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30 cents off campus

Jews honor New Year

By Jessica Wabara
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

"Lshannah Tovah," the Jewish greeting for Happy New Year, echoed throughout the Frizzell Room in the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center as more than 300 students gathered together to celebrate Rosh Hashanah.

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish celebration of New Year, has been hosted by Hillel, Penn State's Jewish student organization, for the past five years.

"We are the foundation of the Jewish life on campus and we have to celebrate this holiday," said Michal Berns (senior-media law and policy). Berns is also the president of the organization.

Prior to enjoying a buffet dinner, Berns spoke about growing up in Jerusalem and celebrating the holiday of Rosh Hashanah in Israel. Jeremy Weisblatt, Class of 2008, and Hillel Executive Director Aaron Kaufman also spoke during the service.

Ilana Bucholtz (junior-broad-

cast journalism and secondary education), who serves as vice president of the student board, said she was glad to see an increased amount of student interest.

"This event continues to grow every year," Bucholtz said. "We are seeing record numbers."

Attendees were welcomed to the evening dinner by student-made Kosher dinner.

Apples, honey, round breads and grape juice, each representing

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Katie Siwis/Collegian

Students await the beginning of Rosh Hashanah services.

Totals to be public

Top 10 will be divulged.

By Megan Rogers
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

THON will return to revealing the fundraising totals of the top 10 organizations in its categories, officials confirmed Wednesday night — and some student leaders say they are happy with the switch.



Kelly

Among other changes, the Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon rulebook was recently revised to dictate that only the top five fundraising groups in each category would be announced at THON, as opposed to the top 10 revealed for some categories in previous years.



Wendkos

But after considering feedback regarding its decision to only announce and post online the top five fundraising totals for each category, Jony Rommel, THON Public Relations overall chairwoman, said they decided to change the number of organizations revealed back to 10.

Organizations coming in at positions six through 10 will also see their names on a screen on the sides of the stage and posted online. There will be time for people to read the organization names and show their support before moving on to the next category, Rommel (senior-philosophy) said.

This will be the same for all four categories announced — Commonwealth Campuses, special interest organizations, general organizations and greek organizations, Rommel said.

"It's definitely encouraging to see that the THON Overall Committee is seriously considering the feedback of its participating organizations," Interfraternity Council President Max Wendkos said. "I look forward to a continued productive relationship with [THON Overall Chairwoman] Kirsten Kelly and the rest of the Overall Committee."

Wendkos (senior-marketing and psychology) invited student organization presidents to a meeting with representatives from the Overall Committee on Aug. 29 to discuss changes to THON he had publicly voiced his frustration with.

"By making this decision, we want students to know that we took their opinions seriously and that we are committed to being fair and serving the interests of all students who participate in THON," Rommel said. Kelly (senior-marketing) could not be reached for comment by press time Wednesday.

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Kelley King/Collegian

A Rhythm Devils guitarist plays at the State Theatre on Wednesday night as audience members dance. Two Grateful Dead members are part of the lineup, which played songs including "Scarlet Begonias," "Fire on the Mountain" and "Friend of the Devil."

Devils bring back the 'Dead'

By Josh Bollinger
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

With three percussionists in the band, the Rhythm Devils lived up to their name.

The Rhythm Devils, which counts two Grateful Dead members in its lineup, played Wednesday night at the State Theatre, 130 W. College Ave., to a sea of Deadheads and tie-dye shirts.

Even though many of those at the concert had never seen the Rhythm Devils before Wednesday, they still had a good reason to go.

Maitland Minderjahn (freshman-division of undergraduate studies) said he came to the show to hear live Grateful Dead music.

Minderjahn got his wish as soon as the show started.

The Rhythm Devils began their show with a medley of the

Grateful Dead songs "Scarlet Begonias," "Fire on the Mountain" and "Friend of the Devil," and the original song "Strange World."

Each of the songs in the opening medley transitioned into one another through more than 20 minutes of improvisational jamming.

Minderjahn said seeing the Rhythm Devils jam is exactly what he wanted to see.

"They take the energy of the crowd and bring it right back to us," Minderjahn said.

He added he has seen other Grateful Dead-related projects before, but he was particularly excited about the location of last night's concert.

"I've been going to shows for so long now I'm ready to see it where I go to college," Minderjahn said.

20-year-old Mike Cooper from

See **DEVILS**, Page 2.

Drinking fines may increase

By Katrina Wehr
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

State Sen. Jake Corman will introduce new legislation at the Senate Majority Policy Committee hearing Monday that could raise the maximum fine for underage drinking and other alcohol-related offenses to \$1,000.

Interfraternity Council President Max Wendkos and University Park Undergraduate Association President Christian Ragland will offer testimony at the meeting, scheduled for 1 p.m. at the State College Municipal Building, 243 S. Allen St.

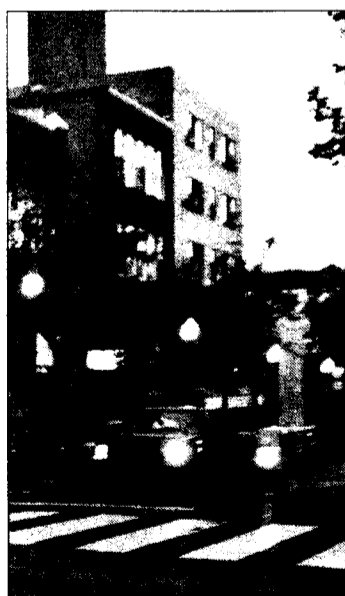


Corman

The current maximum fine for underage drinking is \$300, a number that hasn't changed since the 1970s and is no longer effective in preventing such crimes, Sen. Corman, R-Centre, said. He said he's not merely targeting underage drinking, but all alcohol-related crime.

Wendkos (senior-marketing and psychology) said he supports the increased fine, and

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Steph Witt/Collegian

State College was recently ranked the No. 2 college town.

State College ranked second

By Paul McMullen
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

For the second consecutive year, State College has been ranked the second-best college town in the United States, according to the American Institute for Economic Research's (AIER) annual College Destination Index (CDI).

The index, which is completed annually, ranks the 75 best towns and cities for college students to live in. Locations were chosen from an analysis of the 222 metropolitan statistical areas with stu-

Top 3 College Towns

1. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University
2. State College, Pa.: Penn State University
3. Iowa City, Iowa: University of Iowa

dent populations of 15,000 or more.

"State College is a safe, livable

See **STATE COLLEGE**, Page 2.

Homecoming Court surprised with nominations

By Megan Rogers
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Blue Band President Justin Ross was studying mechanical engineering when he answered a knock at the door and got a face full of confetti.

For some Penn State students, a usual late-night Tuesday homework session turned into a celebration when they learned they had been named to the 2010 Homecoming Court.

"I was just kind of flabbergasted," Ross (senior-mechanical engineering) said of the experi-

ence — which included pictures, carnations and a Burger King crown.

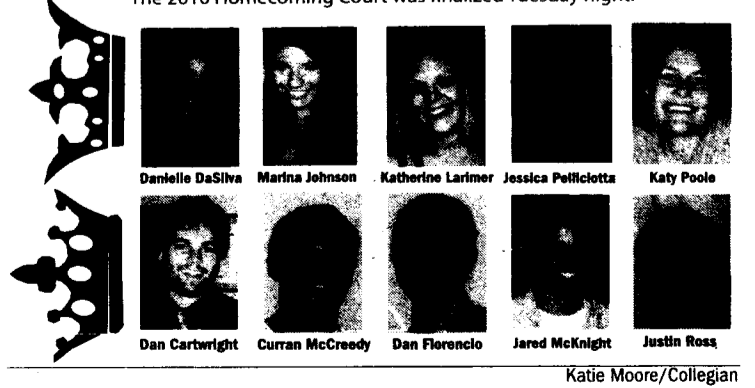
Homecoming Court member and founder of the campus theater group One Stage Revolution Marina Johnson said she was doing homework in her "oversized pajamas" when she heard a knock on the door.

"It was the best surprise I ever received," Johnson (senior-English and secondary education) said. "It was a big honor and I just felt underdressed for the occasion."

See **HOMECOMING**, Page 2.

Penn State royalty

The 2010 Homecoming Court was finalized Tuesday night.



Danielle DaSilva Marina Johnson Katherine Larimer Jessica Pellifiora Katy Poole

Dan Cartwright Curran McCreedy Dan Florenco Jared McKnight Justin Ross

Katie Moore/Collegian