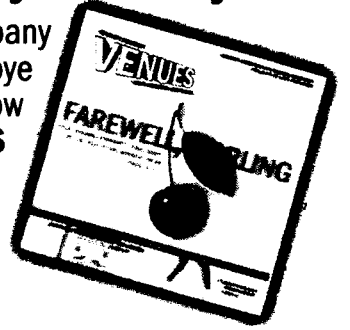


**SPANIER:
SHORTEN
THANKSGIVING
BREAK?
LOCAL, Page 4.**

Learning curve
Junior Fatima Balza has adjusted
to life and volleyball in America
SPORTS, Page 14.

Goodbye Cherry
Production company
to say goodbye
with final show
VENUES



The Daily Collegian

psucollegian.com

Published independently by students at Penn State

Vol. 110 No. 73

Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009

30 cents off campus

University funding still in limbo

The Pa. House of Representatives failed to vote through the appropriations bill.

By Katie Sullivan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

For more than two months, Penn State administrators have waited for the state-related university allocations — and

Wednesday night was no different. The Pennsylvania House of Representatives failed to vote through the state funding for state-related schools during its session by a vote of 95-97.

Penn State, along with the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University and Lincoln University, is still waiting to receive funding.

Penn State is expected to collect \$333.8 million from the state, which makes up about 12 percent

of the university's \$3.7 billion 2009-2010 budget.

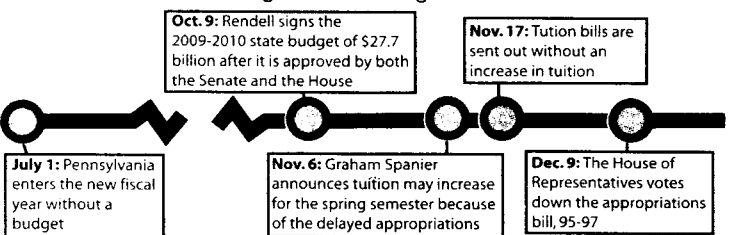
Rep. Kerry Benninghoff, R-Centre, said he was "very frustrated" with the process, saying he cast a vote in favor of releasing the funds.

"It's an abomination that the floor majority leader thinks gambling should be a priority over allocations to state-related universities," Benninghoff said.

After the release of university
See **FUNDING, Page 2.**

Awaiting approval

Penn State has been waiting for state funding since Oct. 9.



Source: House of Representatives, Collegian archives

Billy Wellock/Collegian

LIGHTING THE WAY



A group of students and community members enter the Sigma Pi fraternity house during the fourth annual Holiday Light Tour on Wednesday. The house, which won the exterior light competition, was one of 15 involved in the event. The event was hosted by the Intrafraternity Council and the Off-Campus Student Union. All 15 houses were judged on outside decorations. For a full story on the event, | **LOCAL, Page 5**

Chloe Elmer/Collegian

CLIMATEGATE

Issue may affect funds

Some legislators want the state to withhold PSU appropriations until action is taken against professor Michael Mann.

By Laura Nichols
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The controversy over "Climategate" continues to heighten as some Pennsylvania legislators question the continuation of Penn State's current research grants — and possibly even the appropriations the university has been waiting on since July.



Piccola

State Sen. Jeffrey E. Piccola, R-Halifax, said last week in a letter to Penn State President Graham Spanier that many Pennsylvania legislators have been contacted by constituents about the ongoing international fracas involving meteorology associate professor Michael Mann.

Piccola wrote that some of those in contact with legislators "have requested the Commonwealth further withhold Penn State's funding until appropriate action is taken by the university against associate professor Michael E. Mann."

Climategate surfaced Nov. 21 when hundreds of illegally obtained e-mails were leaked from a private server in the climate research unit at the University of East Anglia in England.

Global warming skeptics scrutinized word usage in the e-mails that the scientists said was

See **ISSUE, Page 2.**

Frats sent to trial in furnishing case

By Kevin Cirilli
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A Centre County judge ruled Wednesday that the actions of a few are a reflection of the whole, as he sent two fraternities' criminal charges to trial for their involvement in the events leading up to the death of Penn State freshman Joseph Dado.

But Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji) attorney Ronald McGlaughlin said the commonwealth must now let a jury decide whether the Fiji and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity organizations are guilty of furnishing alcohol to Dado, 18, and others on Sept. 19.

"They are being drug through the mud — 7/8 of the affidavit of probable cause talks about them," McGlaughlin said in

his closing arguments, waving the court documents. "If five brothers go out and buy beer to watch a football game, is the fraternity responsible for that? I would suggest to you that they're not."

Before announcing his ruling, Centre County Judge David E. Grine said he changed his mind about whether to drop Fiji's charges after Centre County Assistant District Attorney Carolyn Larrabee questioned Penn State junior Michelle Rotella, 20.

"It was a regular college party," Rotella testified, describing Fiji's apparent Sept. 19 social function, which she said included a bar and beer.

In her closing arguments, Alpha Tau Omega attorney Kathleen Yurchak said that ultimately the young adults

See **CASE, Page 2.**



Benedict A. Samuel/Collegian

Lecturer Jose Texidor discusses legal case studies with students in one of his law courses in Wartik Lab in November. Texidor's contract was not renewed.

Students want lecturer to stay

By Lexi Belcuffine
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Before each class he teaches, Jose Texidor says a prayer.

"Just something short and sweet," Texidor said. "Give me the strength that they learn something today or come out with something different today."

But as soon as July, his 14-year teaching career at Penn State could come to an end, even as students pull together to help save his job.

On Oct. 22, Texidor, a senior lecturer in crime, law and justice, received a letter from John McCarthy, head of the department of sociology and crime, law and justice, informing Texidor that his three-year contract wouldn't be renewed June 30.

The department's grievance was that Texidor had engaged in more than four days of consulting, a violation of policy. The exact definition of consulting is open to interpretation and his understanding of the term is a part of his defense, Texidor said.

"Anyone teaching an online course not at Penn State is in violation of the consulting order." See **LECTURER, Page 2.**



Abby Drey/Collegian

Penn State football center Stefan Wisniewski teaches a 10th grade English class at State College Area High School.

Star football player embraces teaching

By Matt Fortuna
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A sophomore student sauntered into a classroom, taking his seat three rows from the front of the blackboard.

He wore a black Adidas windbreaker — unzipped so the words "Penn State Football" on his white T-shirt underneath were available for all to see — and he began to go over some lines of writer William Shakespeare with classmates seated nearby.

The words on the student's



For an audio slideshow of Wisniewski teaching and on the field:

ONLINE psucollegian.com

T-shirt suggested he probably knew the name of the day's teacher before the school year.

He may have even paid at some point to watch his teacher play football at Beaver Stadium and cheer his name: Stefan Wisniewski.

But today, in Room 106 of the school's South building, See **PLAYER, Page 2.**