

NEWS IN BRIEF

Customer pays bill with forged checks

A customer paid a bill of \$983 with forged checks at the Hotel State College, 100 W. College Ave., the State College Police Department said.

Police said the incident was reported at 2:50 p.m. Tuesday, and an investigation is ongoing.

Student waives right to hearing

Penn State student Benjamin Soowal waived his right to a preliminary hearing in court Wednesday in connection with an incident of stealing and damaging a Borough of State College barricade, the State College Police Department said.

Soowal, 20, was charged with one count each of misdemeanor theft by unlawful taking or disposition and receiving stolen property. He was also charged with one summary count of criminal mischief, police said.

Police said Soowal was seen at about 11 p.m. on April 24 near Prospect Avenue carrying a Borough of State College barricade with an estimated value of \$50. The object was eventually taken inside Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, 508 Locust Lane. Soowal is the acting president of the fraternity.

CAMPUS NOTES

Penn State professor Sulin Zhang will speak at 10:00 a.m. in 102 Chemistry Building. The event is hosted by Michael Janik, Department of Chemical Engineering. Call 814-863-9366 for more information.

Adrian Vasu of Binghamton University will speak at 11:15 a.m. in 106 McAllister Building. The event is hosted by the Department of Mathematics. Call 814-865-7527 for more information.

Les Dutton of the University of Pennsylvania will speak during "Engineering Oxidoreductases," at 12:30 p.m. in 102 Chemistry Building. The event is hosted by the Department of Chemistry. Call 814-865-9456 for more details.

Yu Baryshnikov of Bell Labs will speak during "Hard Disks in a Box: Topology and Complexity," at 2:30 p.m. in 113 McAllister Building. The event is hosted by the Department of Mathematics. Call 814-865-7527 for more information.

ON THE MENU

LUNCH

Findlay, Pollock, Redfer and Warnock: Beef rice soup, black bean chili, autumn chicken salad, broccoli cheddar baked potato, burger topping bar, quarter pound cheeseburger/hamburger, vegetarian burger

Simmons: Chicken noodle soup, low fat New England clam chowder, turkey cobb sandwich, chicken and broccoli flatbread pizza, whole wheat rustic flatbread, whole wheat pizza, shrimp taco, vegan pot pie, baby carrots with dill, broccoli and cauliflower, buttered parsnip potatoes, curried quinoa, green beans almondine, sauteed zucchini, vegetable creole rice

Warning: Autumn chicken salad, broccoli florettes, cuban sandwich, popcorn chicken, primavera vegetables, grilled chicken breast, quarter pound cheeseburger/hamburger, seasoned curly fries, chicken and snow peas

DINNER

Findlay, Pollock, Redfer and Warnock: Beef rice soup, black bean chili, General Tso's chicken, grilled chicken breast, rice, shrimp and pasta, spinach and mushroom strudel, long green beans, primavera vegetables

Simmons: Asian beef salad, cajun baked tilapia, grilled chicken breast, grilled chicken curry, pasta florentine, baby carrots with dill, broccoli and cauliflower, buttered parsnip potatoes, curried quinoa, green beans almondine, sauteed zucchini, vegetable creole rice

Warning: Autumn chicken salad, apple glazed pork roast, chicken fritters, grilled chicken breast, long green beans, primavera vegetables, roasted garlic potatoes, General Tso's chicken

Corrections

An article "Dane Cook to perform at the BJC" on page 1 of Wednesday's Daily Collegian incorrectly stated the ticket prices.

The prices for general public admission are \$34.75 and \$69.75.

A photo caption on page 1 of Wednesday's Daily Collegian incorrectly identified a member of the band Reel Big Fish. The band member in the photo is trombonist Dan Regan.

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Weather: Today: High 71, Tonight: Low 50, Tomorrow: High 70. Extended forecast campusweatherservice.com Courtesy of Campus Weather Service

Reps discuss possible student seat

By Alyssa Sweeney COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

State College Borough Council President Ronald Filippelli spoke at the University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) meeting Wednesday in the HUB-Robeson Center to clear up a misunderstanding about a seat for a non-voting student member of the council.

Filippelli said that articles have been printed recently claiming that the borough council "rebuffed" the idea of a non-voting student member, which he said to be "simply not true."

"I like to think of myself as pro-student," Filippelli said.

Filippelli said that his and the other members of the council's careers have centered around working with students, and that they all have an enthusiasm for talking and interacting with them.

"We have personal interest in what you have to say, you are our constituents and the citizens of this community," he said. "I don't speak for borough council, I only have one vote, but I think it is fair to say there is a lot of support on the council for a formal relationship [with UPUA]."

"None of the students are any different from any residents; you're not separate from the community."

Ron Filippelli State College Borough Council President

Filippelli spoke about a three-part proposal from UPUA President Christian Ragland that is now underway. He said the choice for formal representation was not a decision that was the council's business, but that he thinks the council would be open to reasonable suggestions.

A proposal has been made in the council for a formal resolution to be drafted that would start the process of formalizing the relationship, he said.

"The fact is, we're not going to agree on everything," Filippelli said. "But the political process is a process of compromise, and I have good faith that this could be a positive change."

Mayor Elizabeth Goreham, who served on the borough council for 12 years, said she is in favor of the proposal, she said.

She thinks it's possible to have it

formalized by the beginning of next semester.

"I think it's a great idea. I think it has merit and I think that it will be very successful," Goreham said.

UPUA Vice President Colleen Smith said the attendance of borough council members at the meeting is a perfect example of how the council and the UPUA can have a strong relationship, and that is a positive and exciting step she said.

"None of the students are any different from any residents; you're not separate from the community" Filippelli said.

"You all have the same responsibilities as me or any other citizen, and you're entitled to the same rights. That, to me, is the highest compliment that can be paid in a democracy."

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Grant

From Page 1.

He said the facility's approach will be devoted to well-rounded research as well as undergraduate education.

The facility will be directed by associate science education professor Scott McDonald, Price said.

College of Education students

said they are excited for the Innovation Studio to be built at Penn State.

Nick Hannan (sophomore-secondary mathematics education) said he hopes he will be able to use the Krause Innovation Studio before he graduates.

"Chambers is already awesome as is. It makes me happy to hear even more new equipment's coming

in," Hannan said.

Gina Sypula said she is pleased to see the College of Education investing in grant in the facility.

"I think it's great and it will definitely be a great learning tool for education majors," Sypula (sophomore-secondary spanish education) said.

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T.I.

From Page 1.

According to the Associated Press, the hip-hop icon and his wife, Tameka Cottle, were arrested Sept. 1 in California in connection with possession of methamphetamines.

This isn't the first time an act canceled on the BJC with short notice, Punt said.

"My Chemical Romance had canceled the morning of their show," Punt said.

He said two of the band members

"We all know that things come up. It just makes his music and lyrics more believable for me."

Shannon Traurig freshman-elementary education

got a bad case of food poisoning the night before and had to be rushed to the hospital.

Despite his cancellation, students said they still support T.I.

Eric Stevens (freshman-finance) said he loves the artist's music even though he's had legal troubles.

And for Shannon Traurig, T.I.'s

cancellation makes her believe he is a real person.

"We all know that things come up," Traurig (freshman-elementary education) said. "It just makes his music and lyrics more believable for me."

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Finances

From Page 1.

financially. In fact, 19 Pennsylvania municipalities have recently declared bankruptcy, she said.

The combination of property and income taxes only covers about 60 percent of State College's operating budget, Goreham said. The borough is becoming increasingly dependent on state funding, and the task force strives to improve the relationship between municipalities and the state government, she said.

Goreham said the gap between available funding and expenses is due in part to limitations on the ways in which Pennsylvania municipalities can raise revenue. Many have run short on real estate space and are no longer able to grow — but expenses continue to increase.

She said working on the task force

"It's unique and thrilling to talk about our problems with other municipalities who may face the same problems."

Elizabeth Goreham State College Mayor

presents a rare opportunity for collaboration and brainstorming with other officials from Pennsylvania cities and towns.

"We rarely have this kind of discussion with each other," Goreham said. "It's unique and thrilling to talk about our problems with other municipalities who may face the same problems."

A plan Goreham said she hopes will be enacted is one that was previously turned down. It involved allowing municipalities to keep one percent of sales tax within the county to contribute to its available funds,

she said. Currently, there is no business tax in State College, she said.

Fountaine said the task force will make the debate and discussion of the commonwealth's problems much more meaningful, as the specific challenges have already been targeted.

"There's a lot of expert opinion assembled in the task force," Fountaine said. "That will be helpful to the new legislation and governor as they start to address these issues next year."

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Stadium

From Page 1.

about [smoking], there's less of a bad example for the kids," Cressman said.

But it's not just a matter of health. But Penn State spokeswoman Lisa Powers said the ban is mandatory under the Pennsylvania Department of Health Clean Indoor Air Act.

"The fact of the matter is that if people violate that law, the university is subject to fines," Powers said.

"The fact of the matter is that if people violate that law, the university is subject to fines."

Lisa Powers Penn State spokeswoman

The severity of the fines varies on a case-to-case basis, Powers said, but all violations fall under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Penn State is not the only school in the Big Ten conference that prohibits anyone in attendance from smoking in the stadium.

According to their websites, other smoke-free venues include Michigan Stadium at the University of Michigan, Ohio Stadium at Ohio State University and Ross-Ade Stadium at Purdue University, among others.

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Food Cart

From Page 1.

of a handcrafted recipe and observations of similar food carts in New York City, Sawhney said.

The business venture is the result of a summer's worth of hard work, after the pair of entrepreneurs decided to forgo filling out a pile of job applications.

"I stopped applying for jobs last October," Shakhawala said. "It wasn't like 'Let's do this if nothing else works out.'"

While many graduates look forward to leaving the confines of State College for the opportunity of the big city, Shakhawala and Sawhney couldn't wait to return to Happy Valley.

"The last four years here were the best four years of my life," Sawhney said.

Plus, State College was the perfect town in which to set up shop. Shakhawala said they knew what students wanted, and believed in State College's reputation of being "recession-proof."

"We wanted to attack the niche,"

"All of our customers appreciate the fact that we're unique. As far as we know, there's no one else like us in State College."

Hartej Singh Sawhney Class of 2010

he said. "All of our customers appreciate the fact that we're unique. As far as we know, there's no one else like us in State College."

State Platters is only two weeks old, but the two owners have already learned a few lessons — like how business picks up significantly during late-night hours.

"Never underestimate the quantity of food you can sell," Shakhawala said. "We ran out the first Friday night we were open — and we had a lot of food."

The two set up the business over the summer. Though they only saw each other a few times, both were working full-time talking to possible partners, researching New York City food carts and getting familiar with their new line of business.

But for now, just one cart is enough, and Shakhawala stressed

the importance of starting out small. "Some people shoot for the stars and don't even hit the clouds," he said.

Despite their newfound success, the business partners and friends said they don't know if it will be short-lived.

"We don't know if people will want to be outside in the winter, or if we will either," Shakhawala said.

The grill is on from noon until 3 p.m. for lunch and again at 7 p.m. for dinner, after which it won't close until after midnight. Prices range from \$5.49 for a sandwich to \$5.99 for salads and platters. State College resident Horace Haughton said he has returned often since hearing about State Platters from a friend. "Man, I'm addicted," he said.

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