

NEWS IN BRIEF

Former employer waives hearing

Former Penn State employee Lisa Stevenson has waived her right to a preliminary hearing in connection with an incident where \$2,280 was stolen from the university from March 17 to April 29, according to court documents.

Mayor to try to end DROP program

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter says he will try to end a deferred retirement program that has meant a big lump-sum payment for former officials.

Officers splashed in face with bleach

PHILADELPHIA — Police say two officers were splashed in the face with bleach during a street fight in North Philadelphia.

Woman suing Toyota for son's death

AMP HILL — A woman sued Toyota Motor Corp., BP America Inc. and others on Tuesday, claiming their actions contributed to a March fire at a gasoline pump that killed her son.

The wrongful-death and product liability action filed in Philadelphia by Lisa Rickenbach claims that flaws in the gas pumps and the Toyota Yaris that Luther David Byers was driving helped cause his death.

Police: Aunt, boyfriend endangered boy

APOLLO — State police have charged a baby-sitting aunt and her boyfriend with endangering a 2-year-old boy found wandering on a western Pennsylvania street.

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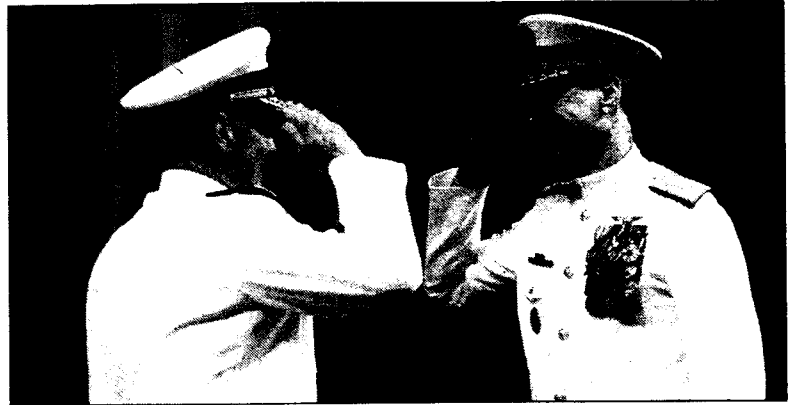
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Weather: Today: High 87, Tonight: Low 68, Tomorrow: High 88. Extended forecast at campusweatherservice.com

Navy sees change of personnel

By Brian Witte, ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — The 61st superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy took command Tuesday, pledging to make ethics a priority after financial irregularities were discovered by Navy investigators under his predecessor.



Vice Adm. Jeffrey Fowler, left, is relieved during the change-of-command.

Vice Adm. Michael Miller, who served as Navy chief of legislative affairs in Washington, took over at a change-of-command ceremony from Vice Adm. Jeffrey Fowler.

In a speech at the ceremony, Adm. Jonathan Greenert, vice chief of Naval Operations, emphasized the complexities of the superintendent's job. He compared it to the Hydra of Greek mythology, a seven-headed serpent that grew two more heads every time one was severed.

"It's like the Hydra of mythology, right? It's complicated," Greenert said. "It's dynamic. It's herding cats. It's strategic, operational and tactical, and that's all in one day, and it's not for the meek, for sure."

Fowler kept his remarks under seven minutes, reminiscing about family and friends who helped him through his 32-year Navy career.

"I have no regrets," Fowler said. "I have such happy, amazing memories."

Miller, who is a native of North Dakota like Fowler, said he would make ethics a top priority.

"I am convinced that an ethical foundation must come first, and that

will be our starting point while I'm here," he said.

Fowler made diversity a top priority of his tenure in an effort to make the school's student body representative of the Navy, and the academy has made big gains. Minority applications for the class of 2014 were the most in the school's history, with 5,379.

Greenert also praised Fowler for increasing midshipmen's exposure to Navy experience outside the classroom and for pushing to create a Center for Cyber Security Studies on the school's campus.

"Jeff sees the future," Greenert said. "He knows it's about cyber, among other things, and he did something about it."

Fowler's tenure, which began in 2007, was clouded by spending irreg-

ularities that included a "sham" slush fund, according to a report completed in November by the Office of the Naval Inspector General. Although the Navy emphasized that Fowler didn't benefit from the irregularities, investigators criticized the fund and the improper solicitation of gifts relating to efforts to retain the school's football coaches.

Wesley Brown, the first African-American to graduate from the Naval Academy in the Class of 1949, praised Fowler for his work on diversity. Brown, an 83-year-old alumnus who was in the audience at the ceremony, said he didn't think Fowler deserved to go out this way.

"I'm very sorry to see that he was smeared at the end there," Brown said. "A lot of the alumni feel that way."

Rendell

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nation, for additional investment to keep the roads and bridges in a state of good repair," Kirkpatrick said.

Kirkpatrick said the 5,646 bridges labeled "structurally deficient" have various levels of deterioration that need to be repaired, but said the state inspects the bridges at least once every two years to ensure that they are safe.

Tuma said one idea to meet the current gap in funding is raising the cost of licenses and vehicle registration fees in the state by the rate of inflation since the fees have been raised.

Tuma said the fee for drivers' licenses has not been raised since near 2000 and vehicle registration fees have not increased since the 1990's.

If the fees were raised it would produce several hundred million dollars annually, Tuma said.

"There are a number of things we could do that would be fairly painless and not at all unfair to the motoring public," Tuma said.

Tuma said the general assembly is currently scheduled to reconvene in mid-September, but the governor sent the legislators a letter Tuesday to ask them to reconvene on Aug. 23 to devote session days to Pennsylvania transportation exclusively.

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Frats

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Phi Mu Delta is renting out about 10 spots, fraternity president Eli Zigon said. After moving into the former Alpha Epsilon Pi house, 240 E. Prospect Ave., the brothers discovered they had extra rooms and decided to help out.

Not only is it helpful for students looking for houses, it will also help fraternities cover rent each month, Zigon (senior-economics) said.

The cost of living in the fraternity house is \$500 a month, which includes utilities, he said.

And students who take the greek community up on the offer can get more than just living space and utilities, he said.

"People will get to see another side of greek life, the day-to-day camaraderie," Zigon said.

Already, seven people have given verbal commitments to Phi Mu Delta.

And Zigon is hoping that through working with the Off-Campus

Student Union and posting on Craigslist, his fraternity will fill in the extra spaces.

Other fraternities that are considering maybe renting out to students and aiding them in their off-campus housing search include Alpha Gamma Rho, Alpha Kappa Lambda and Tau Delta Phi.

The presidents of Alpha Gamma Rho, Alpha Kappa Lambda and Tau Delta Phi were not available for comment by press time Tuesday.

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Course

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The students will also work with Shell to learn more about deepwater drilling, Bralower said. Working with Shell will hopefully dispel the myth that oil companies are reckless, he said.

"These companies have incredible safety procedures," he said. "We want to show how a major oil company explores in deepwater."

Guest lecturers may be called in to discuss BP's financial situation and the economics of the disaster. Marine biologists and petroleum engineers are also on the list of potential guest lecturers, Bralower said.

"The issues are very complicated," Bralower said. "It's hard to

paint a black and white picture here."

If students do make it to the oil-covered beaches of the Gulf, the devastation that they see is likely to remain long after the course ends.

The severity and long-term impacts of the April 20 oil spill are still unknown, said Anil Kulkarni, who studies combustion and fluid mechanics and is a Penn State professor of mechanical engineering.

Though not involved in the Earth 297H course or the Gulf cleanup efforts, Kulkarni described the cleanup situation in the Gulf as "hopeless" in part because of thick oil in the water.

"It's like mayonnaise," Kulkarni said. "Whenever it sticks to something, it's finished."

When oil and water mix, they become emulsified, Kulkarni said.

The effects can be damaging to humans and animals alike.

"We have a spill that is ten times the size of the last big oil spill of the Exxon-Valdez in Prince William Sound," Kulkarni said.

Though cleanup is underway, it will be a long-term struggle even after the oil well is permanently capped, Kulkarni said. The effects of the oil dispersants being used to break up the oil and the potential for tropical storms in the Gulf also pose an unknown threat, Kulkarni said.

Discussing those threats — and how to prevent them in the future — is the entire purpose of creating the course for the fall semester, Bralower said.

"We're just at the beginning of what happens in the Gulf," he said.

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Soccer Player

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But even after he was handcuffed, police said Gelsinger continued to yell obscene comments at the arresting officers.

The Alpha Fire Company was called to the scene to put out the mattress fire, police said.

Police said Gelsinger continued to yell, "loudly enough at times that it could be heard over the loud fire

truck engines that were still present putting out the fire."

When EMS arrived to treat Gelsinger for an alcohol overdose, police said he was unable to put together a coherent thought.

He was taken to Mount Nittany Medical Center where he began asking hospital staff to perform vulgar acts, police said.

While in the emergency room, he continued to use obscenities, police said.

Police said that both elderly and

young individuals were present in the emergency room "at the time of [his] disorder," police said.

It was in the emergency room that Gelsinger was told to stop using obscene language, police said.

When he did not stop using such language, police said hospital officials made the decision to sedate Gelsinger.

Gelsinger could not be reached for comment by press time Tuesday.

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Dyba!!

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pitch and write stories on other topics.

Because of two articles, Dyba!! said she has had the opportunity to turn them into books — one article was about celebrity dogs, which led to "A Famous Dog's Life," and the other was about the television show "Project Runway."

After covering "Project Runway," Dyball was asked to co-author a book with fourth season winner Christian Siriano.

In 2009, the novel was released as "Fierce Style: How to Be Your Most Fabulous Self."

But to begin writing "A Famous Dog's Life," Dyball said she had numerous interviews with Chipperton so she could write a non-fiction book in Chipperton's voice.

"It's totally nonfiction," Dyball said. "It would be hard to put an exact label on it. It's part memoir because it's all about Sue's life, but it's the story of Gidget and her life as well."

Though she said conducting the interviews was vital for writing the book, Dyball said it was one of the most challenging aspects of the writing process.

"Transcribing is absolutely the worst — it's mind-numbing. It takes so long that you don't feel like you have an ounce of creativity left after it," Dyball said. "But it's also important because that's when you can see the story kind of come together."

But Chipperton said she enjoyed the interviews the two of them had.

"The initial phone calls were fun," Chipperton said. "If you start me talking about jobs I have done and animals I have trained, I can ramble on forever — poor Rennie, on the

other hand, had to sit down and decipher it all and make sense of how it was going to make a book."

After compiling all the "raw material" and writing the lead, Dyball said she was then able to delve into her very favorite part of the writing process — taking the material and "crafting a beautiful paragraph... making it sing and jump off the page."

Though the novel is about a celebrity dog and her trainer, Dyball said she thinks it will reach a large audience, especially those that love dogs.

"I think the book has a lot for anyone. Any dog lover and animal lover would be fascinated to read this," she said. "Anyone interested in Hollywood would like the book. It's a behind the scenes that I think people haven't really seen before."

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