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## LAST FOOL STANDING

"Last Comic Standing" funnyman brings laughs on April Fool's Day  
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## Rape charges filed

A woman reported to police she was raped after leaving an apartment party downtown on Saturday.

By Laura Nichols  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Police say an 18-year-old Philadelphia man stood watch as a juvenile male raped a State College woman in the stairwell of the University Gateway apartments Saturday.

Now Isaiah J. Elijah, 18, is charged with one felony count each of rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault and criminal conspiracy.

In addition he is charged with three counts each of misdemeanor indecent assault, simple assault and false imprisonment, according to the court documents.

No identifying information or charges against the juvenile are being released, police said.

State College police also could not confirm whether the woman was a Penn State student.

The juvenile raped the woman — who attempted to resist — early Sunday morning after she left a party in the downtown apartment building in search of a friend.

Elijah and a juvenile friend offered to help the woman find her friend.

The three left the party together and headed toward the elevator, according to court documents.

The woman told police Elijah and the juvenile were "pushing up against her" inside the elevator, according to the criminal complaint.

They exited the third floor and were walking down the back stairwell of the apartment building when Elijah and the juvenile forced the woman against a wall and held her there, according to court documents.

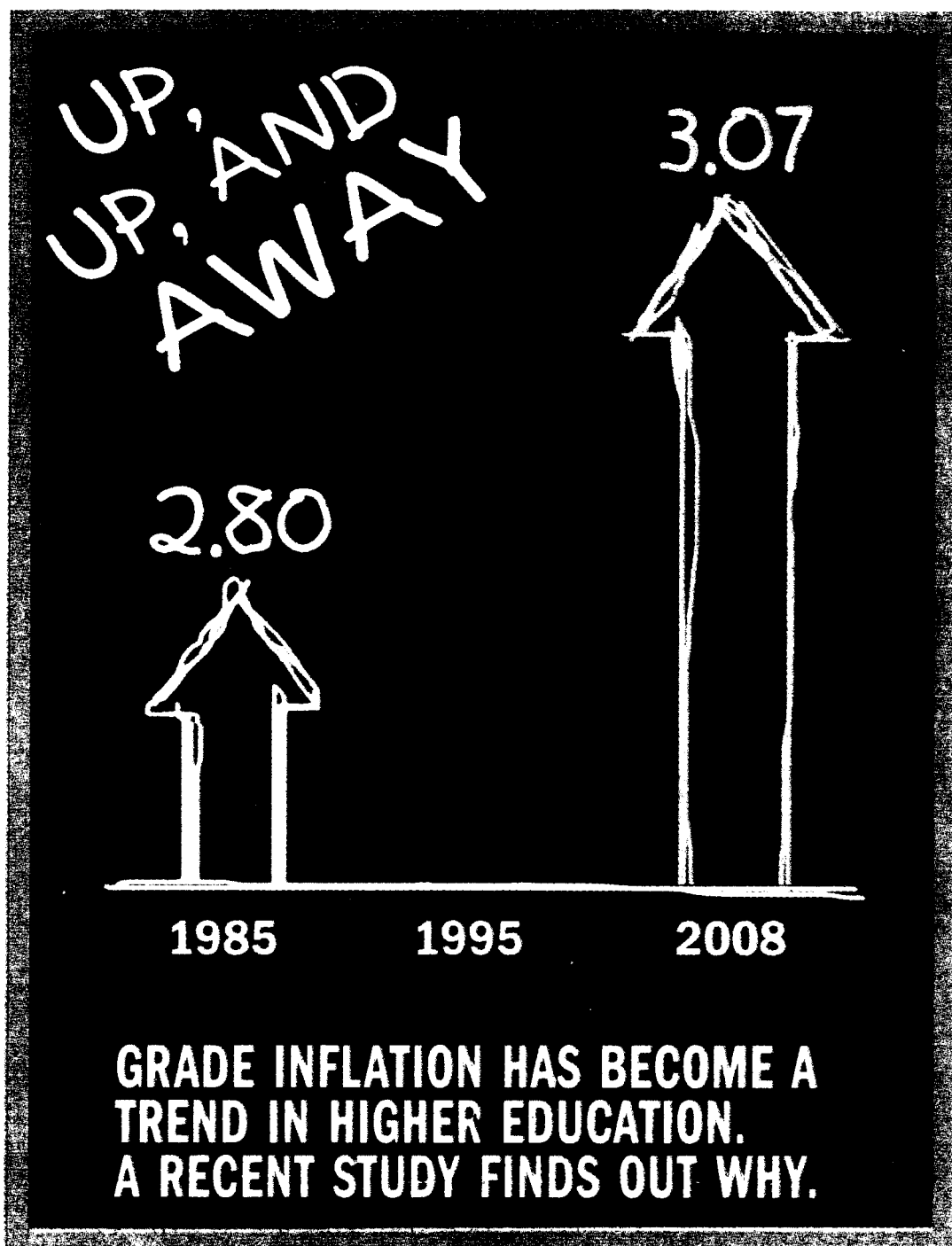
The woman said she struggled for at least one minute during the time the juvenile raped her, according to court documents.

Elijah told police that he served as the lookout after being asked to do so by the juvenile, standing a foot away while the juvenile raped the woman, according to court documents.

After the incident, Elijah and the juvenile walked the woman back to the party, according to court documents.

The woman was taken to Mount Nittany Medical Center for an examination, and Elijah was arrested on bail of \$100,000, according to court documents.

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**GRADE INFLATION HAS BECOME A TREND IN HIGHER EDUCATION. A RECENT STUDY FINDS OUT WHY.**

## Experts say GPAs on the rise

### Making the grade

The grade point average among Penn State students enrolled in Resident Instruction courses rose from a 2.86 GPA in 1975 to a 3.07 GPA in 2008.

REPORT CARD	
Year	Average GPA
1975	2.86
1985	2.80
1995	2.92
2008	3.07

Source: Faculty Senate Grade Distribution Report  
Junlin Chen/Collegian

By Laurie Stern  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

It's getting easier and easier to snag a slot on the Dean's List.

A new study from Kaplan Test Prep has targeted a possible cause for grade inflation, a growing trend in higher education.

According to the study, 46 percent of students who use professor-rating Web sites enrolled in classes based on the "easy grading reputation of a professor." RateMyProfessor.com was specifically listed as a Web site students used to find lenient graders, with 73 percent of the 1,229 total stu-

dents polled reporting they have used the site.

This could be contributing to grade point average increases, Kaplan Vice President of Research Jeff Olson said.

Frank Chang (freshman-political science) said he uses the site to find out about the professor's policies, but doesn't rely on it as an indication of grading leniency. He said those who write negative posts saying the professor is a harsh grader are usually slackers.

No matter what reasons students have for using professor-rating sites, statistics show grades are in fact rising. At Penn See GPA, Page 2.



Amanda August/Collegian  
**Devin Weakland and David Adewumi** listen to the announcement of the election winners.

## Adewumi discusses future

Despite losing the UPUA election, Adewumi is starting a new organization.

By Paige Minemyer  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Despite losing the UPUA presidency to Christian Ragland on Wednesday night, David Adewumi

said he is looking for other ways to tackle issues facing students.

Adewumi (junior-Spanish) is starting an organization called Project Blue Pill, which he said will advocate for students on two major platforms — tuition and housing.

"We need to come up with a coordinated plan to work on these issues," he said.

Adewumi started organizing Project Blue Pill before the

University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) elections. Now, he wants to use the publicity his campaign generated to push the movement forward.

"I think we generated a lot of momentum about the issues," he said.

The inspiration for the name "Project Blue Pill" came from the film "The Matrix." Adewumi said. In the movie, a red pill will allow a See ADEWUMI, Page 2.



Asit Mishra/Collegian  
**Graham Spanier** talks about the importance of the census during a borough press meeting.

## Local count short

By Megan Rogers  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

With State College lagging behind the nation in returning census forms, State College Mayor Elizabeth Goreham and Penn State President Graham Spanier joined forces on Thursday morning in an attempt to increase census awareness.

As of "Census Day" April 1, 47 percent of households across the nation have mailed back their census forms, but only 41 percent of State College residents have filled out the forms, Goreham said. This is nothing new — State College has a history of problems when it comes to getting counted, she said.

Speaking outside the State College Municipal Building, both Goreham and Spanier stressed the importance of completing the census. Because students make up 75 percent of the State College population, they play a huge role in determining state See CENSUS, Page 2.

## Dick Vermeil replaces Rick Reilly for speaker series

By Marilyn Perez  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Former NFL coach Dick Vermeil will replace sportswriter Rick Reilly in the upcoming Distinguished Speakers Series talk, Student Programming Association officials confirmed Thursday.

Reilly canceled his April 8 appearance to cover Tiger Woods at the 2010 Masters Tournament.

"We looked for a comparable speaker to fit the same niche, which

is sports," Distinguished Speaker Series Chairman Mike Perone said.

Vermeil will speak April 20 at Eisenhower Auditorium.

Free student tickets will be available April 6, and free general public tickets will be available April 13 if not completely distributed earlier.

Vermeil is known for his experiences coaching the Philadelphia Eagles, St. Louis Rams and Kansas City Chiefs, but it's his sensitivity that is recognized by Bob Lemon (junior-broadcast journalism).

"He's a different kind of coach. I feel like he cares about the players more than other coaches, and he always wears his heart on his

sleeve," Lemon said, citing Vermeil's emotional press conference after resigning as coach of the Eagles in 1982.

Vermeil brought the St. Louis Rams their first Super Bowl victory in 2000 and was the first head coach to bring the Philadelphia Eagles to a Super Bowl.

Ryan Serviolo (junior-psychology) thinks of Vermeil as a "highly regarded" coach and would love to hear him speak.

"The fact that he was a coach for the Eagles is pretty attractive to me, because I'm a big Eagles fan," Serviolo said. "He's one of the nicer coaches in football. You could tell he really cared about his players."

He added it's refreshing to see

someone who is able to be an "actual human being and a football coach at the same time."

Jason Aversano (junior-telecommunications) said there's a trust between Vermeil and his players.

"The players — they cry with the coach, they laugh with the coach, so he's not as much of a boss as he is part of the family," he said.

Perone said people who decide to attend Vermeil's appearance can expect to learn about leadership. Leadership skills can be found in many different forms, he said, and Vermeil just happens to have gained his experience through football.

Mike Tombasco (sophomore-

### If you go

**What:** Dick Vermeil in the Distinguished Speaker Series  
**When:** 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 20  
**Where:** Eisenhower Auditorium  
**Details:** Free student tickets are available on April 6, left-over tickets will be available on April 13 for the general public.

finance and business) said he would enjoy seeing Vermeil speak. "This is a guy who has reached the highest level of the sport by winning the Super Bowl," he said.

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