

Buckle up and hang up

Pa House passes ban on texting while driving
LOCAL & STATE, Page 4



Orange crushed

Illinois basketball team's fall short against Illinois, ending their eighth-straight loss.
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No strings attached

Hope for Jeff Dunham perform at the BC
VENUES

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50 cents off campus

Frats to pay for bouncers

By Jourdan Cole
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Bouncers: \$16 per man, per hour.
Social monitors: \$17.50 per man, per hour.

The price of fraternity parties just got steeper.

The Interfraternity Council's (IFC) new social policy, passed at the end of last semester, requires bouncers to guard events and social monitors to ensure IFC party rules are being followed. St. Moritz Security Services, Inc.,

255 E. Beaver Ave., has been hired to provide these services.

But they come at a price — and the new monitors can do little more than check off names at the door.

"There were definitely some fraternities that were unhappy when the costs were announced last semester, but I believe that our chapters have accepted that it is a reasonable price to pay for safety," IFC President Max Wendkos said.

As it stands, fraternities won't pay for security services this semester. But

while the IFC voted to pay up front for bouncers this spring, it will charge fraternities at the beginning of the fall for the bouncers used this semester. Wendkos (senior-marketing and psychology) said.

The bouncers man the entrances and exits to fraternity houses, while the social monitors periodically visit fraternity parties to check that IFC policy is being followed. Social monitors will be paid through fraternity dues to the IFC, he said.

See **FRATS**, Page 2.

STATE OF THE UNION



President Barack Obama, in his first State of the Union Address, spoke of seizing the reins and renewed hope Wednesday night in Washington.

Obama vows to continue fighting

By Jennifer Loven
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Declaring "I don't quit," President Barack Obama fought to recharge his embattled presidency with a State of the Union vow to get jobless millions back to work and to stand on the side of Americans angry at Wall Street greed and Washington bickering. Defiant despite stinging setbacks, he said he would fight on for ambitious overhauls of health care, energy and education.

"Change has not come fast enough," Obama acknowledged Wednesday night before a politician-packed House chamber and a TV audience of millions. "As hard as it may be, as uncomfortable and contentious as the debates may be, it's time to get serious about fixing the problems that are hampering our growth."

Obama looked to change the conversation from how his presidency is stalling — over the messy health care debate, a limping economy and the missteps that led to Christmas Day's barely averted terrorist disaster — to how he is seizing the reins.

See **OBAMA**, Page 2.

Students reflect on Union speech

By Edgar Ramirez
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

President Barack Obama outlined several goals in his first State of the Union speech last night, raising criticism and praise from students.

During his speech, Obama called out to Democrats and Republicans to start working together, something Penn State College Republicans President David Frantz (senior-political science) said would be nice, but unlikely.

"There's too many members in Congress that can't get along," Frantz said. "You have people like Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid who have trouble agreeing as it is, it's just something I don't see happening."

Frantz said he did not find much of Obama's speech to be surprising.

"The only part that really surprised me what how he seemed to call out the Supreme Court for last week's ruling," Frantz said. "It's something that I can't recall someone like Bush or Clinton doing."

Penn State College Democrats Executive Vice-President Dustin Dove (senior-secondary education) said that while the speech was also something he expected, he found it to be optimistic.

See **SPEECH**, Page 2.

DANCIN' THE NIGHT AWAY



Amanda August/Collegian

THON Morale Committee "Drop It Like It's HOT!" performs a chant during Wednesday night's Morale Pow-Wow in HUB Alumni Hall. Committees performed their chants and gave previews of the events they will be doing during THON weekend.

CONSTRUCTION SITE

Student injured by wood

By Greg Gallifa
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A Penn State student received seven stitches on his right cheek Tuesday morning after being struck in the face by a piece of wood hanging off the side of a construction vehicle, Penn State Police said.

Police said the student was standing near the not-yet-completed Millennium Sciences Complex on the corner of Bigler and Pollock roads at about 11:30 a.m. when a piece of wood protruding from the passenger side of a white pickup truck struck him in the face.

The driver of the truck continued traveling north on Bigler Road after the student was struck, police said.

The student walked to Penn State University Health Services (UHS), where he received seven stitches for a laceration on his right cheek, police said.

It's not yet clear if the vehicle was affiliated with the Millennium Sciences Complex construction project. Penn State Police Sgt. Don Hazel said police have no description of the driver.

See **STUDENT**, Page 2.



Courtesy of MySpace.com

American Celtic punk band Flogging Molly will perform in HUB Alumni Hall on March 3 as part of its "Green 17" nationwide tour. Tickets are \$5 with a student ID.

Flogging Molly to bring St. Patty's spirit to HUB

By Kathleen Loughran
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The celebration of St. Patrick's Day will have a twist this year when Flogging Molly counts down the days with Penn State.

On March 3, the band will perform in HUB Alumni Hall as part of its "Green 17" nationwide tour. Claire DiGiacomo, Student Programming Association (SPA) entertainment chairwoman, said Flogging Molly seems excited for the show.

"Flogging Molly is really into coming here and making us a stop on its tour," DiGiacomo (senior-English) said.

The band has planned a Penn State stop since December — it was just a matter of working out details, DiGiacomo said.

Tickets for the show go on sale Feb. 2 at

If you go

What: Flogging Molly concert

When: March 3, doors open at 6:30 p.m.

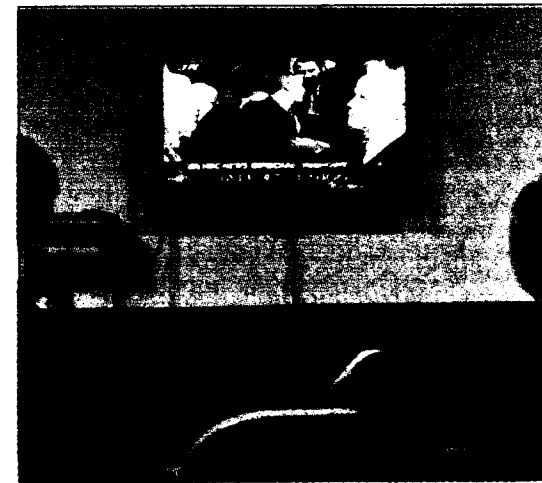
Where: HUB Alumni Hall

Details: Tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. Feb. 2. They cost \$5 and require student ID for purchase.

10 a.m., and can be purchased for \$5 with student identification. DiGiacomo said the tickets will be sold in the HUB, though a box office location has not yet been finalized.

The concert is mainly geared toward students, she added.

See **CONCERT**, Page 2.



Christine Reckner/Collegian

Students watch President Obama give the State of the Union address Wednesday in Simmons Lounge.