

NEWS IN BRIEF

**CPA accepting local food bank donations**

The Center for the Performing Arts (CPA) is accepting donations to benefit Centre County food banks through April 15. Non-perishable foods and household items may be donated at CPA events or from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at Eisenhower Auditorium.

Organizers are looking for cooking oil and spray, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, canned vegetables, baking mixes, pasta and noodles, soup, baby-care items, pet supplies, laundry and dish detergent, supermarket gift cards and hygiene products.

**Artist to present lecture in Palmer today**

Artist Lesley Dill will present a lecture today in conjunction with exhibition "I Heard a Voice: The Art of Lesley Dill." The exhibition has been featured in the Palmer Museum of Art since January and will continue throughout the spring semester.

The lecture will begin at 4:30 p.m. today in the Palmer Museum of Art. The museum, the School of Visual Arts' John M. Anderson Endowed Lecture Series and the Department of Art History are sponsoring the event.

Dill's work, which ranges from sculpture to large-scale installations, is largely inspired by the poetry of Emily Dickinson, among other literary influences. In today's lecture, Dill will speak about her art and display a seven-minute clip from "Divide Light," an opera she authored.

**Fabric wrapped around gun at museum**

Pennsylvania State Military Museum in Boalsburg employees told the State College Police Department Sunday that an unknown actor wrapped a multi-colored knitted fabric around a 16-inch gun barrel on display outside the building.

Police said the actor left a note at the 51 Boal Ave. property that stated the fabric was "not to harm the property but to take a stand against the war." Police said the case is closed.

**Broken water main closes East College**

Penn State Police said they received a report of a broken water main at about 11 p.m. Sunday near the south side of Atherton Hall.

The State College Police Department shut down the 300 block of East College Avenue on Monday after a sinkhole developed and water from the main spilled onto the street, police said. Police are not sure how the pipe broke.

**Songwriter's Club to hold events all week**

The Penn State Songwriter's Club's upcoming week is packed - but it wasn't on purpose.

The club's events include a Relay for Life Concert today at Rotelli's and an appearance at the Students Organizing the Multiple Arts (SOMA) open mic, among other events.

**PepsiCo products will still be sold at PSU**

Two years from now, most of PepsiCo's sodas will not be sold in elementary schools and high schools worldwide - but that doesn't mean Penn State students won't get their soda fix.

PepsiCo will stop selling high-calorie, sweetened beverages in schools for kids up to 18 years old in more than 200 countries by 2012, spokeswoman Michelle Naughton said.

**'Passion' is last film in Theatre festival**

Mel Gibson's controversial "The Passion of the Christ" will wrap up the Reel Jesus Film Festival at 7 tonight at the State Theatre, capping off a month of Jesus-themed films at the downtown venue. Schreyer Honors College Dean Christian Brady will moderate a panel discussion following the film.

**Correction**

An article "Beer pong tour to visit PSU" on page 4 of Monday's Daily Collegian incorrectly stated the age requirement to participate in a beer pong tournament at The Gingerbread Man. The bar will not admit anyone under the age of 21.



Follow us on Twitter for up-to-the-moment news. [www.twitter.com/dailycollegian](http://www.twitter.com/dailycollegian)

The Daily Collegian

psucollegian.com

**Address**

Collegian Inc.  
James Building, 123 S. Burrowes St., University Park, PA 16801-3882

**©2009 Collegian Inc.**

**On the World Wide Web**

The Daily Collegian Online, which can be found at [www.psu.collegian.com](http://www.psu.collegian.com), is updated daily with the information published in the print edition. It also contains expanded coverage, longer versions of some stories and letters, Web-only features and previous stories from our archives. Our site features full News and Business division listings and e-mail addresses.

**News, Opinions, Arts and Entertainment, Sports, Photo, Graphics, The Daily Collegian Online and The Weekly Collegian**

Phone: (814) 865-1828 Fax: (814) 863-1126  
■ noon to midnight Sunday; 10 a.m. to midnight Monday to Thursday

**Business Division**

Advertising, circulation, accounting and classifieds  
Phone: (814) 865-2531 Fax: (814) 865-3848  
■ 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays

**Board of Editors**

- Editor-in-Chief .....Rosslynn Skena
- Editor-in-Chief-Elect .....Elizabeth Murphy
- Managing Editor .....Andrew McGill
- Opinion Editor .....Matt Brown
- Web Editor .....Mandy Hofmocker
- Arts Editor .....Alex Weisler
- Arts Chief .....Caitlin Sellers
- Venues Chief .....Erin Rowley
- Campus Editor .....Elizabeth Murphy
- Campus Chief .....Lexi Belcuffine
- Metro Editor .....Heather Schmelzlen
- Metro Chief .....Kevin Cirilli
- Copy Desk Chief .....Katherine Dvorak
- Assistant Copy Desk Chief .....Erin Shields
- Copy/Wire Editors .....Allison Jackovitz, Samantha Kramer, Shannon Simcox, Somer Wiggins
- Sports Editor .....Adam Clark
- Sports Chief .....Dave Miniaci
- Sports Copy Desk Chief .....Dan Rorabaugh
- Assistant Sports Copy Desk Chief .....Matt Fortuna
- Sports Copy Editors .....Matt Conte, Nate Mink
- Visual Editor .....Phenola Lawrence
- Photo Editor .....Abby Drey
- Multimedia Editor .....Michael Felletter

**Board of Managers**

- Business Manager .....Holly Colbo
- Business Manager-elect .....Kelsey Thompson
- Advertising Manager .....Leslie Stahl
- Sales Managers .....Andrea Crawford, Nikki Husband, Kelsey Thompson
- Customer Service Manager .....Liz Rogers
- Assistant Customer Service Managers .....Ben Gasbarre, Alissa Nemzer
- Layout Manager .....Ben Krone
- Creative Manager .....Jason Keller
- Assistant Creative Manager .....Amanda Hauth
- Lead Promotions Specialist .....Daniel Tyson
- Promotions Specialists .....Megan Andrews, Kelly Martin

**Weather:** Today: High 50 Tonight: Low 37 Tomorrow: High 55 Extended forecast campusweatherservice.com Courtesy of Campus Weather Service

**Teatro Chicana inspires students**

By Robin Tilley  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

In 1971, female students at San Diego State University decided to stand up and fight for peace, compassion and equality for their generation of Chicana women.

And today, they're still fighting. Members of Teatro Chicana performed Monday night in Paul Robeson Cultural Center's Heritage Hall. The show was complete with skits and readings from memoirs inspired by their decades-long struggle for equality in the U.S., as well as their book, "Teatro Chicana: A Collective Memoir and Selected Plays," published in April 2008.

The performance was presented by the Latina/o Studies Initiative, the Department of Women's Studies, the Dominican Student Association and other university sponsors.

Describing themselves as the first generation of Chicana women — or U.S. citizens of Mexican descent — to have the opportunity to go to college, members of Teatro Chicana said they have used education as a weapon, focusing their anger on something productive.

"It was really inspiring to listen to the struggles of the first generation of women who fought for the rights of Chicano and Latin American students on college campuses," said Leticia Oseguera, who teaches in the College of Education.

Oseguera said she thinks the main message of Teatro Chicana, originally named "Teatro de las Chicanas," is to remain committed to the political and social struggles of people who are marginalized in society.



Manissa Gutierrez/Collegian

Laura Garcia and Felicitas Nuñez, members of Teatro Chicana, perform a skit titled "Salt of the Earth" in the HUB-Robeson Center on Monday night.

The performers used music, comedy and tragic stories to explain their personal journeys and struggles as well as general issues of sexism, social problems and controversial topics in the last 40 years.

One of the founders of the group, Felicitas Nuñez, said the women were inspired by the peace movement of the 1970s, as well as the Civil Rights Movement.

"Rosa Parks is one of the women I hold dearly in my heart," Nuñez said.

However, besides civil rights and political issues, the women dealt with general issues like sexism and male superiority in their culture through their most infamous skit, "Bronca," meaning "wrangle," or being ready to fight.

"I really enjoyed the 'Bronca' skit — it shows empowerment, and in order for any change to happen, we have to come together as a commu-

nity," said Stephanie Rivera, the Vice President of the Dominican Student Association.

Rivera (senior-broadcast journalism) said the most important thing for the audience is to learn about the experiences of not just Chicana women, but all Latin Americans in the U.S.

She said Teatro Chicana shows the diversity and complexity of what being Chicana and Latina in the U.S. is like.

Additional Teatro Chicana events include a book signing reception today from 1 to 3 p.m. at Allen Street Grill, 100 W. College Ave., and an open mic night from 6 to 8 p.m. in Waring Commons.

There will also be a workshop entitled "Theatre as Pedagogy" Wednesday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in 108 Chambers.

To e-mail reporter: [rmt5048@psu.edu](mailto:rmt5048@psu.edu)

**Ex-Pa. rep guilty in corruption case**

By Mark Scolforo  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

HARRISBURG — A former power broker in the Pennsylvania Legislature and two of his one-time aides were convicted of political corruption charges Monday by a jury that also acquitted them of dozens of charges and exonerated a fourth defendant.

The defendants are among 25 people arrested since the state attorney general's office began investigating three years ago with the news that millions of dollars in bonuses had been quietly handed out to legislative employees.

Former House Democratic Whip Mike Veon, 53, was found guilty of 14 offenses related to using taxpayer-paid bonuses to reward state workers for campaign efforts, illegal campaign fundraising, other campaign efforts and a single count of conflict-of-interest for having aides drive two motorcycles to a North Dakota rally. He had faced the most counts, 59.

Veon attorney Dan Raynak vowed an appeal.

"This is far from over," Raynak said. "We believe there were many errors made during the trial, and we certainly anticipate and hope that this verdict does not stand."

Brett Cott, 37, who managed Veon's failed 2006 re-election effort, was found guilty of three of the 42 counts he faced. Annamaria Perretta-Rosepink, 47, who ran Veon's Beaver Falls district office, was found guilty of five counts. The

convictions against Cott and Perretta-Rosepink related to campaign efforts from 2004 to 2006.

Chief Deputy Attorney General Frank Fina, the lead prosecutor, said Veon was proven to have stolen more than \$1 million in the form of bonuses.

"We hope it sends a strong message to the rest of our elected officials ... to stop using the people's money for their own benefit," Fina said.

All three defendants had been charged with multiple counts of conflict-of-interest, theft and conspiracy. All were convicted of at least one count of each charge.

Steve Keefer, the former House Democratic information technology supervisor and Veon's '06 campaign treasurer, was acquitted of all 16 counts against him. He broke into tears as the foreman read the final "not guilty" verdict and embraced his lawyer, Bill Fetterhoff.

"I'm just looking forward to getting back to being a father and a family man again, getting on with life," Keefer told reporters.

The verdict came after nearly six weeks of testimony by dozens of witnesses — many of whom had been given immunity or had struck deals with the prosecution — and about 59 hours of deliberations over seven days. Jurors sent word through court officials afterward that they did not wish to speak with reporters.

Prosecutors had accused the defendants of being at the center of a range of illegal efforts to use tax

dollars and state employees to gain leverage in running political campaigns.

The trial took place in a courtroom just three blocks from the ornate Capitol building, where prosecutors said many of the crimes occurred — and where many of the witnesses still work.

Defense lawyers had attacked the credibility of the prosecution witnesses, noting that many were provided plea deals and grants of immunity in exchange for their testimony.

They argued that the evidence against their clients was weak and contended that some of the accusations didn't rise to the level of criminal behavior.

The jury agreed, at least in part, acquitting Veon of all counts against him that related to research into political opponents, and to the state-funded dinners after a regular Tuesday night basketball game he hosted. They also acquitted him, Cott and Perretta-Rosepink of charges involving successful petition challenges against presidential candidate Ralph Nader in 2004 and U.S. Senate candidate Carl Romanelli in 2006.

Veon, who as whip was the second-ranking House Democratic leader, had been a key negotiator in many of the General Assembly's biggest deals.

He cast the lone vote against repealing the 2005 legislative pay raise bill, a decision that might have cost him the 2006 election.

**Health care**

From Page 1.

Gray Onobrakpeya, public relations coordinator at Harrisburg-based health care provider PinnacleHealth, agreed.

"In our current recession and our current economy, I think that's a very, very big deal," he said.

But Andrew Sharp (freshman-electrical engineering) said the new law could take away an important incentive for graduating students to get jobs immediately.

Being responsible for your own health coverage after graduation is part of growing up, he said.

"I'm not gonna complain about it," he said. "But I don't think it's going to breed any responsibility if I'm

going to be under my parents' insurance until I'm 26."

Even Georgia had doubts that the bill will work the way Democrats claim it will, but said only time can tell.

"In theory, it sounds like a really good idea if this is all true," she said. "But I'm not really certain how it's going to affect me and my family."

But Gabriel Schnall (senior-public relations) said he had no problem with health care reform that could end up saving him a lot of money during the next couple of years.

He doubts the bill is perfect, but added that changes could be made over time to refine the law.

"If it does work, I think we'll be more secure," Schnall said. "Nobody knows how you're going to

do in life, but if you have health insurance, that means you can at least go to the doctor."

Along with health care reform, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a bill that will provide a \$40 billion increase in Pell Grants, Rep. Tim Bishop, D-N.Y., said.

He said the bill would simultaneously save \$67 billion by cutting subsidies to banks and switching to direct student aid.

Sen. Arlen Specter, D-Pa., said he is looking forward to voting for the bill when it comes to the Senate in the near future.

"I think we ought to give students the most economical loans they can get," he said.

To e-mail reporter: [bwm5147@psu.edu](mailto:bwm5147@psu.edu)

**Pride Week**

From Page 1.

this year's week will showcase larger keynote events, including a large-scale Pride Parade on Friday. For the most part, Penn State is pretty gay friendly, said Kevan O'Connor.

"I've never had any problems," O'Connor (junior-biology) said. "That's not to say that I don't feel uncomfortable — there is still some worry here, but I am out with more ease."

This year's theme, "Here," emphasizes the history of the LGBTQA community, particularly at

Penn State. T-shirts from former Pride Weeks hang behind the table, their colors corresponding with the other vibrant decorations highlighting the week's commencement.

"It's all about spreading awareness," O'Connor said.

To e-mail reporter: [lag5257@psu.edu](mailto:lag5257@psu.edu)

**Angelou**

From Page 1.

wanted to have her back for some time.

"Angelou was very well-received when she first came — her story is emotional and powerful, and by bringing her back, we hope this will enrich students' experiences at

Penn State," Perone said. "We thought it was time for her to come again."

Sydney Bickford (freshman-psychology) said she's excited for Angelou to come. "I have been reading her books for a while, so I'm really looking forward to seeing her speak," Bickford said.

Angelou, a current professor of American studies at Wake Forest

University, has received 60 doctorates in her lifetime — her last from Columbia University. Her books, which range from poetry to autobiographies, reflect mostly on human nature and the human condition.

"I encourage people to see that human beings are more alike, than unlike," Angelou said.

To e-mail reporter: [vhg5003@psu.edu](mailto:vhg5003@psu.edu)