

UPUA backs Michigan leader

By Kathleen Loughran
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) passed a resolution Wednesday night in support of University of Michigan student body president Chris Armstrong after a Michigan assistant attorney general called for Armstrong to step down.

Resolution 10-0-5 passed with a vote of 36-0-1.

The Michigan Daily — the

University of Michigan's student newspaper — reported that Assistant Attorney General and University of Michigan alumnus Andrew Shirvell asked Armstrong to turn in his resignation during the community concerns portion of a Michigan Student Assembly (MSA) meeting.



Ragland

Shirvell has also created a blog entitled "Chris Armstrong Watch," where he details his concerns regarding Armstrong.

In his posts, Shirvell has called Armstrong a "viciously militant homosexual activist," among other claims.

"It's time for Chris Armstrong and his crew of privileged, disrespectful, law-breaking, racist, anti-Christian, radical homosexual fanatics and 'allies' to disassociate themselves from U of M's See UPUA, Page 2.

Controversial comments

Michigan Assistant Attorney General Andrew Shirvell wrote about University of Michigan student body president Chris Armstrong on his blog. UPUA passed a resolution in support of Armstrong Wednesday night.

Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010

It's time for Chris Armstrong and his crew of privileged, disrespectful, law-breaking, racist, anti-Christian, radical homosexual fanatics and "allies" to disassociate themselves from U of M's student government. Period.

Source: chris-armstrong-watch.blogspot.com

Heather Schmelzlen/Collegian

Celtic band rocks crowd

By Josh Bollinger
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Alan Doyle, the lead singer for Great Big Sea, was a long way from home when he took the stage at the State Theatre on Wednesday night.

Doyle, originally from a small town in Newfoundland called Petty Harbour, said he and the band were thankful for the crowd's attendance.

"There's more people in this room than there are in Petty Harbour," Doyle said.

The Canadian-Celtic pub band played last night at the State Theatre to a packed house of young and old clapping along to their Newfoundland folk-inspired music.

Doyle said that it was the band's first time in Happy Valley and they wanted to play as much as possible, so they decided to treat the audience to two full sets.

When the crowd greeted Doyle and Great Big Sea with whistles and Canadian flags, he said he could feel the love in the room.

After the band's performance of an Irish a cappella song, a few songs later he got an earful of love when an audience member yelled, "We love you!"

"In my mind, the person that just shouted that looks like Farrah Fawcett," Doyle said. He went on to say that the band loves its fans.

See CONCERT, Page 2.



Bryan Wade Heritage/Collegian

Lead singer Alan Doyle of Great Big Sea performs to a packed house at the State Theatre on Wednesday evening. It was the Canadian-Celtic pub band's first time in State College.

PSU backs credit claims

By Micah Wintner
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A \$2,500 refundable tax credit could be of great use to Penn State tuition-paying families.

But United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) statistics show that 67 percent of eligible Pennsylvania families did not claim the American Opportunity Tax Credit, said Robin Kuleck, director of Penn State Cooperative Extension's Elk County office.

"It's in the family's best interest for parents to claim the kid, and by virtue of that they would receive the American Opportunity Tax Credit," she said.

By IRS standards, a dependent is anyone under the age 24, a full-time student by the university's definition, and younger than the taxpayer, Kuleck said. A dependent's family can claim up to \$2,500 in tax credit, she said.

An independent student taxpayer must be older than 24 years old in order to qualify for the same amount of tax credit, she said.

The American Opportunity Tax Credit is an extension of the Hope Credit, a credit available for the first two years of post-secondary education. The extension makes the credit available for the first four years, Kuleck said.

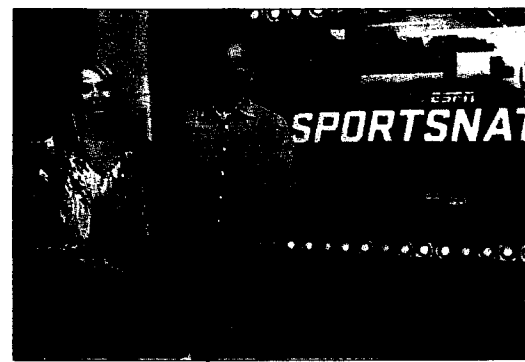
Forty percent of the credit is refundable, so taxpayers can See TAXES, Page 2.

Tax credit eligibility

How to claim the tax credit:

- Independents over age 24 and families with dependents are eligible for the \$2,500 American Opportunity Tax Credit.
- Eligible families or independents file an amended return by filling out a Form 1040X and 8863. Both forms are available on the IRS website.
- These forms should be mailed to the IRS.

Source: Penn State Live
Junlin Chen/Collegian



Courtesy of espn.go.com

Beadle, left, and Cowherd, right, will visit the BJC.

BJC to host ESPN show

By Mike Hricik
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

ESPN2's "SportsNation" will broadcast live from Gate B at the Bryce Jordan Center today as a part of the program's tour of Big Ten universities across the country.

Steve Balawajder said he couldn't be happier about the taping.

"I think the tour's a great idea," Balawajder (senior-civil engineering) said. "SportsNation" is pretty good for fans to voice their opinions."

See ESPN, Page 2.

If you go

What: ESPN2's "The Herd" and "SportsNation"

When: "The Herd" will broadcast from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., "SportsNation" from 4 to 5 p.m.

Where: Bryce Jordan Center, Gate B

Details: Open to all Penn State fans

Health care takes effect

By Nick Manella
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Starting today, students will feel the effects of the health care legislation passed by Congress six months ago.

Students will be allowed to stay on their parents' insurance plan until the age of 26. Previously, insurance companies forced students off their parents' coverage at 22. For many students, this means coverage through their undergraduate and graduate academic careers.

For students like Jeremy Knout, who is insured under his parents' plan, the extended coverage is a welcomed change. "We've got enough things to worry about right after graduating college," Knout

(sophomore-political science) said. "It's nice that health care won't be one of them."

According to a survey conducted by the United States Government Accountability Office, two-thirds of current college students get their health insurance through their parents' plans, and 20 percent of college students are uninsured. But Penn State, among other universities, requires health insurance to enroll.

Currently, University Health Services (UHS) offers three different plans for students who are not covered under their parents' plan. Doris Guanowsky, senior associate director of UHS, estimates that roughly 9,000 students are currently See HEALTH CARE, Page 2.

One year later, Beta house thrives

By Megan Rogers
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

There's a new set of founding fathers at Penn State — and they're hoping to change the face of the greek community.

This time last fall, the Beta Theta Pi house, 220 N. Burrowes Rd., had no occupants or brothers — despite the largest fraternity renovation in U.S. history. One year later, Beta Theta Pi affiliates say the house is brimming with student leaders, philanthropy and potential.

Starting over as a colony — though a long process — has gone smoothly, Beta Theta Pi President Kealan Hobelmann said.

Disbanded in 2008 for violating alcohol policies, Beta Theta Pi resurfaced last year.

Fifty-nine men were initiated into the fraternity in April 2010, Beta Theta Pi restructure director and adviser Jeff Rundle said — and with that, the See FRATERNITY, Page 2.



Abby Drey/Collegian

The Beta Theta Pi house, 220 N. Burrowes Rd., began renovations in 2005. After laying empty for a year, it is now home to 42 brothers.