

# The Daily Collegian

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30 cents off campus

## Developers work with Webster's

By Paul Osolnick  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The Downtown State College Improvement District (DSCID) is partnering with Webster's Bookstore Café owner Elaine Meder-Wilgus to help find the store a new location.

Meder-Wilgus announced last week that her 128 S. Allen St. location will close because she fell behind on rent payments. Meder-Wilgus also runs another location at 434 W. Aaron Drive.

Downtown business developers are working to ensure the book-

store's closing is only temporary and Meder-Wilgus said she is looking to reopen the store at a new location.

DSCID Director Jody Alessandrine said the "biggest problem" facing Webster's is finding a new location as quickly as possible.

"The important thing is that [Meder-Wilgus] continues without missing a beat," Alessandrine said. "I think everyone who is involved is committed to helping her as much as they can, as soon as they can."

Even though he could not be

specific, Alessandrine said Meder-Wilgus has been looking at locations that are currently available  
See WEBSTER'S, Page 2.

### If you go

**What:** Friends of Webster's meeting

**When:** 6 tonight

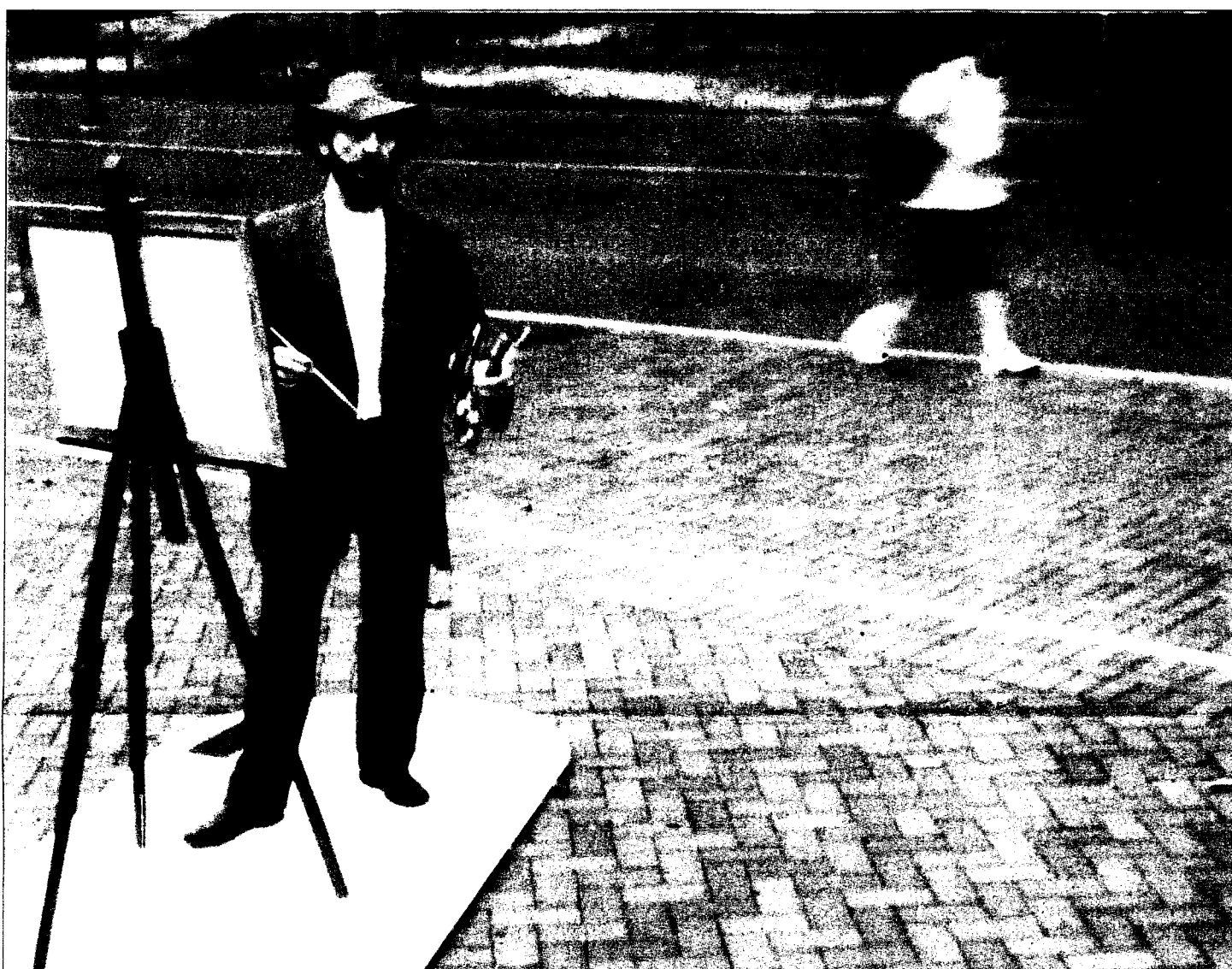
**Where:** Webster's Bookstore Café, 128 S. Allen St.

**Detail:** Meeting for Webster's supporters



A crowd of supporters gathers at Webster's Bookstore Café, 128 S. Allen

### ARTIST IN RESIDENCE



Steph Witt/Collegian

A student walks past the Monet sculpture outside Willard Building on Tuesday night. The sculpture remains on campus after this past weekend's Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts, a celebration of art, music and dance.

## New law assists students with cost

Congress passed a bill that may help lower student textbook costs by allowing them to access ISBN numbers.

By Brendan McNally  
and Megan Rogers  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITERS

In what campus leaders are calling a "huge victory for students," Congress has passed federal legislation that may make saving money on text books easier for college students.

Last year, Congress passed the Higher Education Act Reauthorization, which mandates that universities and their book stores provide students with the International Book Standard Number (ISBN) — the unique number that identifies the book, author and edition number.

The bill is a "big win from the academic standpoint," University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) President Christian Ragland said.

With the ISBN numbers, students can shop around online with ease — at sites like Amazon.com or eBay.com — for their books, which are often cheaper online than in the book stores, Ragland (senior-political science) said.

UPUA worked to bring the initiative to Penn State last year, Ragland said.

But the Barnes & Noble at The Penn State University Bookstore was hesitant to get on board with the new regulations, said Courtney Lennartz, UPUA chairwoman of the Academic Affairs Committee.

The bookstore delayed releasing the numbers for so long that the university was almost in danger of losing federal funding, Lennartz (sophomore-immunology and infectious diseases) said.

Barnes & Noble is the only bookstore in State College that will have to release the ISBN numbers because it is the only bookstore owned by the university.

John Lindo, general manager at the Student Book Store, 330 E. College Ave., said he doesn't see the new law affecting business for private bookstores.

See LAW, Page 2.

## Class gift uncertain

Gift proposals for the Class of 2011 are currently being accepted by committee.

By Megan Rogers and Jena Lucas  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The senior class gift committee is now accepting gift proposals — and they expect to see anything from a slip and slide to a live Nittany Lion.

Students, faculty, staff, alumni and State College residents — or anyone with an idea that will benefit the community — are welcome to share their ideas, said Jordan Ford, senior class gift adviser.

It's important that the gift is symbolic of the graduating class's time on campus and has longevity, Ford said. Last year, the Class of 2010 gave the university the Marsh Meadow Boardwalk and Overlook for the Arboretum.

So far, the committee has only received about eight proposals, but Ford said that's standard for this time of the year when most seniors are not on campus for the summer. He expects to see as many as 70 proposals by September, with the majority of the ideas coming from students, he said.

Ford said class gifts are a strong tradition at Penn State — the first class gift was a portrait of the university's first president Evan Pugh, donated by the Class of 1861.

The picture still hangs in Old Main Building, he said.

Once all the proposals are submitted, a committee comprised of students, faculty and administration will evaluate the ideas for their appropriateness, benefits to the university and affordability.

They will choose the top three gift ideas, which students can vote on from Oct. 25 through Oct. 29. The final decision for the gift will be announced on November 2.

The committee enjoys seeing the creative ideas students come up with, Ford said.

See GIFT, Page 2.

### Submit your idea

Proposals can be submitted online at [seniorclassgift.psu.edu](http://seniorclassgift.psu.edu) until September 17.



M. Antonio Silas/Collegian

UPUA President Christian Ragland speaks to freshmen.

## UPUA draws new students

By Zach Geiger  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

About 20 freshmen students attended the University Park Undergraduate Assembly (UPUA) meeting Tuesday night in the Willard building, but the small turnout belied the nature of the group in attendance.

The group, a mix of former high school student government leaders and out-of-state students, were in attendance to learn more about the role of UPUA and also how to get involved in student government during their freshmen year at Penn State.

"We want to take the initiative to get students involved before the rest of the campus arrives," said UPUA Student Body President Christian Ragland.

Ragland (senior-political science) and the other student leaders, including Director of Freshman Outreach Rebecca Alt and Chair of the Assembly Jess Pellicciotta, began by giving brief introductions about themselves and then asked the students how they were enjoying Penn State.

Ragland joked about the fake UPUA President Twitter account and also about his past presidential experience in middle school and high school during his introduction, but also wanted to hear from the students about their concerns.

A meeting with Penn State President Graham Spanier on Friday in regards to tuition increases  
See FRESHMEN, Page 2.

## Comic Seth Meyers to perform at BJC

By Kathleen Loughran  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

At 8 p.m. on September 17, the Bryce Jordan Center will transform into an intimate theater.

Curtailed will close off unwanted area to create a space large enough for a couple thousand people to see comedian and "Saturday Night Live" head writer Seth Meyers perform.

"Whenever you have comedy you want an intimate setting, so we'll be configuring our building into an intimate theater," said Bernie Punt, director of sales and marketing for the BJC. "Comedians like to be closer to the audience, so it's going to be a very intimate

environment. He'll be able to see [the audience] and interact with them."

Because of the University Park Allocation Committee's (UPAC) involvement, a student-ticket pre-sale will open at noon on July 28. With a valid Penn State University Park ID, discounted tickets will cost \$9.99.

Student Body President Christian Ragland said it's good that UPAC is involved in the event, adding that Meyers will provide a good show.

"After serving one year on UPAC, I definitely had the opportunity to see why a wide variety of activity is important to students, and

UPAC using the student activity fee to discount tickets is a great thing to see at work," he said.

See MEYERS, Page 2.

