

NEWS IN BRIEF

Obama to give speech from Philadelphia

WASHINGTON (AP) — When President Barack Obama delivers his second back-to-school speech to the nation's students, he'll do so from a magnet school in Philadelphia.

The White House said Thursday that Obama will travel to the Julia R. Masterman Laboratory and Demonstration School in Center City on Sept. 14 to give the speech at midday.

Last year, the president spoke from a school in Arlington, Va., just outside Washington. He encouraged students to study hard, stay in school and take responsibility for their education.

Some parents and conservative critics objected to his remarks then, saying Obama was making a political speech.

CAMPUS NOTES

Pete Billingsley of Sanaria Inc. will present "Development of a Mosquito-Derived, Attenuated Whole Parasite Vaccine Against Malaria" today at 11:15 a.m. in 107 the Forest Resources Buildings. Call 814-865-1895 for information.

Penn State professor David Proctor will present "Research on Exercise and Aging: Perspectives of a Mid-Career Exercise Physiologist" today at 11:15 a.m. in 127 Noll Laboratory. Call 814-865-3453.

Jeff Alwang, of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University will present "Trust and Technology Diffusion in Remote Ecuador: How Can Agricultural Research Benefit Remote Naranja Farmers?" today at 12:20 p.m. in 112 Buckhout Laboratory. Call 814-867-0198 for details.

Penn State professor Andrew Read will speak on "Issues with Vaccines and Infection Control" today at 1:15 p.m. in the HUB Auditorium. Call 814-863-8454 for details.

Penn State professor Mary Ross will speak on "Emerging Viruses and Issues for Practitioners" today at 2:30 p.m. in the HUB Auditorium. Call 814-863-8454.

Penn State professor Alexei Novikov will speak on "Homogenization of the G-Equation in Random Media" 2:30 p.m. today in 106 McAllister Building. Call 814-865-7527 for details.

Barry Marshall, of the University of Western Australia and Penn State, will speak on "Humans Versus Helicobacter," today at 3:45 p.m. in the HUB Auditorium. Call 814-863-8454 for details.

The Young Americans for Freedom will protest the proposed construction of a mosque in close proximity to Ground Zero today at 12:30 p.m. outside of the HUB-Robeson Center.

ON THE MENU

Lunch:

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: Black bean chili, new England clam chowder, battered fish, Middle Eastern grain salad, Philly cheesesteak sandwich, plain wrap, coleslaw, corn and edamame, succotash, peas, seasoned curly fries

Simmons: Chicken and corn chowder, cream of tomato soup, baked tomato basil tofu, turkey BLT wheat wrap, cilantro orzo and beef, garden stir fry, grilled cheese sandwich, grilled turkey cheese sandwich, barley peacan pilaf, broccoli florettes, brown rice, cauliflower and roasted red peppers, grilled vegetables, honey ginger carrots, roasted rosemary potatoes

Warning: Lunch roll basket, New England clam chowder, Middle Eastern grain salad, chicken cosmo not, corn and edamame, succotash, feature burger, feature grilled chicken sandwich, grilled chicken breast, peas, Philly cheesesteak, quarter pound hamburger, shoestring fries, chicken with mixed vegetables

Dinner:

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: Black bean chili, New England clam chowder, BBQ sauce, cheese ravioli, chicken tenders, grilled chicken breast, honey mustard, honey sauce, milano sauce, pulled pork BBQ, sweet and sour sauce, corn and edamame, succotash, roasted vegetables, sweet potato wedges

Simmons: Chicken and vegetable quesadilla, beef in garlic sauce, grilled chicken breast, milano sauce, naked chicken parmesan, wheat penne pasta, barley peacan pilaf, broccoli florettes, brown rice, cauliflower and roasted red peppers, grilled vegetables, honey ginger carrots, roasted rosemary potatoes

Warning: New England clam chowder, chicken tenders



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Weather: Today: High 70



Tonight: Low 46



Tomorrow: High 74



Extended forecast campusweatherservice.com Courtesy of Campus Weather Service

Olympics official speaks at SHC

By Kathleen Loughran COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Lisa Baird said her life is all about possibilities.

Baird, Class of 1982, spoke in the Grandfather Clock Lounge in Atherton Hall on Thursday evening about her life experiences, including those as the chief marketing officer for the United States Olympic Committee.

Baird is also the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Scholar Alumna Award.

"My only message to you today is you guys have this world in front of you that's so open — I'm going to argue for you to do things that you're not good at to prove that you can grow," Baird said.

"I thought it was really engaging," Dutil (sophomore-public relations) said. "I thought she had a lot of wisdom to offer us as we enter this changing world."

Throughout her careers at various companies and organizations

like Procter & Gamble, the National Football League (NFL) and the Olympic Committee, Baird said she has learned that math, "navigating hierarchies in business" and "managing ambiguity" are important.

"Life is ambiguous," she said. "There's no right or wrong answer ... There are many shades of gray. You have to be able to manage around what is utterly going to be an ambiguous choice."

Baird's speech was more of a conversation than a formal presentation, probing people to find out what they are worried and excited about.

Megan Dutil said she enjoyed Baird's speech.

"I thought it was really engaging," Dutil (sophomore-public relations) said. "I thought she had a lot of wisdom to offer us as we enter this changing world."

After discussing attendees' anx-

ieties and excitements, Baird spoke about her job on the Olympic Committee and how she enjoys being able to give back to the community. "It's a fantastic, beautiful thing to be associated with, but it's not necessarily a job that gives me a tremendous amount of happiness," she said.

Baird finished her speech with one parting piece of advice: to protect one's reputation.

"There's one thing you have that I tell people to safeguard with their life, and it's your reputation," she said. "Are you just fundamentally proud of the choices you've made? At the end of the day, that's the best piece of advice I can give. That and to not worry."

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Volleyball

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going to face a serious challenge," Kiraly said. "Probably more serious than any of the other challenges they have faced to date."

The Gators are 5-0 in the young season, with three of those wins coming against top-15 teams. On Aug. 29, Florida knocked off then-No. 2 Nebraska in five sets in Omaha, and Penn State coach Russ Rose said the Gators, not his Lions, have more right to claim they are currently the nation's top team.

"We're not going into that tournament thinking we're the No. 1 team in the country," said Rose, who owns a 1,007-159 record in his 32 years at Penn State. "We're going into that tournament thinking this is the 2010 Penn State team and we're a work in progress."

Instead of thinking about the last 108 matches, Rose encourages his teams to look at each year as its own streak. In that case, the 2007 Lions owned a 26-match streak, the 2008 and 2009 squads each strung together 38-straight win seasons, while this

year's squad is simply 6-0.

"We'll go play and if we win, we win and if we lose we lose," Rose said. "And we won't be all concerned about the streak, and all the things that other people talk about because these guys have played six matches together. That's the streak they've got. Some of the players wouldn't even know the girls on that team that started the streak if they were sitting in the crowd."

Penn State senior defensive specialist Cathy Quilico agreed with her coach, saying Florida is "just another match" for the Lions.

"It's not last year. It's not the year before," Quilico said. "It's a new year."

All three of this weekend's possible opponents had a part in the streak. Penn State dispatched Florida, 3-0, in the regional semifinals last season in Gainesville, and just eight days later came back from a two-set deficit against Texas to win its third-straight national championship in a five-set thriller.

The Longhorns are 5-1 this year, after they were swept at home by now-No. 3 Illinois last Friday night. Stanford, meanwhile, fell to the

Lions 3-2 in the 2007 national championship and was swept by them in the 2008 title rematch. The Cardinal, who were also the last team to beat Penn State, are 5-0 in 2010.

"They've brought a lot of attention to our sport by being great," Stanford coach John Dunning said of Penn State. "Their team is still great. They're undefeated for the year. So if we get the chance to play them again, that would be exciting."

Wise said the target on Penn State's back is no larger than usual.

"Penn State has worn a pretty big target for the past three years — hasn't seemed to faze them," Wise said.

"They've gotten everybody's best shot for years now and to have the run they've had, getting everybody's best shot, at a day and age where we're playing 25 point-rally-score sets, speaks volumes to just how talented this program is."

This particular tournament, which Rose originally proposed to the other three coaches, will continue for the next three years with each school getting its turn to host.

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Anniversary

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For the past eight years, Contreras said she has visited Ground Zero on Sept. 11 to pay her respect.

"Every time you see it, you will remember where you were, what you were doing and how you felt. It is very difficult to forget — it is very difficult to forget," Contreras said.

This year, Contreras said she decided to volunteer for a memorial organized by the Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) to commemorate the tragedy with other Penn State students.

"We try to build a memorial every year, making sure that people remember how important this was," YAF Chairman Samuel Settle said.

Settle (junior-political science and history) said the memorial will be held at 7:30 a.m. Saturday on the HUB lawn — 3,000 American flags will be planted, each one representing a person who died on 9/11.

A candlelight vigil will also take place at 5 p.m., Settle said, with some remarks from community speakers, like Joyce Haas, a candidate for state representative.

"It is important to recognize that 9/11 was not an isolated event," Settle said. "There are still many Islam groups out there that would

like something like that again."

Settle said he believes 9/11 is a symbol that represents a much larger conflict between the Islamic world and American society.

But Rob Ghormoz, president of the College Democrats at Penn State, said that after 9/11, many people started to generalize Muslims as terrorists.

"There was an increase in Islamophobia — against any matters of Islam or any Muslims," Ghormoz (senior-political science) said. "I think that's something really, really dangerous."

Ghormoz said it is time for people to realize there is a difference between the Muslim faith and the Islamic extremists who plotted the attacks.

Zaid Al-Balushi, president of the Muslim Student Association (MSA), said he was shocked when he saw the attacks nine years ago.

He recalled watching TV in his home country of Oman.

"My first impression was that it was something out of a movie — it wasn't real," Al-Balushi (senior-physics) said. "I found that it was sort of hard to believe it's actually happening."

Al-Balushi said he came to the United States in 2007. Over the past few years, he said he feels Muslims in America have consistently been portrayed negatively.

"We've been put into a position where we are constantly under pressure and constantly in need of clearing our names," he said.

Al-Balushi said that even after nine years, it is unfortunate that some people do not understand that terrorism is not something his faith represents.

"Our job as Muslims, as well as students in the Penn State community, is to open a dialogue to reach a common ground," he said.

Al-Balushi said he welcomes any students to attend a MSA meeting to learn more about the religion.

College Democrats and MSA are both co-sponsors of the memorial organized by the University Park Undergraduate Association at 8:30 a.m. Friday on the Old Main patio.

Muslim students feel just as strongly about the attacks as other Penn State students do, Al-Balushi said.

Contreras said more discussion is needed because many people still have their misconceptions about Islam.

"I hope that people aren't too ignorant to just blame a certain group of people — because it's always more than that," she said. "Get the facts and understand what's going on before you judge."

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THON

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constituents." Interfraternity Council President Max Wendkos said.

Representatives from the Panhellenic Council (PHC) agreed.

"It's a step in the right direction and step to appease a large portion of the greek community that feels unhappy with the recent changes," PHC Vice President for Communications Marina Matteo (senior-public relations) said.

University Park Undergraduate Association President Christian Ragland said he is glad THON is keeping communication open and several other student leaders said they agreed with him.

"It's a step in the right direction — fixing any concerns — so everyone can get back to business and ful-

filling the overall goal of THON," Ragland (senior-political science) said.

It was a big gesture for the THON Overall Committee to make the changes after the Aug. 29 meeting, Council of Commonwealth Student Governments President Mohamed Raouda said.

The primary issues addressed at the meeting — which was called by Wendkos (senior-marketing and psychology) — centered on the role of competition in THON, Raouda (senior-history and international relations) said.

Wendkos said there are no plans to hold another meeting regarding the issue in the foreseeable future. But, he said, there is always ongoing dialogue between the IFC and THON.

Kelly said the THON Overall Committee has met with some of the THON chairpeople from organiza-

tions present at the Aug. 29 meeting. While it hasn't met with every organization, the chairpeople of the committee did speak with had positive reactions to the changes, she said.

Now the issue of competition seems to be of less importance, Raouda said.

"That's now taken a backseat to the fact that THON is showing it is responding to concerns that students have," he said.

The last five places will be posted on the screens, while the top five organizations are being verbally announced, THON Public Relations Overall Chairwoman Jony Rommel said. All 10 organizations in the greek, special interest, general organization and Commonwealth Campuses categories will be posted online as well, Rommel (senior-philosophy) said.

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Candidate

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Toomey said Washington is "running off the tracks" because economic recovery is taking longer now more than any other post-war recession in the nation's history.

"They think the solution to everything is more spending, and that's no way to achieve the prosperity we need," Toomey said.

Ridge said he agreed that growing

the business of government is not the way out of the recession, and emphasized Toomey's background working in the small business sector — a characteristic he called "refreshing."

That small business owner perspective is what Toomey plans to bring to the Senate if he is elected, he said, citing a focus on job creation that will allow the private sector to flourish.

Samuel Settle, chairman of Penn State Young Americans for

Freedom, said he appreciates Toomey's emphasis on the state's economic growth.

He said Toomey's focus on creating jobs is something students in Pennsylvania should be pleased to hear.

"That's great news for people like us who are graduating soon and I want to stay in the state," Settle (junior-political science and history) said.

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