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FOOTING THE BILL
Cupcake games are a necessity in today's college football world **SPORTS, Page 8.**



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Robberies could be linked

By Nathan Pipenberg
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The contents of a getaway car could link three men charged with burglary to other recent armed burglaries, police say.

Police filed a search warrant March 4 for the vehicle of Maksim Illarionov, 21, of State College, and seized a DSR car battery jumper — which police believe was stolen from Monro Muffler, 1505 N. Atherton St., on Feb. 4.

Police also found items in a

white plastic shopping bag in Illarionov's tan 1999 Honda Accord that were similar to items reported stolen in recent burglaries, according to court papers.

Now, Centre County District Attorney Stacy Parks Miller says the three men arrested March 3 could face additional charges as the county-wide investigation continues, despite the men waiving their rights to a preliminary hearing March 10 in Centre County court.

Police said that the bag con-

tained dozens of antique jewelry pieces, including gold earrings, pendants, watches and Costa Rican currency, according to the warrant.

Police also found rounds from a .45 caliber pistol — one of several weapons used in recent burglaries, according to the warrant.

Sitting in the Centre County Courthouse on March 10 in an orange prison jumpsuit, Illarionov remained silent before consulting with his attorney and waiving his right to a preliminary hearing

before Centre County District Judge Jonathan Grine.

Police worked with an informant who was in the car with the three men the night of the robberies and arrested Illarionov; Dmitriy Litvinov, 23, of Boalsburg; and Alex Semionov, 28, of Brooklyn. The men first planned to rob Uncle Chen's Chinese Restaurant, 430 E. Calder Way, but decided to break into a State College home when they realized the restaurant was closed, police said.

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Abby Drey/Collegian
Maksim Illarionov is arraigned at Judge Jonathan Grine's office.

FUTURE MAJORETTES



Chloe Elmer/Collegian

Paige Goss, 6, of Canton, Ohio, practices baton twirling during the Blue Sapphire Classic on Sunday night in Rec Hall. The event marked the first Blue Sapphire Baton Twirling classic with proceeds from the competition going to the David and Lori Uhazie Feature Twirler Scholarship Fund. Current Blue Sapphire PJ Maierhofer, who was the first majorette to receive the scholarship, hosted the event. To read the story | **SPORTS, Page 12.**

UPUA ELECTIONS

Gov't begins search

By Casey McDermott
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) campaign season officially kicked off this morning — and this year's presidential race features a pair of UPUA veterans facing off against a team of UPUA outsiders.

As for the rest of the 46 total candidates running, there are seven candidates running for six At-Large Representative positions, 17 candidates for 12 Off-Campus positions and six candidates for seven On-Campus positions.

Additionally, of the Academic Representative positions, 10 of the 14 only have one candidate running, and two positions are not being pursued by anyone.

On one presidential ticket: Christian Ragland (junior-political science) for president and Colleen Smith (sophomore-biology) for vice president. The pair currently serves as UPUA Student Life and Diversity Chairman and UPUA Governmental Affairs Chairwoman, respectively.

See **ELECTIONS, Page 2.**

Officials support drink tax

By Megan Rogers
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Some State College politicians are restarting the effort to allow local governments to tax poured alcohol in bars and restaurants, which could bring in big bucks for the borough.

Mayor Elizabeth Goreham and borough council member Don Hahn traveled to Harrisburg on March 8 to show their support for the drink tax and three other revenue options proposed by the Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities (PLCM).

As alcohol-related needs and services consume half the borough's budget, Goreham said she would support the proposed drink tax, which would add 10 percent to the purchase price of poured alcohol.

While she doesn't think the tax would limit alcohol consumption, it would help the borough address the costs of police services and clean-up crews.

"It would not discourage people from drinking," she said. "If it did, it's not a bad thing."

The PLCM, an advocacy group for towns, cities and boroughs in Pennsylvania, rallied for four initiatives during the visit: a

See **TAX, Page 2.**



Abby Drey/Collegian

Penn State head coach Ed DeChellis yells from the bench during a game against Michigan State in the Bryce Jordan Center. The Spartans won 65-54.

DeChellis back for another year

By Andrew J. Cassavell
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State men's basketball coach Ed DeChellis will return next season, athletic director Tim Curley said in a statement through a text message on Friday.

Men's basketball sports information director Brian Siegrist sent Curley's statement in which Curley backed DeChellis, saying, "No one will work harder or bring greater passion to making the necessary progress."

With no seniors on this year's squad, DeChellis will get his whole team back next season and will likely receive a lift from incoming recruit Taran Buie, the

half-brother of Lions' leading scorer Talor Battle.

The Sporting News' national men's basketball writer Mike DeCourcy said despite the Lions' poor record this season, he agreed with the decision because DeChellis was able to bring in the nation's 29th-ranked shooting guard, according to ESPN.

"From the time they signed Buie, you'd want to see what he and Talor would look like in the same backcourt," DeCourcy said. "To me, it's much more that they signed a nationally ranked recruit in the fall than that they won two or three games in February."

DeChellis, who was unavailable for comment, will be back in State College next fall. See **DECHELLIS, Page 2.**



Lynn McGowan/Collegian

Matt Lachman (senior-political science) explains campaign rules at the UPUA Candidate Information Session on Sunday.

Students reflect on time spent in Port-au-Prince

By Edgar Ramirez
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

As Penn State student Zach Johnston prepared to leave Haiti, he offered up his bracelet to a five-year-old Haitian who had been eyeing it during spring break.

The boy put it on his wrist, saw it was too big to fit, gave Johnston a big smile and returned it to the student. Johnston was speechless.

"I had this preconceived notion of what conditional love was — you think they expect something in return, and that's what I thought with him," Johnston (freshman-advertising) said. "In the end, he wasn't loving me to

get something physical back. He just wanted love in return."

Johnston was one of a group of 12 students, alumni and other volunteers who traveled to Haiti last week to help in the earthquake relief efforts with the assistance of Adventures in Missions (AIM).

Volunteers slept in tents, depended on a generator for electricity, and ate peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for lunch every day as they witnessed Haitians who had lost everything because of January's earthquake, and helped them rebuild, said David Adewumi (junior-Spanish) and Amanda Karl (junior-labor studies and employment relations).

See **HAITI, Page 2.**



Courtesy of David Adewumi

Zach Johnston (freshman-advertising) plays dominoes with a translator and two Haitian locals in Port-au-Prince during spring break.