

HELP WANTED:
CENSUS BUREAU
HIRING
 LOCAL, Page 3.

BELOVED
 Nobel Prize-winning author
 Toni Morrison to speak tonight
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT, Page 5.

BETTER FASTER STRONGER
 Goalie Warren Gross looks to build off
 injury-laden season
SPORTS, Page 9.

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30 cents off campus

Ordinances

- Nuisance Gathering
- Temporary Use
- Public Urination and Defecation
- Second Offense
- Fraternity Definition

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Talks set for May 3

Local leaders are concerned having the hearings during finals week could affect attendance.

By Nathan Pipenberg
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Public hearings on six ordinances that will affect students are scheduled for a May 3 State College Borough Council meeting — the Monday of finals week.

And the date has some local leaders concerned that students may not have time to attend the meeting, which includes hearings on the Temporary Use Provision (TUP) and the controversial Nuisance Gathering Ordinance (NGO).

In its current form, the NGO would fine party hosts for their guests' poor behavior, even after they leave the property. The TUP would allow cleared fraternities to repopulate as rooming houses for up to two years as the chapter gets its finances in order.

While the council will have to wait to vote on the TUP until a later meeting, the NGO is fair game for a vote on May 3, council president Ron Filippelli said.

Filippelli said he would be OK with enacting the ordinances after the public hearings regardless of how many students are able to attend.

"We've tried really hard to get the hearings on the calendar before students leave," he said, adding that other citizens find a way to get to council meetings despite busy schedules.

Mayor Elizabeth Goreham took a more moderate approach — she would prefer to wait on the ordinances until students returned in the fall.

"We try to only pass ordinances that affect students when students are actually here," Goreham said.

But the schedule being what it is, Goreham hopes the conflict with finals week won't keep students from attending the public hearings. She'd especially like to see Interfraternity Council President Max Wendkos and the chapter presidents of individual fraternities at the TUP hearing.

Wendkos (senior-marketing and psychology) attended Monday night's meeting, where he said he hasn't had the chance to interact with non-student residents as much as he would like.

At the meeting, he called the TUP a "necessary" ordinance.
 See **HEARINGS**, Page 2.

Dept. rejects tolls on I-80

By Laura Nichols
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn Staters who take I-80 into Happy Valley, your free ride is safe: The U.S. Department of Transportation rejected a plan Tuesday that would toll the popular interstate highway.

But don't celebrate yet — the move could cost Pennsylvania up to \$472.5 million unless legislators find an alternative revenue source.

Gov. Ed Rendell held a press conference Tuesday afternoon to contest the toll's denial, pledging to find an alternative to raise state funds, said Gary Tuma, Gov. Ed Rendell's press secretary.

Rendell said in his press conference that drivers who use I-80



Rendell

should not regard the federal government's decision as a victory, calling for a special legislative session to help find another plan. He has not yet announced the date of the special legislative session.

The act maintained provisions that would have allowed local drivers to travel up to 60 miles on I-80 without paying any tolls, Tuma said, adding that the toll would have mainly targeted people traveling across the state.

Penn State student Jen Recant is one of those people and said she uses the route to get to and from State College.

Recant (sophomore-secondary education) said the lack of a toll on I-80 is the main reason she takes it — and she's happy it'll stay that way.

"It's a great route to take — it's scenic, and there aren't any tolls," Recant said.

Gary Grembowiec said he has
 See **TOLL**, Page 2.

LUCK OF THE DRAW



Ryan Ullsh/Collegian

Jason Rubinstein (freshman-engineering) deals at the Delta Zeta and Alpha Chi Rho casino night festivities. The event raised money for the Starkey Hearing Foundation, which distributes hearing aids to the impoverished. To read a story on the fundraiser | **LOCAL**, Page 4.



Tyler Sizemore/Collegian

Sen. Arlen Specter speaks to a small crowd in the HUB on Tuesday afternoon about his vision for higher education. Specter, a Democrat, is fairing for a tough election this year with primaries in May.

Specter discusses vision

By Evan Trowbridge
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Commenting on President Barack Obama's opening pitch at the Phillies' national game on Monday, Sen. Arlen Specter told members of the Centre County Democrats that the pitch would have been a "bean ball" had a left-handed batter been at the plate.

But it was Specter on Tuesday who was firing political bean balls of his own against opponents during a campaign stop in State College.

To watch a video of Sen. Arlen Specter discussing his plans for education:
psucollegian.com

"There are only two ways to run for elected office," Specter, D-Pa., said. "One is scared. The other is unopposed."

With the May 18 primary less than six weeks away, Specter stopped in State College to host a lunch with the Centre County Democrats, followed by a discussion with about 75 students in the HUB-Robeson Center.

Before addressing students' queries, Specter took time to lay out his "Education Bill of Rights."

The plan includes better access to higher education, increased opportunities for minorities, educating more medical personnel, debt forgiveness for public service workers and the establishment of a new Assistant Secretary of Education to oversee the "Bill of Rights."

When asked how he plans to pay for the bill, Specter said it will spur higher productivity, which
 See **SPECTER**, Page 2.

Panel to address drinking situation

By Laurie Stern
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Town and gown will come together tonight to combat the issue of excessive drinking at Penn State.

Titled "Dangerous Drinking: Is There a Solution?" a panel discussion will allow university and public officials to field questions about dangerous alcohol consumption.

The panel — made up of State College Police Chief Tom King; Borough Manager Tom Fontaine; Vice President for Student Affairs Damon Sims and UPUA President-elect Christina Ragland, among others — will address items including the implementation of new education programs and harsher penalties for students cited with abusing alcohol.

Panhellenic Council President Sara Linkosky was supposed to be a panelist but was replaced by Ragland and Stephen Fiehler (graduate-media studies) after she had to cancel.

Fiehler, a recovering alcoholic, has been sober for more than three years and said he is looking forward to sharing his thoughts on what changes should be made to alcohol education programs.
 See **DRINKING**, Page 2.

If you go

What: "Dangerous Drinking: Is There a Solution?"
Where: 162 Willard Building
When: 7 tonight

Kingston to perform in Altoona

By Valerie Tkach
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Somebody call 9-1-1: Sean Kingston will perform at Penn State Altoona's spring concert on April 25.

Kingston will perform at 8 p.m. Sunday in the Stephen A. Adler Athletic Complex. Tickets will be \$15 for Altoona students and \$25 for the public. Altoona's Campus Activities Board Vice President Marcus Correll and Assistant Director of Student Life Tanya

Palovich-Scott both confirmed the news Tuesday. Correll said that the campus is very excited to have Kingston come and perform.

"Students will really like the concert this year because it's going to be different from last year's," Correll (sophomore-journalism) said, referring to O.A.R.'s performance last spring.

The students selected Kingston from a survey listing 16 different artists ranging from country singers to rock singers.

"When we compiled the votes,

If you go

What: Sean Kingston
When: 8 p.m. Sunday, April 25
Where: Penn State Altoona
Details: Tickets are \$15 for Altoona students, \$25 for non-Altoona students and public

Kingston was by far the favorite," Palovich-Scott said.
 See **KINGSTON**, Page 2.



Courtesy of SeanKingston.com