

The Daily Collegian

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30 cents off campus

Spanier OKs budget access

By Kathleen Loughran
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Students will now meet with the university's budget director and other administrators each fall to discuss Penn State's preliminary budget, after Penn State President Graham Spanier approved a proposal drafted by student leaders.

With the approved proposal — created by University Park Undergraduate Association

(UPUA) and Council of Commonwealth Student Governments (CCSG) presidents and vice presidents — various meetings will be held where administrators can update student leaders on the budget and receive feedback, CCSG President Mohamed Raouda said.

"We received a guarantee from Graham Spanier to be more transparent with the budget and to have representation," Raouda



CCSG President Mohamed Raouda and UPUA President Christian Ragland will get a chance to discuss Penn State's budget.

(senior-history and international relations) said.

"We used to have one meeting,

but this year we have four meetings."

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Rush fees hiked

The IFC increased rush fees a year after implementing them.

By Megan Rogers
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Interfraternity Council (IFC) officials say recruitment this year will be value-focused — and they're raising the cost of rushing by \$15 to enhance the recruitment experience.

IFC Vice President for Membership Mark Mixon said he thinks the increased marketing efforts and fee — now \$25 per potential recruit — will result in a better rush experience.

The additional money will provide chapters with training — from groups like Phired Up, a firm that specializes in the recruitment process — to learn how they can best promote their fraternity, Mixon (senior-energy business and finance) said.

But it's not just fraternity chapters that could benefit from the increased fee.

IFC President Max Wendkos said the council is providing recruits with an information book on each of the 48 fraternities. It can be hard for recruits to sort through the IFC's 48 fraternities, Wendkos (senior-marketing and psychology) said — and the book aims to make that challenge a little bit easier.

IFC ordered about 2,000 copies of the book, which are being handed out at involvement fairs and orientation sessions, Phil Meier, administrative assistant to the vice president for membership, said.

Some students who attended the first recruitment information session on Tuesday night said they enjoyed the presentation and are fine with the price to rush.

Student Ricardo Beer said the reasoning behind the price of recruitment was a logical one.

"\$25 in the long run is not much, seeing as how a fraternity is a life commitment, not just a four-year deal," Beer (freshman-public relations and advertising) said.

Ji Han agreed. Han (freshman-environmental engineering) said the price will deter students who aren't truly interested in joining a fraternity. But, he said, the price shouldn't go above \$25 or that may keep out too many students.

The money will also be used to promote recruitment

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Shale deposit studied

By Brendan McNally
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State has unveiled a research initiative tasked to investigate the potential economic, environmental and social impact of the booming Marcellus Shale natural gas industry in Pennsylvania.

The initiative — the Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research (MCOR) — will do research to develop the best possible procedures and policies for extracting natural gas from Marcellus Shale rock — a mineral found under about 2/3 of Pennsylvania, MCOR co-director Thomas Murphy said.

MCOR will also work to educate the public about the gas shale industry and will serve as a general resource for Pennsylvanians, Murphy said.

Murphy said extracting natural gas from the shale could infuse billions of dollars into the state's economy and affect millions of people, which is why Penn State has created the center to study all aspects of the industry.

"[Marcellus Shale natural gas] could have a trillion-dollar-plus impact on the state economy," Murphy said. "We are talking about a massive amount of money and a very large portion of the population that will be impacted by the Marcellus Shale."

Michael Arthur, also a MCOR co-director, said he hopes the center will bring in more research money for the university from industry and environmental groups, as well as from the state.

The shale covers almost 34 million acres of land in Pennsylvania and could contain more than 50 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. Research conducted by Penn State professors concluded that tapping into the natural gas deposits could create 200,000 new jobs and increase gains in state and local tax revenue by more than \$1 billion in 10 years.

Chris Tutolo, public relations officer for Penn State Eco-Action, said he is concerned

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Arthur



Murphy

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY



Tyler Sizemore/Collegian

Students sporting colorful umbrellas walk down Shortlidge Road on Monday. Weather for the first and second day of classes was rainy, with more precipitation expected in the upcoming days.

Kredible to hoodwink HUB crowd

By Heather Panetta
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Expect brand new tricks like "magic meets flip cup" when magician Justin Kredible performs at 8 tonight in HUB-Heritage Hall.

"It's the perfect college trick," said Kredible, whose real name is Justin Willman. "It combines my favorite pastime, which is magic, and college students' favorite pastime."

The show marks Kredible's third visit to Penn State and is sponsored by the Student

If you go

What: Justin Kredible

When: 8 p.m. today; doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Where: HUB-Heritage Hall

Details: Free with student ID

Programming Association (SPA). Kredible has been doing college and university tours for about five years and he said they have been his favorite venues.

"I have way more freedom of

expression in college shows," he said. "I like to be edgy and talk about what I want to. I can do the show that I would want to go see if I was a college student."

SPA Director of Events Matt McKnight (senior-political science) said Kredible is the best person to kick off the year and to get freshmen involved in campus activities.

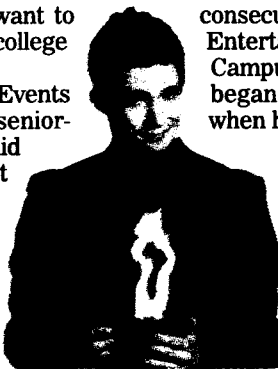
"He's an up-and-coming entertainer,

funny magician and relatively close to our age," McKnight said.

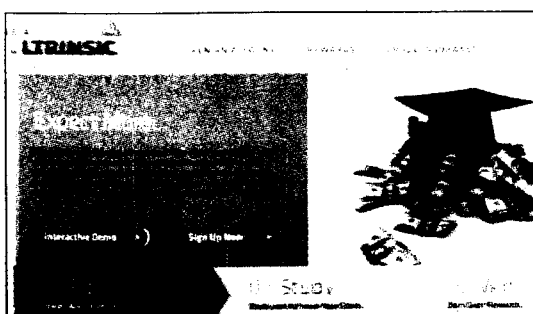
Kredible, who for the fourth consecutive year was named Entertainer of the Year by Campus Activities Magazine, began practicing magic when he was 12.

"I broke both my arms trying to prove to girls I could ride a bike with rollerblades on," he said. "The doctor recommended doing card tricks to get the

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Website provides students with incentives to study



Courtesy of Ultrinsic.com

Ultrinsic.com rewards students for achieving goals.

By Sarah Peters
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State students who need extra motivation to study now have it — cold, hard cash.

At Ultrinsic.com, students can set target grades and win money if they achieve those goals.

The site came out of a challenge from one of its creators to another. When Ultrinsic president Jeremy Gelbart was a student at the University of Pennsylvania, co-creator Steven Wolf

issued him a challenge: Get an 'A' on his exam and earn \$100, or earn a lower grade and fork over \$20, Gelbart said.

This fall, the site expanded to more than 30 colleges, including Penn State, Gelbart said. Ultrinsic's creators are also hiring several student ambassadors to spread the word about the website.

Gelbart said Penn State was chosen because it's "very campus-oriented," has strong academic programs, solid athletic programs and has a diverse student population.

"We thought we could learn a lot from

Penn State when we expand Ultrinsic to other colleges," Gelbart said.

Within the first month of classes, students can create an account, submit their class schedules, GPAs, target grades and deposits proportional to how much they'd like to earn. At the end of a semester, students submit an official transcript to Ultrinsic and receive cash rewards if they've achieved their goal.

Cristina McClintock (freshman-management information systems) said she'd be interested in Ultrinsic, because

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