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21ST BIRTHDAY

Phyrst bans shots

Shots will not be served on a 21st birthday in any State College bar.

By Laura Nichols
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

New 21-year-olds will have to wait another 36 hours before they can take that celebratory shot in State College.

Staff members at The Phyrst said 21st birthday shots are no longer being sold, ending its reputation as the last bar in State College to serve 21-year-old patrons in the birthday tradition.

Employees at The Phyrst, 111 E. Beaver Ave., would not say what prompted the switch, and Phyrst owner Scott Lucchesi did not return calls for comment. But Jennifer Zangrilli, president of the Tavern Association in State College, said all downtown bars made the unanimous decision in November to ban birthday shots.

Only beer or liquor in a mixed drink is permitted on a 21-year-old's birthday, she said.

The decision came as part of an effort to both curb and monitor excessive drinking, Zangrilli said.

The Phyrst faced alcohol-related charges earlier this month, when the establishment was charged with misdemeanor selling or furnishing liquor or malt or brewed beverages to minors and unlawful acts related to liquor, malt and brewed beverages.

Police were called to the bar at about 1:40 a.m. on March 6 and apprehended a 20-year-old man who later registered a blood alcohol content of .176 percent, according to court documents.

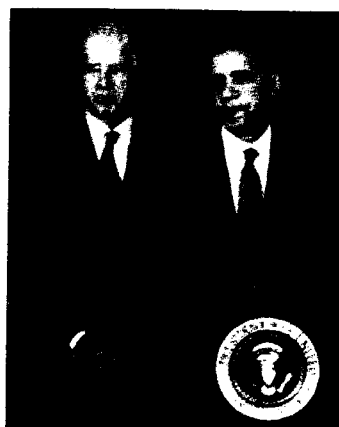
The man told police he had not been carded and was not charged for cover at the bar, receiving a mixed drink and one shot given to him by an unknown male inside the establishment, according to court documents.

District Office Commander Sgt. Wayne Bush of the State Police Bureau of Liquor Control

Enforcement said his officers are working alongside the State College Police Department to investigate charges filed against The Phyrst and to monitor all downtown bars.

Bush said he believes bar managers are making a concentrated effort to be responsible and avoid any negative incidents.

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Gerald Herbert/Associated Press
President Barack Obama, with Vice President Joe Biden, makes a statement to the nation.

PSU reacts to bill

Students have mixed reactions about the new health care legislation.

By Brendan McNally
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After Congress approved a measure Sunday that will allow dependents to stay on their parents' health insurance until they are 26 years old, Rachel Georgia said she was relieved.

But her mom was more than relieved — she was ecstatic.

"My mom is pumped," Georgia (senior-media studies) said. "She's all for it because I don't think she feels good about me being on insurance that isn't going to cover my needs."

Georgia said she and her friends have been nervous about getting health insurance after college graduation, especially in such a tough job market. But now she is comforted to know she will be covered under her mother's insurance until she gets her own.

"I'm happy, but more relieved, because I think it's a nervous thing for a lot of people," she said.

Cynthia Mara, Penn State professor of Health Administration and Policy, said students' ability to stay on their parents' coverage until they are 26 could allow them to stay in school longer, give them extra time to find a job and provide the option to switch careers.

See HEALTH CARE, Page 2.



Peter Tesoriero/Collegian
Kami McManus (graduate-social sciences) signs a pledge at the LGBT+ HUB Takeover in the HUB-Robeson Center on Monday to end discrimination. The Takeover is one of several events for Pride Week.

Pride takes over HUB

LGBT+ students celebrate Pride Week by raising awareness Monday.

By Leah Gillen
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

It's lunchtime on Monday and scores of students are surging through the doors of the HUB-Robeson Center, passing underneath an arch of rainbow balloons as Penn State lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and ally (LGBT+) students pass out fliers for upcoming LGBT+ events.

Called the HUB Takeover, Monday's event marks the beginning of Pride Week, a national event celebrating the LGBT+ community.

Some student passers-by offered their support for Penn State's LGBT+ students.

"I think it definitely attracts attention," said Sunny Kaneria (junior-bioengineering), who passed by the event. "Some people will take it the wrong way and some people will take it the right way. It all depends on your perspective. Personally, I don't mind."

Pride Week has grown in popularity each year, said Yvette Lerma, University Park Undergraduate Association director of LGBT+ affairs.



Peter Tesoriero/Collegian
Julian Haas (sophomore-sociology) hands out fliers with LGBT+ agenda of events for Pride Week.

"What's grown is people's awareness of Pride Week," Lerma (senior-sociology) said. "At first I'd say 'Happy Pride Week,' and people would say, 'What do you mean?' Now people smile and walk on — they know what it is."

Lerma said this year marks new developments in Pride Week. Instead of several smaller events, See PRIDE WEEK, Page 2.

THON OVERALL

Kelly picked to lead

By Jourdan Cole
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Minutes before the clock struck 11 p.m. Sunday, 2011 THON Overall

Chairwoman Kirsten Kelly answered her door to a jumping and screaming Caitlin Zankowski, 2010 THON Overall Chairwoman.



Kelly

"That was awesome," Kelly (senior-marketing) said. "It made the dream a reality for me — it was awesome and exciting."

Kelly, who served as the overall merchandise captain for THON 2010, interviewed Sunday with a selection committee consisting of Zankowski, the Interfraternity/Panhellenic Dance Marathon Adviser Barry Bram, Four Diamonds Fund Coordinator Sara Firestone and members of the 2010 overall committee who didn't apply for the position. Among the applicants were Overall Morale Captain Ben Simmons, Overall Donor Relations Captain Brandon Dalton and Kelly.

"They brought a lot of different things to the table — what it came down to was who was best for 2011," Zankowski (senior-industrial engineering) said.

While Zankowski said Kelly has many great attributes, they picked her because of her understanding of THON as an organization and a part of Penn State, along with her commitment to hard work that will take THON to the next level.

"She was confident and poised — it's an intimidating environment, the questions are not easy, but she did not get frustrated," Bram said.

Kelly said it took her a while before she decided to apply. After holding THON positions in her sorority, Phi Mu, and serving as a member of the hospitality committee, Kelly became a merchandising captain for two years. Last year, she became the merchandise overall captain, and Sunday night, she took on the big job.

"Coming off of THON weekend and the weeks that followed, I did a lot of thinking and thought my leadership and vision is what THON 2011 needed," Kelly said.

While she's only a day into the process, Zankowski said they've already created a calendar for the coming weeks and are preparing to meet the many people involved in THON, picking the overall committee and putting Kelly's plans for 2011 into action.

"I think as you get further involved in THON, it really becomes a part of who you are — knowing that I can do more to make THON better for the families and everyone at Hershey," Kelly said.

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Angelou to speak tonight

By Vera Greene
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Known as a Renaissance woman, Maya Angelou went from growing up in a segregated America to becoming one of the most recognized and respected writers of contemporary black literature.

Angelou will speak at 8 p.m. tonight in a sold-out Eisenhower Auditorium as a part of the Student Programming Association's (SPA) Distinguished Speakers Series (DSS).

A woman known for her strong belief in education, Angelou's



grandmother influenced her most in life, the author said.

"My grandmother in Arkansas taught me that when you get, you give, and when you

learn, you teach," Angelou said.

Mike Perone, committee chairman for the series, said tickets were sold out within two days of being available to the Penn State community.

"For people who didn't get tickets, they can show up at the Eisenhower in hopes that there's room," Perone (senior-bioengineering) said. "We can't guarantee you a seat, but it's a good shot that not every single person will show up."

Angelou was a hit when she spoke at Penn State six years ago, he said. The committee has See ANGELOU, Page 2.



Courtesy of mayaangelou.com

Renaissance woman Maya Angelou will speak to a sold-out crowd at 8 tonight in Eisenhower Auditorium.