57	Mostly Cloudy	Bradford	83/62 PS	77/57 CY
Monthly Climate Summary	Michigan	84/61	Mostly Cloudy	Erie	84/67 MC	76/64 PS
(Data valid through 8 am June 25)	Michigan St.	84/59	Thunderstorms	Harrisburg	91/73 PS	89/69 TS
June precipitation	Minnesota	78/55	Partly Sunny	Johnstown	84/67 PS	78/62 TS
June temp. departure +2.23 deg.	Northwestern	80/58	Thunderstorms	Philadelphia	92/74 PS	89/70 TS
Sun Data	Ohio State	85/67	Mostly Cloudy	Pittsburgh	87/66 MC	81/61 PS
Sunset today	Purdue	85/63	Thunderstorms	Scranton	88/71 PS	86/68 TS
Sunrise tomorrow	Wisconsin	79/55	Showers	Williamsport	87/68 PS	86/63 TS



REGIONAL FORECAST MAP

How to interpret this map: Shades of gray indicate the expected high temperatures for today. Today's forecasted high TS PS and tomorrow morning's low are also shown for selected cities

Legend: SU(Sunny), MS(Mostly Sunny), PS(Partly Sunny), MC(Mostly Cloudy), CY(Cloudy), RN(Rain), RS(Rain/Snow). TS TS SH(Showers), SN(Snow), SF(Snow Flurries), MX (Mix), TS(Thunderstorms), WY(Windy), FZ (Freezing Rain/Sleet)

Late last Monday, the town of Barrow. Alaska reported its very first thunderstorm. The storm, which dropped 0.16 mehes of rain on the town, marked the first time many of Barrow's residents had ever seen lightning. It's easy to see why Barrow does not experience more thunderstorms, the temperature at the time of the storm, even at this time of year, was only 54 degrees.

The UV Ind. v is a measure of the predicted ultraviolet radiation reaching the surface. The lowest number on the UV Index is 0, indicating minimal UV radiation exposure. A number greater than or equal to 10 indicates very high UV radiation exposure. Today's UV Index is 6, and it will take approximately 30 minutes to sunbur)

Visit the Meteorology Department at http://weather.bsu.edu Community of a construction of the page can be elmisted in the sub-line **psu edu** Forecasters. and the Productski

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lemont man held on charges of assault, harassment

LEMONT - Cole Bridges, 39, of Lemont, was placed in Centre County Prison in lieu of \$500,000 bail on charges of aggravated assault, harassment and stalking, terroristic threats, recklessly endangering another person and two charges of simple assault after an incident that allegedly occurred Friday at Shady Drive, the State College Police Department said.

The victim returned home with her son from a softball game at 6:20 p.m. Friday when she found the defendant on the telephone and reportedly intoxicated. The defendant was reportedly angry because the victim refused to take him home from a bar in Pleasant Gap. Police later discovered a bartender from the establishment drove the defendant to the residence. Both the victim and her son asked the defendant to leave because of his belligerence and intoxication, police said.

Reportedly, the defendant then struck the victim's son and the victim in turn struck the defendant on the back of his shoulder. The defendant then brutally beat and threatened to kill the victim with a knife that he held at the back of her neck. State College police said.

The defendant fled the scene when he discovered the victim's son had called 911, police said. The defendant was later found in a nearby field.

A canine police unit played an important role in apprehending the defendant, police said. - by Allison Kessler

Police seize millions in counterfeit computer software

HARRISBURG (AP) - Police seized 3 1/2 truckloads of counterfeit computer software worth \$22 million from a Harrisburg-area business, landing the business owner behind bars, authorities said.

James Halkias, 30, of Lower Paxton Township was being held Monday in Dauphin County Prison on a parole violation.

Authorities said Halkias' business, Automated Distributing Inc., appears to have been an online distributor. They said their investigation into where the company obtained the merchandise is continuing and would not say whether anyone else is facing charges.

A three-day search of Automated Distributing resulted in what Microsoft Corp. officials called one of the bigger counterfeit software distribution busts in the company's history. The largest U.S. seizure of counterfeit software rang in at \$59 million, the company said.

So much evidence was seized, authorities said, that investigators rented a 24-foot truck to take it away. They filled the truck three and a half times.



Police also seized several thousand digital video disc movies, known as DVDs, that were determined to be counterfeit, authorities said.

As of Monday, Halkias had not been charged in connection with the seizure of the counterfeit DVDs and computer software, police said.

Dauphin County Deputy District Attorney Eric R. Augustine said the filing of charges could take time because investigators are sorting through a huge amount of evidence.

"At this point in the investigation it's too early to determine what charges will be filed and when," Augustine said, though he predicted that trademark counterfeiting and theft charges will be among those filed.

Parole officials had Halkias locked up soon after police served him with the search warrant Thursday, accusing him of violating the conditions of his parole because authorities suspected he was involved in counterfeiting.

Parole officers act independently from police, and charges are not required to return parolees to prison.

Halkias is a convicted felon who was sentenced in August to eight to 23 months in prison for cheating computer consumers while running another business last year, court records show. Halkias was convicted of taking money from prospective computer buyers and never delivering the goods. He served seves months before being paroled.

Board rules cold medication as cause of plane crash

PITTSBURGH (AP) - An 18-year-old pilot who died in a single-engine plane crash just three months shy of earning his private license was impaired by over-the-counter cold medication, the National Transportation Safety Board ruled.

Anthony Benvin III of Pittsburgh, a senior honors student at Pittsburgh's High School for the Creative and Performing Arts, died March 15, 1998 when the Cessna 152 he was flying crashed near Allegheny County Airport in West Mifflin.

Benvin, who flew his first plane at age 6 and wanted to be a commercial pilot, was practicing takeoffs and landings. Benvin failed to maintain adequate speed, causing the wing of the plane to strike the ground, gouging a furrow. The plane cartwheeled and came to a crumpled stop a few yards from a house.

NTSB, which investigates aviation crashes, released its final report on the crash last week. The report said toxicology tests showed Benvin's system contained over-the-counter antihistamines, a decongestant and an antibiotic.

Karen Steinmetz, a doctor of pharmacy and apothecary manager for UPMC Health System, said those medications could cause dizziness, confusion, vertigo, blurred vision and heaviness or weakness in the hands.

Police continue search for mother of abandoned baby

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Police yesterday resumed searching for who they believe might be the mother of a newborn baby girl found abandoned near a Pittsburgh church.

Two teen-agers walking near the Birmingham United Church of Christ in Pittsburgh on Saturday found the naked baby. She had rolled out of a blanket become sunburned and dirty, Pittsburgh Police Lt. Cindy Dietrich said.

The girl, who appeared to be one day old, was found at about 9:30 p.m. Saturday between a pine tree and the church's outside wall.

The baby was in stable condition at Magee-Women's Hospital on Sunday.

Police Cmdr. Gwen Elliott said a white woman with curly hair was spotted near the church. People in the neighborhood near the church had seen the woman driving around twice earlier Saturday in a tan sedan.

POLICE LOG

Hollidaysburg, and Kimberly Neil, 21, of Altoona, were arraigned before District Jus- lishment, State College police said. tice Carmine Prestia Saturday after stealing \$851 worth of clothing and other items Haven, was travelling south on Atherton from JCPenney, The Bon-Ton Department Store, Victoria's Secret and Afterthoughts in the Nittany Mall, the State College Police Department said.

The two were placed in Centre County Prison in lieu of \$500 bail each.

rolling a marijuana cigarette at 11 p.m. Sat-

Retail theft: Stephanie Stuckey , 21, of urday in the bathroom of Crowbar, 420 E. College Ave., by an employee of the estab-

■ Accident: Grace Gottshall, 39, of Lock Street Saturday night when she ran a red light and her vehicle struck the automobile of James Schwarzmeier, 24, of New Jersey, going west on Beaver Avenue, State College police said.

Four people suffered minor injuries that Drug Violation: A person was caught did not require medical attention. Both cars were towed from the scene, police said.

1

A WHOLE NEW WORLD: Robert Hogan (freshman-science) places a sheet onto his bed. Hogan, along with 500 error test on the second beaver Hall Saturday afternoon. Saturday was move in day for students enrolled in the Learning Edge Academic Program.

Friends of Abu-Jamal face money questions

PHILADELPHIA — A group that has raised money to support death-row inmate Mumia Abu-Jamal as his fate has grown into an international cause has done little to disclose how much has been donated or spent.

The International Concerned Friends and Family of Mumia Abu-Jamal has received at least \$240,000 in the last two years alone, according to an analysis by The Philadelphia Inquirer.

But while other groups' supporting Abu-Jamal have filed disclosure forms showing they have raised at least \$950,000 for mass mailings, newspaper ads, videos and the inmate's massive legal bills, the organization led by Pam Africa has not followed the disclosure rules other charities do, the newspaper reported Sunday.

The Inquirer said Africa again refused last week to discuss the group's fund-raising and spending, but when asked whether it had hit face a deadline later this year to disclose \$1 million, she replied: "It might be that much."

group's financial documents were recently stolen in a break-in at its West Philadelphia office

While Africa called the crime a "dirty trick" by enemies of Abu-Jamal, critics voiced other theories.

"These folks, I suspect, don't want to face public scrutiny," said Michael Smerconish. a Philadelphia lawyer who uses his daily radio talk show to rebut Abu-Jamal's defenders.

The loss of the documents comes at an awkward time. In May 1999, Africa's group quietly registered as a nonprofit corporation with the state. That same month her organization also applied for, and was later granted, federal tax-exempt status.

Though the organization has a provisional federal tax exemption from the IRS, Africa's group still needs to register as a charity with attorney. Leonard Weinglass, complained the state before it can raise money, and will details of its fund-raising and spending.

Though the group has dubbed the theft a behalf

fund-raising, he has a theory of his own.

"If you ask the IRS to bestow upon you a tax-exempt status, your end of the bargain is full disclosure." Smerconish said

This is just the latest development after a decade in which one key hand raising partnership broke up in nancor and another triggered a mayon's concentration

Africa's group termed in 1991, forged a key alliance with Found Justice USA of Hyattsville, Md

Equal Justice is a mainstream organization with Cathene roots and a history of opposition to capital parasiment. From 1993 to 1997. Equal Justice said it raised \$803,000 on behalf of Abu Jamal

In 1997, an argument latose over fund raising. Africa, Abu Janual and his Washington that Equal Justice was not steering enough money to the legal effect. In 1998, Abu-Jamal ordered Equal Justice to stop working on his

Big Brothers/Big Sisters working to break stereotypes

By Carol Robidoux

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEWTOWN - Samantha Perissi lapses into the body language of girlhood giddiness. For the next 10 seconds she's all blowfish cheeks, roller coaster eyes and Cheshire smile

Stephanie Martin, translator in training, intervenes.

"She probably just doesn't know what to say," says Stephanie, interpreting Samantha's gut reaction to the question, "How has having a Big Sister changed your life?"

Not that Samantha is ever speechless.

It's more that this year-old relationship between a Bristol Township fifth-grader and a 32-year-old graduate nurse from Yardley transcends words and defies the stereotype that Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America is trying hard to shake.

That is, you don't have to be without a lence, says the time her. Sharon mother or father to benefit from the mentor ing made available through the BBBSA.

'That's one of the biggest myths we have to deal with, that you have to have absent parents to be referred. The other is that you have to give a lot of time, in terms of commitment, to be a Big Brother or Big Sister." explains Leonette Boiarski, program director for the local chapter of BBBSA.

The program needs Big Brothers in the Lower Bucks area for the more than 100 boys already on the waiting list.

Also needed are referrals of girls who. like Samantha, could benefit from the mentoring and companionship a Big Sister has to offer.

Samantha found her way into Stephanie's life thanks, in part, to her actual big sister. Cecelia, who's 15 months older. Their closeness begins and ends with the age differ-

الديا المتوجع المحالي

"We were invited to the Big Brother Big Sister Christmas party with Cecelia. It was such a wonderfail time and right after that, Samantha told as sheld like to be matched with a Big Sister, tee-

It's wonderful says Sharon, that the program has provided mentors for her daughters for those times when a girl might want someone to talk to who isn't her mom, but who's older and was suthan her peers

Even better is the energy conservation factor, says Sharou.

"Harry and I are a lot older. We just don't have the energy we used to. I'll be 50 this year and my husband will be 56. It's not that we don't love and enjoy the girls we just can't keep up with them!

The Perissis have come to love Stephanie like a third daughter, says Sharon. It's a feeling that surpasses gratitude.

1

Even if she wanted to provide figures. "political break mall smoreonish said given Africa said, she couldn't. She said the its group's history of retusing to disclose

By the Associated Press