

Give peace a chance

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Crash Course

Penn State's 2009 draft picks assigned to State College and assigned to professional baseball

Tragedy abroad

Saves lives, troops were killed in Afghanistan on Monday

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Board explores options, faces cuts

By Peter Panepinto

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With the Board of Trustees meeting just three days away and without a finalized state budget to guide them, Penn State officials are scrambling to prepare for the meeting that will ultimately set tuition for next year.

Facing the proposal of severe budget cuts, Penn State President Graham Spanier wrote in an e-mail the university is developing different budget scenarios and hoping that the state budget materializes by Friday.

"At this time, Penn State's appropriation, budget and tuition are up in the

air," Spanier wrote. "We have had late appropriations before, but the magnitude of the cuts proposed recently by the Governor put us in an especially precarious position this year."

Aside from tuition costs, the Board of Trustees meeting in New Kensington, Pa., will address Penn State's operating budget for the 2009-10 fiscal year, the status of major construction programs and



Spanier

scholarship revisions. Spanier, among others, is brainstorming plans based on Rendell's current budget proposal as the state budget awaits finalization.

Spanier wrote that if a resolution is not finalized in Harrisburg by Friday, he will propose a contingency plan at the meeting so the university can begin the fiscal year with a workable budget.



Rendell

Chuck Ardo said the current budget proposal remains intact, and there haven't been any changes made yet.

"The budget is still being reviewed by the [state] administration," Ardo said. "Penn State will have to make the best decision they can with the information they have."

Ardo said in the past the state budget has been a bit late, and is not anticipating an early end to the impasse.

Jake Corman, R-Centre, said he doesn't think the finalized state budget will be any worse than the proposal and he can't speculate on when the budget will be set.

"In the past Penn State has been treated much better," Corman said. "There is a chance it can be much better than what the governor is proposing."

Penn State Spokesperson Lisa Powers said university officials are recalculating their figures and trying to figure out where they stand.

"Without specific numbers it's very challenging, and the scenario for state funding is not a good one," Powers said. "We are bracing for more financial challenges."

Powers said this isn't the first time the university had to prepare for a Board of Trustees meeting without a finalized state budget.

UP, UP AND AWAY



Phil Leedy positions a ladder as he prepares to fix a stage on Allen Street in preparation for this weekend's Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts.

Sustainability a PSU focus

By Jesse Hein

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Green efforts at Penn State have found a place to take root with the creation of the university's new departmental office for Sustainability Programs.

Erik Foley began work May 4 as the manager for the newly created Sustainability Programs office, said Paul Ruskin, custodial services coordinator for the Office of Physical Plant.

The department aims to increase the university's efficiency, particularly when it comes to energy usage — a mission Foley is certain will yield financial benefits.

"There's something about economic hard times, which force you to look at that waste, where in good economic times you can ignore that stuff," Foley said.

"We have all this data, but until we've been squeezed economically, we never had the incentive to look close enough."

The electricity bill for Penn State's University Park campus is about \$24 million per year, or rough-

ly \$2 million every month. Ruskin said.

Reductions in usage of electricity would free up funding that could be used for other things.

"Efficiency would translate to a leaner organization that would accomplish the same job using fewer funds," Ruskin said.

Foley cited, as a successful efficiency exercise, the recent emergency electricity reduction test.

During the test Allegheny Power requested that all Penn State workers unplug unnecessary appliances for one hour.

The power saved during that hour was equivalent to the energy usage for all of Bellefonte.

The opportunity to work with the already-active student environmental groups on campus is something Foley seemed to express great interest in.

By partnering with them, he hopes to form a program to lower energy usage at University Park.

"It's gonna be a 'No Light Switch Left Behind' program," Foley said.

Foley plans to work with students to help them realize the impact their daily activities have on energy uses and, ultimately, the environment.

Carlo Sica (senior-physical and environmental geography), presi-



Foley

DA considers penalty

After being charged with murder, a 20-year-old man may face the death penalty.

By Kevin Cirilli

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Whether the man charged in connection with the March 4 murder of a Penn State Altoona student will face the death penalty could be decided as soon as July 23 at his formal

arraignment, said the man's attorney Steven Passarello.

Sean L. Allen, 20, was arrested March 5 in connection with murdering Margo "Maggie" Davis after police found bloody towels, shirts and a comforter, used condoms, and Davis' broken cell phone in Allen's apart-



Allen

ment, located at 102A Fairway Lower Brush Mountain Road, according to court documents.

Those items and others that are undergoing testing in the Pennsylvania State Crime Laboratory could be a "major" part of the prosecution's decisions of whether to pursue the death penalty, said Blair County District Attorney Richard Consiglio, the prosecutor in the case.

Allen is charged with homicide in connection with Davis' death, according to court documents.

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Timeline

March 4 — Penn State Altoona student Margo "Maggie" Davis found dead in the trunk of her vehicle in Hollidaysburg.

March 5 — Police arrest Sean L. Allen and charge him with criminal homicide.

April 9 — Allen is bound over to trial on charges of criminal homicide.

Now, authorities expect laboratory testing to arrive by next week.

Allen's formal arraignment is scheduled for July 23, where he could learn if he will face the death penalty in court.

Cahlua & Cream to play Theatre

By Alexandra Fletcher

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Funded from afar, Cahlua & Cream is bringing up some smooth sounds from the south.

State College resident Henry Parks likes the duo so much, he paid for their trip to perform at 7 p.m. tonight at The State Theatre, 130 W. College Ave.

Cover duo Cahlua & Cream, named best local talent in southwest Florida by Gulfshore Life Magazine, will have compact discs of its covers and some originals available at the show.

Cahlua & Cream cover an assortment of artists such as Whitney Houston and Donna Summer, said Don Hale, instrumentalist for the act. The group primarily performs music from 10 to 20 years ago, including samplings from Broadway musicals such as Dream Girls and Chicago, he said.

"Some of the people who come to see us say 'Wow, that sounds just as well if not better than the real performers,'" said Lesly Hale, vocalist for the group.

Lesly Hale makes the performance exciting by leaving the stage during the show to interact with the audience, Parks said. Some acts have quality work but lack good stage presence, he said.

"She's got both: a wonderful voice and she's a great performer," Parks said.

Parks is retired and spends three months out of the year in south Florida vacationing. This year, he was at a dinner dance where Cahlua & Cream performed, and he enjoyed the group so much he offered to fund its trip if the group came to State College to perform.

"They said 'yes,' so I thought, 'OK, this might be fun.' I'm retired and I really enjoy music. I just wanted to do something fun," Parks said.

One of the establishments that Parks frequents in Florida has a dinner dance every week, and tickets are usually easy to come by, he said, but tickets for Cahlua & Cream have sold out in 30 minutes.

Both Don and Lesly have performed for nearly 25 years, after meeting at Ithaca College School of Music when each was in a different band, Don Hale said.

Man charged with drug possession

By Kevin Cirilli

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A Boalsburg man is in prison on \$25,000 bail after police say he trespassed in a Penn State student's apartment Sunday night and on a previous occasion, and was found later that Sunday with 138 ecstasy pills and 14.6 grams of marijuana.

Police say 20-year-old Zachariah J. Johnson was found in the living room of a female Penn State student's 400-block of S. Atherton Street apartment Sunday night after reportedly entering through a window for the second time in two days.

Johnson entered through the apartment window looking for his girlfriend, who is a resident of the apartment and was not there during either of the incidents, according to court documents.

On the occasion Sunday night, the female

who called authorities left through the fire escape after Johnson told her he was not going to leave, according to the affidavit.

As police were on their way to the scene, Johnson exited through the fire escape and fled the apartment, police said.

That's when another police officer heard the reports and spotted Johnson, according to court documents.

With police car emergency lights activated, the officer stopped Johnson while he was heading southbound on Atherton Street, police said.

When Johnson reached his right hand into his pocket after being asked to place his



Johnson

hands on the hood of the car, the officer pulled a firearm, police said.

Johnson, 316 Lamp Post Lane, was handcuffed and taken to Centre County Correctional Facility and is charged with two felony counts of possession of controlled substance with intent to deliver, two misdemeanor counts of knowingly possessing drugs and one count of criminal trespass, according to court documents.

Johnson's preliminary hearing has yet to be scheduled, according to Centre County court officials.

The female told police Johnson had also been in the apartment alone on the Fourth of July at about 8 p.m., according to court documents.

Johnson told police he was going to smoke the marijuana himself and would not say to whom he was planning to give the ecstasy, police said.