

# The Daily Collegian

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## Frats to rent spaces

### Rooms are available for non-greek students

By Megan Rogers  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

This fall, some students may get the fraternity house experience without joining the greek community.

Several Penn State fraternities are renting out open spots in their fraternity housings. Interfraternity Council President Max Wendkos said. He said it's the greek community's way of helping with the off-campus housing crunch.

"I just wanted to make sure the greek community was doing their part to help out," Wendkos (senior-marketing and psychology) said.

A few weeks ago, Wendkos contacted the presidents of the fraternities, asking them to consider renting out spaces to students, he said — about four fraternities rose to the occasion. Though in the past fraternities have rented open spots to students, this is the first year the Interfraternity Council has reached out to the entire Greek community about the issue,

Off-Campus Student Union President Bobby Ryan said.

Ryan (senior-psychology) said the Off-Campus Student Union will work to connect students looking for a living space with fraternities that have extra spaces by sending out an e-mail to their list-serv. The arrangement is beneficial for both parties, Ryan said.

"It's a great idea. Students need a place to stay and fraternities need people to fill the spot," he said. "It's a perfect match."  
See FRATS, Page 2.



Chloe Elmer, Collegian

Alpha Epsilon Pi is one of the frats offering living space.

## Gov. talks roads

### Rendell to tour state

By Paul Osolnick  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Gov. Ed Rendell will hold a press conference today at 4:45 p.m. on Route 26 South in Bellefonte to discuss the state's need for transportation funding.



Rendell

Gary Tuma, press secretary for Gov. Rendell, said the need for state transportation funding comes from a gap in the budget caused by the federal government voting against a portion of Act 44 — a Pennsylvania transportation funding law passed in 2007 — that would have allowed for tolls on Interstate 80.

Tuma said the state is facing a gap of about \$472 million per year in funding for improvements to infrastructure in the state.

The governor will travel around the state to raise awareness to particular areas that have "structurally deficient" bridges or "unsafe road conditions" including roads that can not handle the traffic volume or need re-paving, Tuma said.

Tuma said Rendell will tour Allentown and Philadelphia Tuesday and will stop in Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and Centralia before coming to the Bellefonte/State College area.

Rendell will continue through central Pennsylvania on Thursday before heading toward Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania Friday.

"He is traveling around the state to stress to the citizens that we do have a significant need to improve our transportation," Tuma said. "He wants the public to understand that he wants the legislature to convene in late August to address the problem."

Tuma said there are more than 5,000 structurally deficient bridges in the state.

Rich Kirkpatrick, spokesman for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in Harrisburg, said the state saw the number of structurally deficient bridges decrease for the first time in about a decade, but the number is still very significant.

"[Rendell] has been a strong advocate, both here in Pennsylvania and around the state."  
See RENDELL, Page 2.



Evan Vucci, Associated Press

President Obama, LaFourche Parish President Charlotte Randolph and U.S. Coast Guard Admiral Thad Allen examine the oil spill damage.

## Oil spill inspires new course option

By Zach Geiger  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The week following the Gulf oil spill, Penn State professor Timothy Bralower was sitting in a restaurant in Houston, Texas.

As news of the spill began to dominate the media, Bralower said the attitude in the bar was much different.

"Nobody was talking about it," said Bralower, head of Penn State Geosciences. "It was a very surreal environment for me."

Bralower couldn't stop thinking about it, so he reached out to Nancy Tuana, director of Penn State's Philosophy Graduate Studies program.

The result? New Schreyer Honors College course Earth 297H, (The 2010 Gulf Oil Spill: Science and Ethics of a Natural Catastrophe).

"The idea is to present all of the con-

flicts around deep-water drilling and oil exploration in general," Bralower said.

The course is designed to be a comprehensive approach to the situation, he said.

Bralower said he'll tackle the scientific aspect of the issue while Tuana will focus on the complex social issues including corporate responsibility and socioeconomic aspects.

Students enrolled in Earth 297H won't just be sitting in a classroom all semester — they will have the opportunity to witness the devastation first-hand.

A planned trip to the Gulf of Mexico will allow the students to tour the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and hopefully examine the Gulf beaches and wetland ecosystems affected by the spill, Bralower said.

"We'll make every effort to get us close to the oil," he said.

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## Police: Soccer player was disorderly

By Brendan McNally  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A Penn State soccer standout is scheduled for a preliminary hearing today after police said he had to be sedated because he made vulgar comments to police and doctors while intoxicated.

The State College Police Department was called at about 3:30 a.m. June 27 in the 200 block of Chestnut Alley in response to a report of a burning mattress,

police said.

When police arrived at the scene, officers saw Treavor Gelsinger — who was Penn State's leading scorer for the men's soccer team in 2008 — intoxicated to the point that he could not stand on his own without "falling into things," police said.



Gelsinger

Gelsinger (senior-kinesiology) repeatedly told police vulgar things, police wrote in the affidavit.

He also said he wanted to punch a female police officer who was present at the scene in the face, police said.

He has been charged with one count of misdemeanor disorderly conduct and one count of summary public drunkenness, police said.

Police did not say whether they

believe Gelsinger started the mattress fire.

Gelsinger has been named Academic All-Big Ten three times and Second Team All-Big Ten once. Officials with the Penn State athletic department could not be reached for comment.

Police said they were able to convince Gelsinger to take a seat in a lawn chair that was nearby the mattress fire where they were able to handcuff him.

See SOCCER PLAYER, Page 2.

## Alumna, 'People' writer pens book on celebrity dog

By Kathleen Loughran  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Flipping through the pages of "People" magazine, stories about the lives of the rich and famous are told routinely.

But there was one facet of Hollywood that was not explored in detail until Penn State alumna Rennie Dyball wrote about it.

"To my knowledge, no one has ever written extensively about studio animal trainers, which I think is a fascinating slice of Hollywood," Dyball, Class of 2002, said.

But with Dyball's new book, "A Famous Dog's Life," the life of a studio animal trainer will be told in even greater detail.

The book, which is set to be released in spring 2011, chronicles the lives of two different characters: a celebrity dog named Gidget and Gidget's trainer, Sue Chipperton.

The idea for the book came about after Gidget — who is iconic because of her appearance in Taco Bell's advertisements — passed away in 2009.

Since Chipperton knew Dyball

from an article Dyball previously wrote for "People" magazine, the trainer decided to contact her to help co-author the novel.

"I had met Rennie during a photo shoot she coordinated for 'People' magazine. Gidget was part of the shoot," Chipperton said. "When the idea of the book came up, I knew immediately that I couldn't write it. It seemed like it was a natural choice to ask Rennie if she would co-write the book with me, especially since she had met Gidget."

Dyball began working for

"People" magazine shortly after graduating Penn State. Throughout her senior year, she said she was able to stay in touch with her bosses after interning with the magazine the previous summer.

Dyball said she was so persistent because she knew she "wanted nothing more out of life after graduation than to work at 'People.'"

At "People," Dyball said she specifically covers the music scene, but she has been able to



Courtesy of Rennie Dyball

Dyball holds Gidget and Moonie.