

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police: Group scamming local elderly

Two elderly College Township residents were targets of a scam Monday involving household chores, according to a State College Police Department press release.

CAMPUS NOTES

The Penn State Objectivist Club will host Elan Journo at 8 p.m. today in 101 Thomas. The speech, "Road to 9/11: The West's Failed Strategy of Compromise and Appeasement," is also sponsored by Students of Objectivism at Georgia Tech, where Journo will speak tomorrow night.

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at Alumni Hall in the HUB-Robeson Center.

Graham S. Wyatt, a partner with Robert A.M. Stern Architects in New York City, will give a free public lecture today. The speech, "Zeitgeist and Genius Loci on Campus," will focus on the future of architecture in America's college campuses. It will be held at 6 p.m. in the Palmer Lipcon Auditorium at the Palmer Museum of Art.

Penn State's Wing Kai Ho will speak on "Branching of Integral Curves of Generic Vector Fields" at 3:35 p.m. today in 106 McAllister Building. The Department of Mathematics will host the event.

Penn State's Neuroscience Institute will host a seminar at 4 p.m. today in 108 Wartik Laboratory. University of Maryland's Scott Thompson will speak about "Shining a Light on the Needle-in-the-Haystack: Studies of Dendritic Spine Function and Plasticity Using Glutamate Photolysis."

Charles Lawrence of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory will speak on "The Planck Mission and the Future of the Cosmic Microwave Background" at 4 p.m. today in 538 Davey Laboratory. The Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics will host the event.

ON THE MENU

DINNER

Findlay, McElwain, Pollock and Warnock: general tso's chicken, rice, Tuscan steak tips, vegetable lasagna, kyoto blend, mushroom risotto, spinach

Simmons: chili con carne, Pennsylvania vegetable soup, beef and broccoli stir fry, grilled chicken breast, mushroom focaccia, broccoli florettes, chicken tenders, milano sauce, quarter pound cheeseburger, seasoned curly fries, spirals, vegetarian burger, baby carrots with dill, potato and cheese pierogies, sticky rice, cheese pizza, pepperoni pizza, salad mix

Redifer: cream of broccoli soup, maverick chili, chicken fajita, grilled chicken breast, portabella fajita, steak fajita, vegetable chimichanga, black beans, corn, jalapeno cornbread, Mexican rice, nacho cheese sauce, warm tortilla chips, buffalo chicken pizza, chicken parmesan, London broil platter, meat sauce, orange chicken

Waring: assorted specialty breads, soup of the day, buttered parselid potatoes, carrots and zucchini, cornbread stuffing, harvest blend, popcorn shrimp, rotisserie chicken, lo mein noodles, rice, Thai pepper steak, cheese pizza, garlic mashed potato pizza, hoagie roll, marinara sauce, meat sauce, meatballs in sauce, pepperoni pizza, potato and cheese pierogies, baked potato, broccoli florettes, cheddar cheese sauce, hearty vegetarian chili, Mexican lasagna, grilled chicken breast, vegetarian burger

Spread the word

If any group or organization has information it would like printed about an upcoming event, please deliver it to The Daily Collegian by 2 p.m. at least two days before the event.

THE DAILY Collegian www.collegian.psu.edu

Collegian

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Weather

CWS UNIVERSITY PARK FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19, 2007

CWS FORECAST

Today: Abundant sunshine. High 76 Tonight: Mostly clear. Low 50 Tomorrow: Sunny and pleasant. High 79 Tomorrow night: Clouds increasing. Low 55 Friday: Partly cloudy and warmer. High 81 Friday night: A few passing clouds. Low 60 Saturday: Mostly sunny. High 83

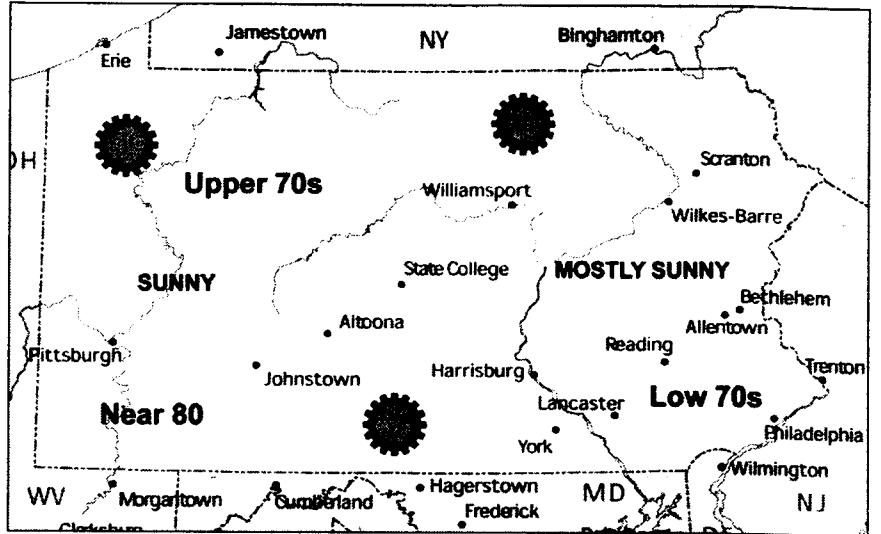
1.8 M EVACUATED IN CHINA

Schools and business were closed on Tuesday in Shanghai, China, as officials evacuated 1.8 million people from coastal regions in anticipation of Typhoon Wipha. The outer bands of the storm reached into China earlier yesterday, impacting several of the women's world cup games and postponing today's games until Thursday.

ADDITIONAL WEATHER

Visit the Campus Weather Service at: http://cws.met.psu.edu

Comments? Email gns5000@psu.edu Forecasters: Amy Jo Swanson, Alex Matus, Ben Scarino, Katherine Chu, Alaina Luzik, Amanda Bason, Daniel Pollak



ALMANAC

Today Normal high: 71° Record high: 88° in 1965 Normal low: 51° Record low: 32° in 1929

Monthly Climate Summary (Data valid through 8 am yesterday) September precipitation: 1.19" Normal September precip: 3.52" September temp. departure: +1.09°

Sun Data Sunset today: 7:15 pm Sunrise tomorrow: 6:56 am

Previous Day Summary Monday High: 65 Low: 41 Temp. departure: -8.39° Rain or Liquid Equivalent: 0.00"

FORECAST DISCUSSION

For the remainder of the week, clear and pleasant conditions will prevail as high pressure dominates the region. Temperatures will reach the mid '70s with ample sunshine throughout the day. Tonight will be clear with a few passing clouds and a low of around 50 degrees. The dry weather pattern will continue tomorrow as temperatures climb to the 80 degree mark. Clouds will be on the increase overnight, but skies should clear during the day on Friday. The weekend is expected to be much of the same, so enjoy the nice weather while it lasts.

UPUA

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although he had received a copy of the proposal, he had not read it as of press time and would not comment.

An e-mail message was also sent to Judicial Affairs director Joseph Puzycki at 7 last night for comment, but was not returned by press time.

Hearsay Evidence

UPUA first concentrated on the use of hearsay evidence, which Nickerson defined as "word of mouth being used as evidence."

In the proposal, UPUA legal affairs asserts that the Judicial Affairs training and reference manual "oversimplifies the hearsay rules, and thereby inhibits a student's ability to fully defend his or herself."

The manual states that students' hearings are "non-criminal, informal and are not held to the standards of hearsay information required by some courts."

UPUA legal affairs argued that though "police reports are often offered as evidence," students aren't given a fair hearing because the police officer who drafted the report isn't always present during the hearing itself.

"You can't cross-examine a piece of paper," Lachman said. UPUA legal affairs said that allowing

hearsay in hearings "negates a crucial right supposedly granted to students."

State law does not allow schools within the Pennsylvania System of Higher Education to use hearsay to "establish a fact necessary to establish guilt or innocence" during hearings.

Since Penn State is only state-affiliated, the law, known formally as 22 Pa. Code 505.6, does not apply to Judicial Affairs.

"Currently, hearsay is allowed freely for the most part, and we don't think that's fair to the students," Lachman said.

The Lack of a Medical Amnesty Policy

Schools like the University of Pennsylvania have medical amnesty policies to encourage students whose health is in danger because of excessive drinking and drug use to contact medical authorities.

However, Penn State has no such policy in place.

Instead, a student whose health is in danger may be afraid to call the proper medical authorities for fear of being reprimanded by Judicial Affairs, Lachman said.

Since 444 students were treated for alcohol-related issues during the previous academic year and many underage students were subject to discipline, it created "a disincentive for students to

seek proper medical attention," according to the proposal.

Under the recommendations of UPUA legal affairs, students who initiate medical attention for themselves or friends would have immunity from repercussions.

Pre-hearing Right to Discovery of Hearing Evidence

The final issue of the proposal involves students' rights to prior viewing and examination of all evidence that would or could be used during a hearing.

UPUA legal affairs recommends that students be allowed access to all evidence "at least five (5) business days before a hearing."

Evidence includes, but is not limited to, photographic or video evidence, according to the proposal.

"Usually, the Judicial Affairs personnel will get to see that video [evidence] ahead of time, but oftentimes the student wouldn't get a chance to see that," Lachman said.

"We believe [that] as a student group and an organization, the system should be as fair as possible and make sure that students have a chance to defend themselves and have a right to a fair hearing."

UPUA legal affairs has since set up a meeting, to be held next week, with Secor and his committee, Lachman said, adding that Spanier e-mailed him and "thanked us for our proposal."

Facilities

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sure the student had the various housing options they thought they needed."

Dubois said housing in Eastview Terrace, which features single rooms with private bathrooms, is an option for students requesting gender-neutral housing.

While the movement to add gender-neutral housing and bathrooms is still relatively small, it is growing, especially in the Northeast and among elite colleges, the report shows.

Among the colleges that have amended anti-bias policies, for example, 43 percent are in the Northeast, while 5 percent are from the South. Two-thirds of a list of the top 25 colleges have amended their policies, including all eight Ivy League schools.

Allison Subasic, director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Ally (LGBTA) student resource center on campus, said she thinks Penn State is covered on all three of the elements reported in the study.

"At this point, we have accommodated every student that is gender neutral [for housing]," she said. "Every school seems to do it a little bit differently, and we do it on a case-by-case basis."

Penn State amended its Statement on Nondiscrimination and Harassment in 2006 to include gender identity, the report shows.

The policy was amended the same year that Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia universities and Dartmouth College changed theirs, according to the report.

The university also has several gender-neutral bathrooms. Gender-neutral bathrooms are

defined as restrooms that may be used by a person of any gender or sex. The restrooms are typically single stall and lockable, according to the report.

A list of Penn State's gender-neutral bathrooms can be found on the LGBTA Web site, Subasic said.

"Most major buildings have at least one," she said.

Subasic said she thinks Penn State is ranked "towards the top" in inclusiveness of transgendered students.

The LGBTA Student Resource Center, the Office of Affirmative Action and Diversity and the Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Equity hold educational workshops to bring attention to the problems transgendered students face, she said.

She said the programs are improving. "We're progressive in some ways, but we can still work on a few things," she said.

Scam

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out a permit, offered the name of his employer — "Unlimited Sales."

The Daily Collegian received an anonymous e-mail from a Meridian resident on the same day Gatlin was cited, also mentioning a salesman claiming to work for Unlimited Sales.

Unlimited Sales Inc., a Nevada corporation, was investigated in 2001 by Wyoming Attorney General Hoke MacMillan for cheating Cheyenne, Wyo., residents out of more than \$1,200, according to a press release.

MacMillan's office confirmed that rep-

resentatives of the company falsely claimed subscription proceeds would go toward the Boys and Girls Club of Cheyenne, according to the release.

John Patrick, Patton Township Police Department chief, has heard similar complaints.

Two weeks ago, Patton Township police cited two men for selling magazines without a permit, but lacked evidence to press charges. He said he thinks the State College area is being scoured by an out-of-state group, with "one team leader and a whole bunch of underlings that go out and do the magazine soliciting."

"The fact that they were soliciting without a permit caused great concern,"

Patrick said. "They're very transient. They move from location to location on a daily basis."

Tyrone Parham, Penn State University Police assistant director, said he didn't know if the solicitors had canvassed the campus, but did say the university has had trouble with magazine scam artists in the past.

The best advice he can give, he said, is to trust only yourself when buying a subscription.

"You write a check, it has your name, your address, your banking routing number and your account number," Parham said. "People should find their own way to a magazine subscription and not take one from a stranger."

Voting

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replace its touch-screen systems with optical scan systems, which work similarly to Scantron testing forms.

State College Borough Council member Elizabeth Goreham attended the screening of the report and said she supports the bill.

"Having everyone's vote counted correctly is extremely important. Every elected official wants to know for sure, honestly, whether they win or lose," she said. "What we need is a voter-verified paper trail."

Jim Philipps, National Association of Counties (NACo) media relations manager, said NACo supports the goals of

the bill, but doesn't think it provides ample time or resources for counties to handle its demands.

"Can you imagine — unfamiliar systems being used on Election Day?" he said. "It's just going to lead to disaster."

Philipps said he couldn't say exactly how long each county would need to implement new systems in line with the bill's requirements, but estimated that the proper adjustments would take about four years.

He also criticized the bill for not providing adequate funding for implementation, saying a large burden of the cost would fall on individual counties.

The bill authorizes \$1 billion to be allocated to counties to help defray the costs of new machines.

Vollero said this is "more than enough

funding" because some counties already have equipment that would meet the bill's requirements.

However, Philipps said there is no guarantee that counties will actually be given any funding, citing prior experience with the Help America Vote Act of 2000, which also mandated that states upgrade balloting systems.

He said the act contained a similar authorization of funds, but most counties ended up paying for the new systems on their own.

"It's just ill-conceived, ill-considered and really ill-planned," Philipps said of the bill.

He added that it needed to be rewritten with more input from NACo. "Bring counties to the table, and let us help you write a bill that's workable."