



CURTAIN CALL

Women's gymnastics falls short of nationals | **SPORTS, Page 8.**



TWO OF A KIND

Arts Crawl melds music and visual arts | **A&E, Page 5.**

BLOCK PARTY



LOCAL Pages 3

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PSU picks new icons

A new drum major and feature twirler were chosen for the 2010-2011 football season.

By Zach Fleagle
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

After a long Saturday, Penn State has a new drum major and feature twirler.

Matthew Freeman won the spot as the next top twirler, replacing P.J. Maierhofer, and Ian Kenney will step into the drum major spot for Matt Sabo.



Freeman

Freeman is the first male feature twirler since World Open Solo Baton Twirling Champion John Mitchell in 1992.

Kenney is excited about his new position and said people would be filing in to the stadium for a game right now if it were up to him.



Kenney

The daunting front flip was all nerves on the first try, but after that, he was comfortable.

"I wasn't as nervous as I thought it would be because I prepared so hard for it," Kenney said.

"If I could do it today, I'd be ready to go. I'm so excited. It's a dream come true, as they say."

Richard Bundy, Penn State's director of athletic bands, said the candidates were picked because they each had the entire package — the personality, the skills, the pride. But the choice wasn't easy.

In deciding the twirler position, Bundy said the judges all agreed Freeman was the overall best candidate.

"It's very difficult to make these decisions," Bundy said. "I know all of the students, and I know how hard they've all worked."

Kenney was the "package deal" in Bundy's

eyes — everyone handled the flip very well, but Kenney dominated the interview process.

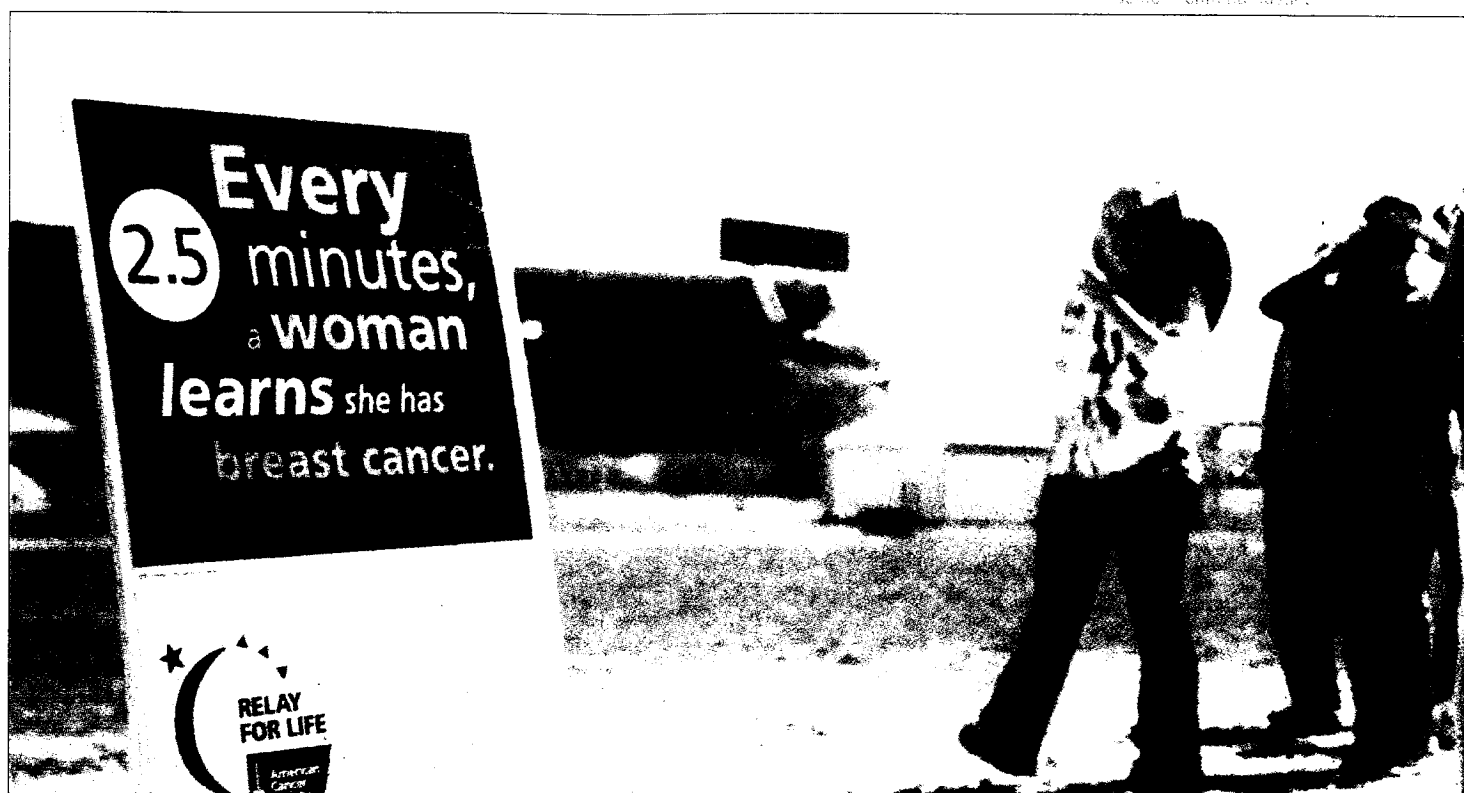
Kenney was a drum major in high school, and he knew Penn State was where he wanted to be.

But it wasn't until this year that he decided to focus in on becoming the next drum major.

"It's sinking in," Kenney said. "I think it's about half way."

"I do not relay for what cancer took away from me, but what it gave to me."

Liz Cartwright
Senior Criminal Justice



Abby Drey/Collegian

Informational signs were scattered along the track at Relay For Life on Saturday afternoon. Participants of the 24-hour walk braved hail, snow and rain Friday night and enjoyed warmer weather Saturday. The 24 hour walk-a-thon is symbolic of the inescapability of the battle with cancer.

Relay raises \$101,273 for life

By Casey McDermott
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The crowd of more than 1,400 people at this year's Relay For Life faced near-freezing temperatures and gusts of wind that almost blew away their campsites.

But that didn't stop them from raising \$101,273 overall for the American Cancer Society during this year's 24-hour walk-a-thon — surpassing last year's total by about \$20,000 and this year's goal by about \$10,000.

Event Overall Chairwoman Ashlee Newcomb said about a third of this year's total came through in the past week alone, and more money will be added from a benefit concert held Sunday night.



M. Antonio Silas/Collegian

Brian Ott (senior-film and video), front, and Johnna Reggi (sophomore-nursing) sign a poster for participants of the Relay For Life.

Relay For Life teams arrived Friday afternoon to take over the Penn State Agricultural Fields.

By 5 p.m., nearly 100 tents had filled the event site with sleeping bags, food and other campsite supplies.

track in the center of the field.

During the opening ceremony, Liz Cartwright, captain of the "Ralph's Relay" team, shared the story of how cancer affected her family.

Cartwright's (senior-criminal justice) father died of a brain tumor, and her mother was also diagnosed with breast cancer shortly thereafter. Her mother beat the disease and was at the event this weekend.

"I do not relay for what cancer took away from me, but what it See RELAY, Page 2.

To view a photo gallery of the 24 hours at Relay For Life go to:
psucollegian.com

Urban Gaming Club hosts first invitational

By Katrina Wehr
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Just when you thought State College was safe from a zombie invasion, think again.

Members of Penn State's Urban Gaming Club joined forces with other colleges and universities around the northeast to fend off the undead in the first Humans vs. Zombies (HvZ) Invitational.

The invasion stormed the usually quiet North Halls around 11 a.m. Saturday. When most North Halls residents were on their way to breakfast, the HvZ players had been on the prowl for fresh human flesh since 8 a.m.

Alex Zwiasek was "incubating" just outside Warnock Commons — meaning that he had just been turned into a zombie. He was disappointed that he was no longer

Visiting schools

- Bowling State University
- Ithaca College
- Slippery Rock University
- University of Maryland-Baltimore County
- State University of New York New Paltz
- Binghamton University

human but was still enjoying the game.

"The weather is nice, and everyone is having a great time," Zwiasek (junior-film) said. "It's great getting people from other schools to play this game we all love."

See CLUB, Page 2.

Strasburg brings attention to Altoona

By Andrew Robinson
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

ALTOONA — In the sea of green seats and white brick, the single red square adorned with a cursive "W" logo of the Washington Nationals stood out immediately.

Stephen Strasburg was pitching in Altoona, and everyone was paying attention.

"I came down with my roommate. We bought tickets a few weeks ago," Penn State student and Altoona native Chris Garguilo (sophomore-finance) said. "I noticed a lot of media, a lot of cameras. It's neat to see that, and it's a beautiful ballpark. It's really good to see it filled up."

Garguilo was just one of an announced 7,887 in attendance at Blair County Ballpark when the Altoona Curve fell to the Harrisburg Senators 6-4 in Strasburg's professional debut. The Nationals' top See PITCHER, Page 2.



Andrew Dunheimer/Collegian

Stephen Strasburg (37) walks towards the dugout with pitching coach Randy Tomlin (29) and Jhonatan Solano after warming up Sunday.



Peter Tesonero/Collegian

Drake performs at the Bryce Jordan Center on Friday night as part of his "So Far Gone" tour.

Drake brings rap to campus

By Renée Guida
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

It was one fan's lucky day as Drake — also known as Aubrey Drake Graham, also known as Degrassi's Jimmy Brooks — picked a girl out of the crowd Friday night and slow-danced with her on stage.

Cue "Un-thinkable," a song he wrote for Alicia Keys' new album, "The Element of Freedom."

Drake, along with openers K-OS and Francis and the Lights, stopped at the Bryce Jordan Center on Friday night as part of Drake's "So Far Gone" tour.

The first opener, Francis and the Lights, incorporated intricate dance steps by lead singer Francis Farewell Starlite into its performance.

As the second act of the night, K-OS did a rap rendition of Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'."

But it was the one-time television star who was the big hit. Nichole Stoner, a State College resident, See DRAKE, Page 2.

To read about Drake's eco-friendly tour bus and the "Green the Block" initiative that visited PSU this weekend go to:
psucollegian.com