BEWS IN ETHE

### Fla. court overturns gay adoption ban

MIAMI (AP) — Florida will immediately stop enforcing its ban on adoptions by gay people following a decision by a state appeals court that the three-decade-old law is unconstitutional, Gov. Charlie Crist said Wednesday.

Crist announced the decision after the 3rd District Court of Appeal upheld a 2008 ruling by a Miami-Dade judge, who found "no rational basis" for the ban when she approved the adoption of two young brothers by Martin Gill and his male

"I'm very pleased with the ruling on behalf of the Gills," Crist told reporters in Tallahassee. "It's a great day for children. Children deserve a loving home."

Scott Husson of Clemson University will speak on "The Design of Advanced Functional Membranes for Bioseparations" 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.

Steven McKnight of the University of Texas will speak on "Unique Dependence of Mouse Embryonic Stem Cells on Threonine Catabolism" (Marker Lecture #2 of 2), at 11:30 a.m. in 100 Life Sciences Building. The event is hosted by Carsten Krebs, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Call 814-(865-6089) for more information.

Penn State professor Nigel Higson will speak on "Weyl Character Formula in K-Theory II" at 2:30 p.m. in 106 McAllister Building. The event is hosted by the Department of Mathematics. Call 814-(865-7527) for more information.

Anatoly Nieshtadt of Loughborough University in the United Kingdom will speak on "Averaging, Passages through Resonances, and Captures into Resonance in Dynamics of Charged Particles" at 4:00 p.m., 114 McAllister Building, Department of Mathematics. Call 814 (865-7527) for more information.

Longhai Li of the University of Saskatchewan will speak during "High-Dimensional Classification Using Hierarchical Bayesian Polychotomous Logistic Regression Models" at 4:00 p.m. in 201 Thomas Building. The event is hosted by the Department of Statistics. Call 814 (865-1348) for more infor-

Penn State professor Irina Mocioiu will speak during "Neutrino Discoveries: From Background to Signal" at 4:00 p.m. in 117 Osmond Laboratory. The event is hosted by the Department of Physics. Call 814 (865-3721) for more information.

#### LUNCH

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: open faced hot turkey sandwich, cream of mushroom soup, tortilla & corn soup, cheeseburger wrap, macaroni and cheese, broccoli with toasted almonds, green bean casserole, whipped potatoes

Simmons: chicken noodle soup, cream of tomato soup, miami chowder, chicken spinach strawberry salad, dal makhani, grilled cheese sandwich on whole wheat, grilled turkey cheese sandwich on whole wheat, vegetable fajita with whole wheat, baby carrots, broccoli florettes, brown rice, buttered parslied potatoes, chick pea bulghur, tomato pilaf, corn, grilled eggplant

Waring: cream of mushroom soup, middle eastern chopped salad, bread dressing, corn, feature grilled chicken sandwich, green bean casserole, grilled chicken breast, open faced hot turkey sandwich, popcorn chicken, quarter pound cheeseburger, quarter pound hamburger, seasoned curly fries, turkey gravy, whipped potatoes

### DINNER

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: cream of mushroom soup, tortilla and corn soup, beef gravy, broccoli & cheddar stuffed chicken breast, grilled chicken breast, meatloaf, vegetable turnovers, velvet gravy, green bean casserole, roasted garlic mashed potatoes, whole baby carrots

Simmons: beef brisket with bbq sauce, barley pecan stuffed peppers, citrus fish, grilled chicken breast, grilled chicken with teriyaki glaze, baby carrots, broccoli florettes, brown rice, buttered parslied potatoes, chick pea bulghur, tomato pilaf, corn, grilled eggplant

Waring: cream of mushroom soup, middle eastern chopped salad, broccoli and cheddar stuffed chicken breast, feature grilled chicken sandwich, green bean casserole, griled chicken breast, miso glazed white fish, roasted garlic mashed potatoes



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# Weather: Today: High 84





Tonight: Tomorrow: High 90



## UPUA

From Page 1.

student government. Period." Shirvell wrote in a Sept. 12 post.

Ragland said UPUA's resolution is meant to show support and encouragement for Armstrong.

"That can be a very traumatic thing from a public official," said Ragland (senior-political science). "A lot of people don't know how hard it is to be a student body president at a Big 10 university... to have someone outside of the university criticize you, not for the things that you do but for your lifestyle, is completely irresponsi-

Ragland said he heard about the incident through an e-mail sent out by University of Minnesota student body president Sarah Shook.

In an e-mail, Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox confirmed that Shirvell works as an assistant attorney general.

"All state employees have a right to free speech outside working hours," Cox wrote. "But Shirvell's immaturity and lack of judgment outside the office are clear.'

Attempts to contact Armstrong and Shirvell were unsuccessful. MSA members declined comment because of pending legal action.

Mark Salomon, a student at the University of Michigan, said he "I couldn't believe a public offi-supports Armstrong and knows cial could say something so stupid

"... To have someone outside of the university criticize you, not for the things that you do but for your lifestyle, is completely irresponsible."

> **Christian Ragiand UPUA** president

that he does not stand alone.

"Everyone has the right to free speech, but I think that [Shirvell] is basically using his job as a pulpit to say whatever he wants to and slander [Armstrong], who's done nothing wrong," he said. "I personally think that he should be fired because it reflects poorly on the attorney general office and the state of Michigan."

Shook said she initially heard about the issue from a former University of Minnesota student body president, who asked for the support of the university. But Shook thought Armstrong should have the support of all the Big 10 universities.

"I was disgusted by it — that a public official could bully a student like that," she said. "I think it's really important for students to our support," Smith (junior-histostand together nationally and say that it's unacceptable.

UPUA Governmental Affairs Travis Salters said Director Shirvell is the one who needs to resign, not Armstrong.

and idiotic," said Salters (juniorbroadcast journalism and African and African American Studies). "It's wrong for people to feel that way and to think that someone that's supposed to represent all people is saying something about a campus leader was pretty shocking to say the least."

Though Salters said he has never been scrutinized like Armstrong, as a minority, he said he understands how he feels and completely supports him.

UPUA Vice President Colleen Smith said her "heart goes out to [Armstrong].'

"I look forward to UPUA, as an organization, reaching out and supporting the Michigan student body president, and I'm sure we'll do that with immediate action to show ry) said.

Also at the meeting, members confirmed Liz Giordano (sophomore-Chinese and security risk analysis) for the Board of Arbitration.

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### Taxes

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receive up to \$1,000 even if they owe no taxes, she said.

Kuleck said she could not pinpoint why exactly families missed out on the tax credit, but said it's not too late to claim it.

Eligible families or independents

to the IRS, she said — both of which are available on the IRS website.

Consumer issues professor Cathy Bowen said it's easy for families to miss tax credits they may be eligible for. "The [American Opportunity] tax credit is one of many credits that people can use to lower their tax bills if they're aware of it and understand how to use it," said Bowen.

IRS Publication 17 provides inforcan file an amended return by send- mation about changes in tax laws ing a copy of Forms 1040X and 8863 made each year and is a good source

of information on tax credit issues, Bowen said.

Anna Griswold, executive director of Penn State's Office of Student Aid, said her office lets parents know of all available tax credits.

The Office of the Bursar gives families the necessary forms to fill out for a tax credit, and points to the IRS page that explains the program, Griswold said.

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## Concert

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and members are happy they get to travel to universities like Penn State to share their music.

And the fans are happy about it

Tumpale Mwaungulu (graduateinternational affairs) said she loves Great Big Sea because their music is entertaining, fun to sing and dance to and they make it accessible to the modern audience.

They put on great live shows and they always try to get everyone into it." Mwaungulu said.

that kind of energy was exactly what she was looking for in last night's

Mulfinger said her favorite part about Great Big Sea shows is when everybody stands up to clap and sing along with the songs.

She said she likes the band not

"Trust me, our first times don't always go this well."

**Alan Doyle** lead singer of Great Big Sea

Irish influence in its songs, but also because it's a fun bar band with

"There's just something about sea shanties and songs from an older time that you can relate to," Mulfinger said.

Before the concert, she said she hoped that the audience would be on Anna Mulfinger, Class of 2010, said their feet clapping and wiggling to the music in the aisles.

"I don't like to sit for concerts," Mulfinger said. "I like to sort of meander and have a good time."

There was no dancing in the aisles, but by the end of their third song, "The Night That Paddy Murphy Died," most of the crowd

just because of the huge folk and was on their feet to clap and groove

For Brian Davis (senior-energy songs that are conducive to dancing. business and finance), his favorite part of last night's show was the relationship between the band and the crowd.

"They're really involved with the crowd," Davis said. "They're doing their thing and they're doing it right." Davis was surprised with the amount of people at the show.

Doyle seemed pleasantly surprised with how the show went.

"Trust me, our first times don't always go this well," he said to laughter.

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# Health care

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covered through any one of the university-offered plans.

We're anxious to see how that number will change," she said. calling to compare the price of our

plan."

A comprehensive breakdown of the number of students who purchase university-provided insurance is expected to be available in October, Guanowsky said.

Ryan Beckler (sophomore-mar-"Lately a lot of parents have been keting), currently covered under his parents' plan, said he will appreciate

plan to their employer-provided the longer-term financial support, especially because work benefits are not always a given when starting in an entry-level position.

"It's nice to know I can be supported for a few years after I graduate, just in case my job doesn't offer benefits right away," he said.

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# **ESPN**

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Hosted by broadcasters Michelle Beadle and Colin Cowherd, "SportsNation" allows fans to discuss sports in an interactive format with user-generated material.

Today's program will feature games and polls highlighting the

Nittany Lions. "SportsNation" stopped at the University of Wisconsin, University of Iowa and University of Michigan earlier this week as part of the tour. The Penn State stop will be the show's last, Assistant Athletic Director Jeff Nelson said.

"We're hopeful that Penn State students and others here in the State College community will take time out of their schedules to come

out. We hope for a good turnout," Nelson said.

Fans can go to the "SportsNation" web page, Twitter feed or Facebook page for details. They can also email or call to participate in the programming.

'SportsNation" coordinating producer Jamie Horowitz wrote in an email that more than 1,000 University of Iowa fans set the bar high by waiting three hours in the rain to watch

the show at their college. Horowitz has no doubts about the dedication of Penn State fans, he wrote. "We are very excited to produce 'SportsNation' from Happy Valley. Penn State fans are renowned for their passion and I think their energy and enthusiasm will make the show into compelling

television," Horowitz wrote. Nelson said special guests will

appear at the television taping. Horowitz wrote that he did not know who would appear yet. But there will be proper Robert

Bolden and Joe Paterno love,' Horowitz wrote. Cowherd will also host his ESPN Radio program "The Herd" in the

afternoon at Gate B, Nelson said. ESPN 2 will air repeats of today's episode at 6 p.m. and midnight,

Nelson said. Seamus Ralph SportsNation" is different from

other ESPN shows. "I think it's a good change of pace for sports because it incorporates entertainment and how it all ties together," Ralph (junior-hotel, restaurant and institutional management) said.

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# **Fraternity**

From Page 1.

restructure period ended and regular Beta life began.

Now, the fraternity's members are trying to assimilate Beta Theta Pi into the Penn State greek community. The second pledge class which consists of 17 men — was accepted this fall, Rundle said.

The brothers and the advising team are building a foundation for Beta to be a premier fraternity on campus," Rundle said. And so far, he said, they have been

successful. Rundle said Beta is comprised of men who aren't necessarily the type to seek out fraternities — but Beta Theta Pi challenges "traditional" fraternity stereotypes. The dry

far, Rundle said. Members are student leaders in

various organizations, but also balance academics with a social life, he said. Beta Theta Pi has topped the list of highest grades among fraternities every semester since it reformed. "Beta is one of the top fraternities

in terms of generating leaders," Hoblemann (junior-mechanical and nuclear engineering) said. "We have leaders in all kinds of organizations on campus.' A handful of brothers stayed in the

house during the summer and 42 of the brothers currently live in the house on North Burrowes Road, he

Brady said the current members

Schreyer Honors College Dean and Beta Theta Pi adviser Christian

house policy has been successful so are a "good group of men" who are sincere about changing the nature of the greek community.

"I'm excited about their commitment to take a real leadership role in the Penn State community as a whole," Brady said. "I'm looking forward to the engagement with the community that Beta wants to have." That "engagement" includes co-sponsoring guest lecturers at the university, he said.

Personal and professional development will continue through the Abbey Leadership Foundation, Rundle said. Alumnus Donald Abbey donated \$7.5 million — which was used in the renovation — to the fraternity. The roots of the foundation began before the fraternity was disbanded at Penn State.

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