

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tropical Storm Danielle forms in Atlantic

MIAMI — Tropical Storm Danielle is strengthening in the open Atlantic, but the system is still far from land. Forecasters at the National Hurricane Center in Miami said Sunday that Danielle had maximum sustained winds of 50 mph (85 kph) and the storm could become a hurricane by late Tuesday. Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Frank is developing in the Pacific off Mexico, and storm warnings have been issued for parts of the coast. Forecasters said the storm had maximum sustained winds of 60 mph (95 kph). It was about 120 miles (190 km) south of Puerto Angel, Mexico. It was moving west at 7 mph (11 kph). Mexico has issued a tropical storm warning for the coast from Puerto Angel west to Tecpan de Galeana. Frank is forecast to move parallel to the coast through Tuesday.

Prison attack cited in call for death

EASTON, Pa. — Prosecutors in eastern Pennsylvania say they plan to use a man's guilty plea to slashing a fellow prison inmate as an argument that he should be executed if convicted of killing a 3-year-old boy. Northampton County prosecutors on Friday filed an amended list of aggravated circumstances seeking the death penalty against 23-year-old Eugenio Torres of Brooklyn, N.Y. He is charged with criminal homicide in the July 2008 death of Elijah Strickland. Authorities say that during his stay in prison, Torres slashed the face and head of another inmate with a razor blade. He pleaded guilty to attempted homicide and was sentenced last month to nine to 18 years in state prison.

Man's death in Pa. river probed

PITTSBURGH — Authorities in western Pennsylvania are investigating the death of a man who jumped into the Allegheny River. Police say the man may have drowned in an apparent effort to swim to the riverbank on the North Shore from the Fort Duquesne Bridge Riverwalk. Witnesses told Pittsburgh police that the man, whose name was not released, had been reading a book near the walkway when he kicked off his boots and jumped into the water at about 3 p.m. Saturday. Police say the man began to struggle in the water and went under. He was pulled from the river shortly after 4 p.m. and taken to Allegheny General Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. An autopsy is scheduled to determine the cause of death.

ON THE MENU

Lunch:
 Waring: New England clam chowder, Middle Eastern grain salad, chicken cosmo not, corn and edamame, succotash, peas, Philly cheese steak, quarter pound hamburger, shoestring fries, chicken with mixed vegetables
 Simmons: chicken and corn chowder, chicken noodle soup, cream of tomato soup, baked tomato basil tofu, turkey BLT wheat wrap, cilantro orzo and beef, garden stir fry, grilled cheese, grilled turkey cheese sandwich
 Pollock, Redifer, Warnock, Findlay: Mushroom barley soup, New England clam chowder, battered fish, Middle Eastern grain salad, Philly cheese steak, coleslaw, corn & edamame, succotash, peas, seasoned curly fries

Dinner:
 Waring: New England clam chowder, Middle Eastern grain salad, chicken tenders, corn and edamame, succotash, pulled pork BBQ, roasted vegetables, sweet potato fries, garlic shrimp stir fry
 Simmons: Chicken and vegetable quesadilla, beef in garlic sauce, grilled chicken breast, naked chicken parmesan, wheat penne pasta, barley pecan pilaf, broccoli florets, brown rice, cauliflower and roasted red peppers, grilled vegetables, honey ginger carrots, roasted rosemary potatoes
 Pollock, Redifer, Warnock, Findlay: Mushroom barley soup, New England clam chowder, cheese ravioli, chicken tenders, grilled chicken breast, corn and edamame, succotash, roasted vegetables, sweet potato wedges

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 Collegian Inc.
 James Building, 123 S. Burrows St., University Park, PA 16801-3882

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Ag Progress draws thousands

By Joshua Glossner
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

“[Ag Progress Days allow] the producer to see the newest in equipment and how to stay profitable.”

Robert Oberheim
 show manager

Thousands of people attended Penn State's Ag Progress Days last week, giving them the opportunity to learn about the latest farming techniques.

Among the 438 exhibits, there were active demonstrations involving seed and fertilizer tests, deer pins, mushrooms and bees, all provided by the College of Agricultural Sciences.

New farming techniques were not the only things displayed at Ag Progress — antique tractors were also featured during the three-day event held Aug. 17 through Aug. 20.

Dick Smeltzer and the antique tractor exhibitors started to set up their area for Ag Progress Days on Aug. 14.

“We wanted to be set up and ready for when the people started coming on the first day,” said Smeltzer, the exhibit's director.

Politicians hoping to talk with Central Pennsylvanian voters also attended the event, show manager Robert Oberheim said.

Democratic Senate candidate Joe Sestak and other state politicians attended the event, Oberheim said.

“It's an excellent way for them to get hands-on feedback from a true agricultural audience,” Oberheim said.

Smeltzer said Ag Progress Days began to showcase antique tractors in 2002 when he and some friends wanted to show their tractors closer to the Pasto Agriculture Museum at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center in Rock Springs, Pa.

“We had seven tractors and one steam engine when we started out,” Smeltzer said. “This year, we have 33 tractors.”

One of the tractors at the exhibit was an award-winning 1942 Allis Chalmers WC, owned by Ed and Suzanne Bruce, of Cochran Mills, Pa.

“We bought the tractor three years ago at the Nittany Antique Machinery Association show,” Suzanne Bruce said, adding that their tractor won awards at the Fall Foliage Festival in Clarion, Pa.

Oberheim said Ag Progress Days is unique because there are not many fairs or events like it on the East Coast.

“It allows the producer to see the newest in equipment and how to stay profitable,” Oberheim said.

Having been involved with Ag Progress Days for five years, Ed Bruce said Ag Progress Days really helps the community.

“It allows people to see the new developments in things like equipment and dairy sciences,” Ed Bruce said.

Though he said Oberheim and Penn State have done a great job with Ag Progress throughout the years, Smeltzer said he has seen a steady decrease in the amount of people who turn out for Ag Progress Days.

“The economy has affected both the exhibitors and the general public,” Smeltzer said.

But the economy didn't dampen one of his favorite parts of Ag Progress Days — interacting with the people who participate in the event. Also, Smeltzer said he loves the food.

“I love the [Berkey] Creamery's Butter Pecan ice cream,” Smeltzer said. “Plus, they have the best mushrooms and cheesesteaks too.”

To e-mail reporter: jdg5299@psu.edu

Quarterbacks

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season at quarterback in 60 years at Penn State. “Even the Newsome kid is really a freshman. He started in January a year ago. I really don't know who's going to be the quarterback. I don't know right now.”

With Jones seemingly out of the picture, Newsome and McGloin, both with sophomore eligibility, and Bolden, a true freshman, are splitting snaps evenly as part of one of the most hotly contested, intriguing quarterback competitions in recent memory.

Despite joining the team in May, Bolden surpassed Jones, a five-star recruit and star of the Blue-White game. Sources say Bolden has looked impressive throughout fall practice, and Paterno said earlier this month he may have to play a freshman.

The Lions only travel with three quarterbacks, making the decision to redshirt someone necessary. Jones' mother refused comment in a text message.

Paterno said experience would be a factor in the race but added that it didn't necessarily mean Newsome and McGloin have a huge edge. The two have combined for just 13 passes in their collegiate careers.

Newsome, who entered practice as the favorite for the starting job but has not yet emerged as the starter, said he is hoping for a decision soon.

“In a perfect world, any quarterback would want the job decided right now — bam,” Newsome said. “Whoever he chooses is going to be ready because we all trust Coach Joe.”

Paterno's decision is so difficult, Newsome said, because of the talent and depth at the position. He praised the other quarterbacks, say-

ing “all of them can go to different places and play and start.”

At Media Day Aug. 12, McGloin, a former walk-on, was asked what he thinks is the most important aspect of the quarterback race.

“The leadership role,” McGloin said. “I'm not saying we don't have any leaders — we definitely do. But I think a quarterback needs to be somebody that needs to take control of a team in the huddle.”

When asked if those are traits that define him, McGloin answered swiftly.

“Absolutely I think I can get the job done,” he said. “That leadership role, I think I can fill it in very well. Because when you're in that huddle and you need that first down, team's going to look to you and look for you to make a play. I'm going to be able to look back on them, say, ‘Guys, I can do this. Let's get it done.’”

To e-mail reporter: ajc5238@psu.edu

Rally

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“We've been working since June until basically this morning,” said Lion Ambassador Jackie Boyland (senior-HDFS). “It's a lot of work, but it's so rewarding. It's basically seeing Penn State pride in action.”

Boyland said organizers focused on introducing student groups at the rally to promote involvement.

Speakers included University Park Undergraduate Association President Christian Ragland, Interfraternity Council President

Max Wendkos as well as representatives from the Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon and the Blue and White Society and Homecoming executives.

“This event is important because it makes freshman feel like they're really a part of Penn State and not just attending. It helps them get involved, and also know what is going on at football games,” Boyland said, laughing.

Be A Part from the Start inspired her to join the Lion Ambassadors in the first place, she said.

“It was great seeing the excite-

ment when we were handing everything out. I think tonight is a great first taste of Penn State,” Boyland said.

Freshman received drawstring bags filled with a cup from Lion Menus, posters, and coupons for dining and retail locations all over campus as they entered the building singing along to “Hey Baby” and other traditional Penn State songs.

“Coming tonight made me realize how big this place is, but also how much unity there is, how it can feel like family,” Harris said.

To e-mail reporter: ars5474@psu.edu

Walk

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Others participating in the walk include Vice President for Student Affairs Damon Sims, Director of University Police Steve Shelov, State College Borough Police Chief Tom King, Borough Manager Tom Fountaine, Borough Council President Ron Filippelli, Off-Campus Student Union President Bobby Ryan (senior-psychology) and University Park Undergraduate

Association (UPUA) President Christian Ragland (senior-political science), Powers said.

Goreham said the event provides an opportunity for the university and the borough to join forces in an effort to better the community.

Including police officers in the event helps students put a human face to the departments, she said.

“Our police officers are really dedicated public servants,” she said. “They're there to help us.”

Elected in late March, Ragland

said he has plans to bridge the gap between the borough and the students this fall. He said he is excited to begin collaborating with borough and university officials early, even though he has already faced some adversity in his ongoing attempt to appoint a non-voting student member to the council.

“It's definitely a good opportunity,” Ragland said of the LION Walk. “That's how we want to start our year off.”

To e-mail reporter: cab5356psu.edu

Rapper

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impressive turnout than before.

“The first time we brought him out, it was before his first album even, and no one had heard of him yet. But now we're expecting a much bigger crowd,” Meretsky said.

Being a big fan of Matisyahu's work, Meretsky said the musician's talent has grown over the years.

“He's able to use his natural talent in his writing and his voice to bring these inspiring messages in an entertaining way,” Meretsky said.

“He always tries to keep his music fresh and he's never held down to one particular style.”

Penn State's Chabad has brought many events to the campus over the past nine years, but Meretsky said the Jewish Life Festival will truly bring together the many aspects of Jewish culture.

“We wanted to get it all together in one festival,” Meretsky said. “It's an all-inclusive event that includes different parts of Jewish life.”

Hetchkop said the event will bring an undeniably “unique” experience to Penn State.

“We want to open peoples' eyes to something different — something that is going to be interesting,” Hetchkop said. “And I think this will do it.”

To e-mail reporter: das5461@psu.edu

Student

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he always had to win, but always had to do his best. He would be his all in everything he did and that's not an exaggeration.”

Richards, a Schreyer Honor College student, was preparing for his sophomore year and majoring in history and political science, Powers said.

Richards' friends and family said he was deeply involved in school and community activities and stood out as one of the brightest students at his high school and in his college classes.

Outside of class, he was an administrative vice president of the Penn State Mock Trial and a member of the Liberal Arts Undergraduate Council.

His father said Richards maintained a 4.0 GPA at North Penn High School in Lansdale, Pa., and finished

in the top 1 percent of his high school class.

Mark Walsh, president of the Penn State Mock Trial Association, said friends respected Richards for his hard work and leadership abilities.

“He was easily one of the most talented freshmen on the team last year and he just put everything he had into what he did,” Walsh said. “Everybody is going to miss Tom — there's no doubt about that.”

Friends said they'll remember Richards not only for his work ethic and leadership abilities, but also for his big smile, positive attitude and friendly demeanor.

Tyler Frisch (junior-physics), a friend of Richards since they attended high school together, said Richards' smile will always stick in his memory.

“I don't remember ever seeing him not smiling,” Frisch said.

“He was always the most good-humored person I've ever met and

had such a great outlook on life.”

In high school, Richards was an Eagle Scout in Troop 141 and participated in the student government and mock trial club, Frisch said.

Richards was always looking for more ways to stay involved and help out, he said.

His father said Richards went on several mission trips with his church and took to heart the Boy Scout motto — “cheerful service.”

“For him, it wasn't just helping people but also gaining enjoyment from it,” he said.

Richards' family held a viewing and service for Richards this weekend at the Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church, 321 W. Butler Ave., New Britain, Pa.

According to SHC Dean Christian Brady's blog, a memorial service will be held on campus Saturday.

To e-mail reporter: bwm5147@psu.edu