

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police: Student harassed on campus

A Penn State student reported that a man, not known to her, harassed her at about 6:20 p.m. Tuesday outside the Outreach Building, Penn State Police said.

The student said she was approached by a male who engaged her in casual conversation and then shook her hand and did not let go, police said.

A bystander walked in on the incident and told the man to let go, police said. The man left on foot.

The man is described as a tall, average-sized white male with short balding blonde hair. He was last seen wearing khaki pants and a polo shirt.

It is not known if the man or bystander are students, police said.

Spring Festival Commission created

On Wednesday the policy to create the Spring Festival Commission was passed by the University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) assembly with a vote of 27-0-0. The Commission will develop the UPUA's spring musical festival, which last year was dubbed "Wallypalooza."

The UPUA proposed the creation of this Commission to lift the festival's responsibility off of the programming committee and the entire UPUA assembly.

This Commission will also help to establish the long-term prosperity of the festival.

ON THE WEB

A Woman's Concern meets with students

Katelyn Losinger doubts that she would have managed having a child and completing her college degree without the help of A Woman's Concern.

Losinger, Class of 2009, is one of the many women who were helped by A Woman's Concern (AWC), a Christian-based pregnancy resource center.

Members of AWC met with Penn State's Students for Life group Wednesday night in an effort to introduce themselves to a wider Penn State community.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

There will be a blood drive in the HUB Alumni Hall from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For every presenting donor, \$4 will be donated to THON.

University Health Services will hold a Student Health Tune-Up, focusing on Yoga, at 5 p.m. in 205 Student Health Center.

Michael Deem, of Rice University, will speak at 10 a.m. in 102 Chemistry Building. The Department of Chemical Engineering is sponsoring the event.

Jiehuan Huang, of Penn State, will speak about "Mechanism of Piccolo NuA4 Histone Acetyltransferase Activity on the Nucleosomes," at 11:15 a.m. in 101 Althouse Laboratory. Song Tan of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology is hosting the event.

David Masser, of the University of Basel, Switzerland, will speak about "Torsion Points and Families of Elliptic Curves," at 11:15 a.m. in 106 McAllister Building.

ON THE MENU

DINNER

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: New England Clam Chowder, Peanut Soup, Cheddar Cheese Cubes, Hard Pretzels, Jelly Beans, Peanuts, Pepper Jack Cheese Cubes, Provolone Cheese Cubes, Red Seedless Grapes, Variety Crackers, White Seedless Grapes, Beef Strip Loin, Carmelized Onions, Grilled Chicken Breast, Grilled Vegetable Burrito, Lobster Alfredo

Correction

A News in Brief item about Judy Ozment on page 2 of Wednesday's Daily Collegian incorrectly stated information about Ozment's plans after leaving University Park. She has not made a decision about what she will do once she leaves the honors college. She is exploring administrative positions related to student engagement and undergraduate learning and has also been invited back to Penn State Abington's faculty.



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Weather:

Today: High 34

Tonight: Low 20

Tomorrow: High 32

Extended forecast campusweatherservice.com Courtesy of Campus Weather Service

Students compete for THON titles

By Sarah Peters COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Simmons Dining Hall was transformed into a stage Wednesday night as contestants wearing brightly colored headbands, Mardi Gras beads and knee socks competed for the title of Mr. and Mrs. Springfield THON.

Springfield THON's Alternative Fundraising Chairwoman Claire Xu said the event was geared at increasing excitement about the Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon.

"We want everyone to get into the spirit of THON and get excited for Springfield and what's coming up," Xu (junior-industrial engineering) said.

About 40 people were in attendance as seven contestants competed for the crown, bragging rights and free tickets to the Springfield THON formal. Contestants showed off their THON wear, interviewing skills, unique talent and canning

dance as part of the competition. Andy Pergrin (freshman-kinesiology) and Mark Blashford (freshman-elementary education) competed as a duo, dubbing themselves "Mandy."

The two stunned the audience with their THON outfits — blue spandex gymnast suits emblazoned with the Superman "S" paired with hot pink leggings.

In the end the duo won the title of Mr. Springfield THON and Meg Barnett (sophomore-marketing) won the title of Mrs. Springfield THON.

Barnett said she was surprised by her victory. "I'm shocked," she said. "Everyone else is amazing."

Pergrin and Blashford agreed that the win was an honor.

"Springfield is a very honorable and respected THON organization and to be crowned Mr. Springfield is an honor for 'Mandy,'" Pergrin said.

When Pergrin and Blashford first appeared wearing their leotards the crowd was unsure of how to react,

but then erupted with laughter and applause. The duo wore the leotards for the remainder of the competition, and Pergrin said they wanted to have an exciting ensemble and that a friend who is a gymnast had lent them the outfits.

"We knew we wanted to do something off-the-wall," he said.

For the talent portion of the pageant, Pergrin and Blashford performed a song they had written, creatively incorporating all of their Springfield experiences to date.

THON Communications Overall Chairman John Arnao, Springfield THON Executive Chairman Jeff Szklinski and Springfield THON Faculty Adviser Dina Liberatore judged the contestants, providing witty remarks after each performance. Alex Cadmus (sophomore-economics) had a well-choreographed THON dance, paying tribute to Beyonce's "Single Ladies" dance.

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Climategate

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panel. Those on the panel reached for comment referred all questions to Penn State public information.

Five Penn State faculty members will sit on the investigation committee into the fourth allegation: Mary Jane Irwin, a computer science and electrical engineering professor; Alan Walker, an anthropology and biology professor; Albert Welford Castleman, a chemistry and physics professor; Nina Jablonski, an anthropology professor; and Sarah Assmann, a biology professor.

Yekel will provide administrative assistance to the committee, according to the report. The investigation will take 120 days from initiation to completion, university spokeswoman Lisa Powers said.

She said the investigation panel will not take the task lightly.

"We have full faith in their ability to undertake this task, knowing the enormous importance that scholarly activity and research play in their own lives, at Penn State and in the world," Powers said. "They understand the responsibilities of scientists, have impeccable credentials, have no conflict in this issue and are well respected."

Mann has faced similar allegations in the past. In 2006, the National Academy of Sciences completed an in-depth investigation of Mann's research, ultimately clearing him. They said his science "did fall well within the bounds of accepted practice," according to the report.

In his statement, Mann wrote that he will continue to cooperate with the "additional inquiry."

"I fully support the additional inquiry which may be the best way to remove any lingering doubts," he said.

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Recruits

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Big Ten goes to the spread, we're seeing smaller and smaller linebackers.

Of the 20 players, seven have already enrolled early, including running back Silas Redd and quarterback Paul Jones.

The majority of the class came regionally, with nine hailing from Pennsylvania.

One of the outliers was receiver Levi Norwood, who came from Waco, Texas, and is the brother of former receiver Jordan Norwood.

Perhaps the biggest question mark for Penn State entering the upcoming season is quarterback, but the Lions not only signed two

highly regarded prospects but also pulled in a mix of offensive and defensive players. In fact, getting such a haul comes at no surprise to Scout.com's Cory James, especially with Paterno at the helm.

"He's down-to-earth and can relate to them," James said. "They find he's really easy to talk with."

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CCSG

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Ryan (junior-communication arts and sciences) said he and other members of CCSG feel this "blinded ignorance" discredits not only individuals who bash Commonwealth students but also "gives a bad name to every Penn Stater" at all of the university's campuses.

Ryan made his speech during his liaison report, catching many members of the assembly off guard. He left without comment directly after his resignation. Jessica Pellicciotta, a UPUA at-large representative, said she takes offense to Ryan's accusations and sudden resignation.

"I am blown away and appalled at the allegations," Pellicciotta (junior-political science) said. "I wish they would have brought it our attention before resigning."

In his final comments, the liaison blasted UPUA for slowing down collaborative projects, saying student government hasn't pulled its weight on CCSG initiatives. Before the meeting, Borsuk (senior-history)

said his organization is disillusioned by UPUA, calling Ryan's resignation a means to "demonstrate and highlight that there are true issues between our relationships and there are true issues within UPUA."

Citing a growing schism between the organizations, Borsuk named attempts to provide student representation on the IT Fee Board, to revise the course Drop Add system and to alter PSU's grade replacement policies as initiatives CCSG has been left to push alone. That said, Ryan stressed some UPUA members have been cooperative.

"To Representatives [Samuel] Loewner, [Chrissy] Boggs, and [Christian] Ragland, Assembly Services Director [Samantha] Miller and President [Gavin] Keirans: Thank you for your support of the Commonwealth and the collaborative relationship that we've seen at times this year," he said. "Those people who I've just mentioned represent the few exceptions to a rule of animosity and inaction within this body."

But, he said, "No matter their efforts, we see no change from many

members of this body, and in some cases, things have worsened."

Keirans said he had known of Ryan's intentions for days. He pledged to mend relations with CCSG — after all, he has a sister at a Commonwealth Campus, he said.

"We're going to continue to partner with the Commonwealth because that's what we believe is good for the university," he said.

Ryan said his decision is not reflective of a personal desire to leave UPUA. But both Ryan and Borsuk, along with other members of CCSG, said they hope this move helps the groups establish a more effective means of working together to serve all Penn State students.

"Hopefully, there will be people who will think that maybe we're right about this and feel that there are changes that need to be made with the structure and within the organization," Ryan said earlier Wednesday. "And I know for a fact that there are people in that organization who can do it. That's the silver lining for me."

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Stein

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moving out to California, Stein became friends with prominent screenwriter, John Hughes, who later asked him to improvise his lines in what is now considered to be one of the most famous movie scenes. Stein said, on set, he was just casually reading the names on roll call and the high school students, arranged to be in the scene, started to laugh.

"The director told me I had just the right note for the teacher," Stein said during a press conference before his speech. "I have no talent in playing anyone but myself."

But, Stein said it is a terrible thing when students, like Ferris, are apathetic to learning.

"At an institution as expensive as this one, with a great education, and powerful school spirit, it's a terrible mistake," he said "You're wasting your youth."

Stein described the state of education as a giant crisis, he said when he was a student at Columbia University in 1962 tuition was \$1,250 for the year. "Why has it gone up so damn much?" Stein said.

In a show on VH1 called

"America's Most Smartest Model," Stein said not one single model could correctly name the official language of Australia or the names of five major lakes in the U.S.

Throughout his talk, Stein made jokes to loosen up the crowd, including a wisecrack at Ohio State University—Penn State's notorious football rival. After taking a sip of water, Stein derived his childhood in Maryland as a comparison to what society is currently like today.

"In some restaurants I would pass by, signs would say 'whites only,' they wouldn't serve a ham sandwich to a black person," he said.

Stein said for an eighth grade project, he had to name his three favorite occupations. He said he wanted to work as an auto-designer, banker or at an ad agency, but Stein's father told him to forget it because occupations such as those don't take Jewish people.

"When I was at Yale, the teachers would mock the women students, they would bait them until they cried," he said. "It was a totally different world."

Stein said there have been great advances. When looking at Congress, he said, there are many women, Asians and Jews.

"If you had told me years ago that a black man was going to be president, I would have thought there was some racial joke that was going to follow," he said.

Craig Tepper (junior-marketing) said he remembered seeing Stein on "Win Ben Stein's Money," but now that he's older, he sees that Stein knows more than just pop-culture.

As well as education, Stein also addressed the economy. He said there is incredible dishonesty on Wall Street and more needs to be done about it. "It's terrifying that this is happening," he said "They are leaving themselves fantastically rich — Bush tax cuts didn't work, it was a tremendous mistake."

Stein concluded by saying, though he lives near stars like Pierce Brosnan and Barbra Streisand, they are not the real stars.

"The real stars are the people putting armor on and putting their lives on the line," he said "They are the teachers in inner-city schools, the nurses, the police ... these are the real stars."

To complete the night, the crowd went wild when Stein finally did the much-anticipated movie line. "Bueller ... Bueller."

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Pauly D

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scene, some Altoona students said they're crossing their fingers that similar outfits will be worn to the event — hair clips, fake tans and all.

For some fans, Pauly D may not be the juiced-up gent of choice, but

others said an appearance by a cast members like Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi would have been too much of a laugh.

"She's kind of a joke — Pauly D, everyone watches him and no one makes fun of him," Chrissy Castellano (senior-psychology) said.

"Snooki just has a lot of a punch-lines."

Henk said he thinks the performance will be the beginning of a much larger movement. "I think he's bringing a revolution to Altoona," he said. "One blowout at a time."

The cast has also signed on to do a second season of the show for 2010, according to mtv.com.

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