

NEWS IN BRIEF

Homecoming executive director chosen

Matthew Peyton (senior-architectural engineering) was selected Monday as the executive director for Homecoming 2010. Peyton served as the 2009 Homecoming Parade director and will succeed Molly Klayman (senior-integrative arts). Peyton will select the 2010 Homecoming Executive Committee in the coming weeks. His other duties will include serving as a liaison between the executive committee and the Homecoming advisers and overseeing all Homecoming events and operations throughout the year.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

■ **Ray Najjar, of Penn State**, will speak on "How Well Do Global Models Simulate Regional Climate? Case Study for the Mid-Atlantic Region" at 11:15 a.m. in 529 Walker Building. The Earth System Science Center will host the event.

■ **John Roe, of Penn State**, will speak on "Curvature and the Sign of the Euler Characteristic" at 12:15 p.m. in 114 McAllister Building. The Department of Mathematics will host the event.

■ **The Earth and Mineral Sciences Library** will show the film "MeltDown: A Global Warming Journey" at 12:15 p.m. in 105 Deike Building.

■ **Jihye Kim, of Penn State**, will speak on "Fluorescent Probes for the Specific Detection of Ozone" at 2:30 p.m. in 102 Chemistry Building. Christine Keating, of the Department of Chemistry, will host the event.

■ **Andrew Zentner, of the University of Pittsburgh**, will speak on "New Perspectives on Indirect Astrophysical Dark-Matter Limits" 2:30 p.m. in 339 Davey Lab. Doug Cowen, of the Department of Physics, will host the event.

■ **You-Hua Chu, of the University of Illinois**, will speak on "A Spitzer View of Star Formation in the Large Magellanic Cloud" at 4 p.m. in 538 Davey Lab. Leisa Townsley, of the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, will host the event.

ON THE MENU

LUNCH

Findlay, Pollock and Redifer: cutout cookies, cream of tomato soup, hearty vegetarian chili, beef gravy, grilled cheese sandwich, grilled cheese sandwich on whole wheat, grilled ham and cheese sandwich, shepherd's pie, tortellini and vegetables, Italian green beans

Waring: cutout cookies, lunch roll basket, minestrone soup, soup of the day, chicken cosmo not, cut green beans, hot dog, Italian wedge, quarter pound hamburger, shoestring fries, vegetarian burger, pork stir fry, Big Ten pizza, cheese pizza, macaroni and cheese, marinara sauce, meat sauce, pepperoni pizza, tortellini and vegetables, baked potato, barley pilaf

DINNER

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: beef strip loin, bleu cheese crumbles, caramelized onions, roasted garlic potatoes, cream of tomato soup, hearty vegetarian chili, barbecue sauce, chicken fritters, garlic roasted pork with rosemary, grilled chicken breast, honey mustard, honey sauce, stuffed shells, sweet and sour sauce, cauliflower florettes, whole baby carrots

Simmons: garlic roasted pork, loin with red pepper coulis, bruschetta chicken parmesan, channa saag, eggplant and tomato pasta, grilled chicken breast

Waring: roasted garlic potatoes, assorted specialty breads, minestrone soup, soup of the day, Boston baked beans, cauliflower florettes, popcorn shrimp, quarter pound hamburger, shoestring fries, turkey burger, Big Ten pizza, cheese pizza, hoagie roll, marinara sauce, meat sauce, meatballs in sauce

Correction

An article "Locals address health care bill" on page one of Tuesday's Daily Collegian incorrectly stated information about the House of Representatives vote. The vote was 220-215, a five-vote difference.

Correction

An article "Highlands Loop plan dissolves" on page one of last Wednesday's Daily Collegian incorrectly stated who would run the proposed program. Fleet Services would run the program. Also, the headline unclearly stated the progress of the plan. The plan has not dissolved.

The Daily Collegian

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Weather: Today: High 53 Tonight: Low 35 Tomorrow: High 53 Extended forecast campusweatherservice.com Courtesy of Campus Weather Service

Police: Student charged with assault

By Peter Paneplto
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A Penn State graduate student was charged with assault after police said he punched one woman and tackled another woman while groping her.

David Austin Grote, 27, of 130 Farmstead Lane, was charged with indecent assault, simple assault, disorderly conduct, harassment and public drunkenness, according to court documents.

The man was seen Oct. 4 jumping on several vehicles in the area of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, 200 E. Beaver Ave., police said. The man was in the fraternity parking lot at about 11:30 p.m. when multiple fraternity members tried to remove

him from the vehicles, police said. A woman told police the man assaulted her minutes before police arrived to the scene, according to court documents. The woman told officers the man was running toward her and her friend on Highland Alley, yelling, "Ooh baby, ooh baby."

The man then punched one of the women in the shoulder and jumped on the other woman's back, falling on top of her, police said. The woman said the man then put his hands up her shirt and began groping her, police said.

The woman said she curled up to protect herself, according to police reports.

The other woman tried to get the man off of the woman, but he

punched her hands and arms, police said. The woman who was tackled suffered a large bruise on her right shoulder and bicep, police said.

The man was "screaming and yelling uncontrollably" and shouting incoherent statements after the incident, police said. An officer had to use pepper spray to subdue him, police said.

After the man was taken to the police station, he continued to scream and rant and kicked an officer in the leg, police said. He was then transported to a hospital.

Grote's preliminary court hearing at the Centre County Courthouse was continued and will be scheduled at a later date.

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Families try to help hikers held in Iran

By Patrick Condon
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MINNEAPOLIS — The families of three Americans accused of espionage in Iran are attempting the delicate feat of keeping a spotlight trained on the plight of their loved ones while trying to avoid the tangled politics of the tense U.S.-Iran relationship.

Even as the Americans' captivity passed the 100-day point this week, the families of Shane Bauer, Sarah Shourd and Josh Fattal together have orchestrated a sophisticated public relations campaign that has included joint family statements, a Web site and online petition, even a logo. And they have been careful not to criticize Iran or its leaders, instead repeating requests for compassion and leniency for three young people they say simply went astray when they crossed into Iran while on a hike in a part of northern Iraq popular with tourists.

"We just keep re-emphasizing, for good reason, their innocence," Josh Fattal's mother, Laura Fattal of suburban Philadelphia, said on Tuesday. "We reiterate their academic studies, their personal relationships with so many people around the world. ... We're respond-

ing thoughtfully, we believe."

In late July, Iranian authorities took Bauer, 27, into custody along with Shourd, 31, and Fattal, 27. All three are University of California, Berkeley, graduates; Bauer and Shourd had been living in Damascus, Syria, and Fattal was visiting them.

The espionage accusation was the first signal that Tehran intends to put the trio on trial, raising concerns they could be used as bargaining chips during deadlocked negotiations between Washington and Tehran over Iran's nuclear program.

In addition to the Web site freethikers.org and several rounds of media interviews, family members have attended a series of vigils around the U.S. and posted regular updates to a Facebook page.

"There's not a crystal ball telling us how our decisions will fall," Bauer's mother, Cindy Hickey, told The Associated Press in an interview. "We just have to make the best decisions we can."

Hickey said her son, a freelance journalist, would "fall on the floor laughing" at the suggestion he is a spy. She said his interest is not in politics but rather the plight of the poor and suffering worldwide.

Several family members interviewed by the AP said that, while they receive regular advice and guidance from State Department officials, no one in the U.S. government has told them what they can or can't say.

Instead, family members talk to each other — constantly. Hickey, who lives near Pine City, Minn., said on a typical day she'll trade up to 100 phone calls or e-mail messages with other family members. Shourd's mother, Nora Shourd of Oakland, Calif., said even the smallest decisions are made only after consultations between members of all three families.

"Every move we make is filtered through one question: Is this best for the kids?" Nora Shourd said.

While there's no handy set of rules for the families to refer to, some have spoken recently with several other Americans and their family members recently in similar situations. The list includes Roxana Saberi, an Iranian-American journalist convicted of espionage in Tehran but released on appeal in May after five months in captivity; and Laura Ling and Euna Lee, reporters for Current TV released from a North Korea prison in August.

Vaccines

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students should get vaccinated, Guanowsky said.

Penn State officials said the university could have charged a fee for students to get the H1N1 vaccine to help cover administrative costs but opted not to in an effort to get as many people vaccinated as possible, Guanowsky said.

One place students won't likely be able to get vaccinated for H1N1 or the seasonal flu is local hospital Mount Nittany Medical Center. Hospital officials are only immunizing their own employees, physicians and volunteers, hospital occupational health coordinator Emma Smith said.

"We're sort of at the mercy of the government," Smith said.

Geisinger Medical Center in Danville is offering vaccines to any-

one as they are available, Geisinger administrative supervisor for nursing services Jean Wolfe said.

Wolfe warned locals to also get the vaccine.

"Since you are a college town and it seems to be something that's affecting college-aged students, you have more of a concentration," Wolfe said. "We're advising everybody to get them."

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Veteran

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comparison to other places in the world," he said, paging through the photos.

Tomczuk was born in Dansbury, Conn., in 1925 to Polish immigrants. After graduating from high school in 1942, the 17-year-old begged his parents to allow him to join the military. At first, they refused — they had already sent their older son to serve in Europe, where he was stationed in England.

But three months before he turned 18, Tomczuk's parents gave in. He enlisted in the Marine Corps and was sent to South Carolina for basic training, where he was evaluated for a position.

"I said to them, I want to be an aerial gunner on a dive bomber," Tomczuk laughed. "You know, when you're 18 years old, you say some crazy things."

He went to Memphis to begin technical training as a member of the ground crew for the pilots. Tomczuk worked with two other men to rig the ammunition system on the SBD Dauntless dive-bomber, which was one of the last models of planes where the guns fired between the blades of the propeller. He and his crew had to synchronize the guns so the propellers didn't get shot off when the pilot fired.

As anxious as he was to see combat, Tomczuk had to wait and watch as group after group of pilots were deployed overseas. That all changed when the Marines invaded the Japanese beach at Iwo Jima.

"The Marine Corps took quite a beating," said Tomczuk, who was eventually shipped to Maui, Hawaii, with the 4th Marine Division to begin training with a machine gun platoon. "We were training for house-to-house combat and we often wondered, 'With all the jungles in the Pacific, why are we training for house-to-house fighting?'" Little did we know we were training for the invasion of Japan.

But before Tomczuk and his fellow Marines could ship out to the beaches of Japan, President Harry Truman gave the orders to drop the atomic bomb on Nagasaki and Hiroshima, Japan. The war ended and Tomczuk was transferred to China, where he was stationed for eight months.

Tomczuk was stunned by what he saw — severe poverty and malnourished children, people starving and eating meal scraps from U.S. soldiers to stay alive.

"You could see the hardships the people were going through," he said. "During the warm weather, you would see the kids running around naked because they wanted to save the kids' clothes for the cold weather."

In 1946, his time in China was up and Tomczuk boarded a ship to make the journey home, but his military adventure wasn't over yet.

"We got caught in a typhoon coming back to the states," he said, laughing at the recollection. "For three days, the propellers were coming out of the water and the ship was shaking and the chow lines were really short — nobody was eating."

When his feet finally hit solid ground, the young man found his way back to the northeast. He studied journalism at a junior college in Massachusetts with help from the GI Bill, which allowed veterans to attend college for free.

He married his wife, Kay, and had two children. He took a job in the marketing department of a ball-bearing factory — the same factory that made parts for the gunner scope used on bombers during World War II.

Tomczuk's daughter Joan and son Paul both attended Penn State. After his son decided to stay in the State College area, Tomczuk and his wife migrated south to Happy Valley, which they have called home for the past 13 years.

Although it's been decades since his stint in the Marines, Tomczuk is still grateful for everything his military experience gave him. He's been to Tennessee, Texas, California, Hawaii, Guam and China. He's traveled around the world and seen things he said people, especially back in the 1940s, didn't get to see.

To Tomczuk, service to the United States through the Marine Corps was about dedication and teamwork, lessons that stuck with him throughout his life.

"When they tell you to jump, you just say how high, and that's what makes it great," Tomczuk said. "I think all branches are fairly similar — where one guy will help out the other guy and you have a close relationship with the people you're with. And you work together as a team."

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Illness

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left untreated saw a similar decrease in the pathogen.

"The good news is that the infection rate has been suppressed, though we don't know what specifically is causing it," Ruskin said.

One infected tree was near Deike Building on Burrowes Road. The other two were located near Penn State President Graham Spanier's house on Mitchell Lane. Last year, most of the elms removed were in this area, part of the more than 50 removed to date.

These trees were replaced by different species, such as oaks, sycamores and tulip poplar trees, Moorman said. Having one tree removed costs about \$2,000. But Ruskin feels associated costs are well worth it. Many prospective students make their ultimate decision to come to Penn State based on its beauty and landscaping, he said.

"Elms are a part of the Penn State heritage, and it is hard to put a cost on something that is priceless," he said.

But the major problems for elms remain, including Dutch elm disease. The disease has been a problem for decades, although elm yel-

lows only appeared on campus in 2007, Ruskin said.

"When trees have elm yellows, they become more attractive to bark beetles that carry Dutch elm," Moorman said. The tree removed on Burrowes Road had both diseases, he said.

Despite these threats to elms, Moorman said the weather might prove to be the most devastating.

"It is more likely we will lose more elms to snow storms, like the one we had a few weeks ago," he said. "They result in major damage to these large trees."

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