

Memorial charity launched

By Megan Rogers
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State graduate Mike Thomas was debating attending law school — but then his friend and fellow mock trial teammate Tom Richards died, and he found a different calling.

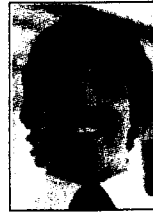
And The 367 Project was created.

"When he passed away it was sort of like, 'There's something more we should do with our lives,'" Thomas, Class of 2010, said.

The 367 Project aims to take on one issue for 367 days — the same amount of time Richards attended Penn State.

Thomas said the issues could range from collecting school supplies for children to building playgrounds for schools.

For 367 days, the organization will help out an existing philan-



Richards

thropy, fundraiser for a cause or create its own philanthropy event, Thomas said.

On day 368, the groups will hopefully have met their goal and can move on to the next cause, Thomas said. He said they'll also work to ensure a philanthropy can stand on its own once The 367 Project moves on to the next project.

Richards was a Penn State sophomore when he died at a Leadership Jumpstart retreat in August.

Thomas was friends with Richards through mock trial and said Richards had an impact on everyone he knew.

"We were inspired by Tom Richards — by his life and the way he lived and the way he interacted with other people," Thomas said. "Our goal is to take that attitude that he had and make a positive impact in our communities."

The 367 Project administrative assistant Anneke Cronje said the project will be based out of the See CHARITY, Page 2.



Kelley King/Collegian

Students wait in line for tickets.



Katie Silvis/Collegian

Chrissie Hynde performs to an enthusiastic crowd at the State Theater Monday night along with her band JP, Chrissie, and the Fairground Boys.

'80s star rocks State Theatre

By Heather Panetta
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Performing songs about everything from finding the perfect lover to what it takes to have courage, JP, Chrissie and The Fairground Boys, along with special guest Amy Correia, took the stage last night at The State Theatre.

Carnival music played as lead singer Chrissie Hynde — once the frontwoman for '80s rock band

The Pretenders — and JP Jones took the stage along with three other members of the group amidst shouts and claps from the audience.

For their second song, titled "If You Let Me," Hynde, dressed in skinny jeans, a black vest, and high-top sneakers, played two tambourines.

One of the songs in their set, called "Fairground Luck," is a song that Hynde says brought her and Jones together.

Another song, "Australia," is a song about how Jones and Hynde met, Jones said.

"It's a metaphor for taking each other to a faraway place," Jones said.

"Perfect Lover," another song off the group's debut album "Fidelity," is a song about a woman who finds a perfect lover who is half her age.

"This is our saddest song of the set and album," Hynde said. "But it always gets a lot of laughs."

James Pingry, of Huntingdon, came to the show with his daughter Hanna because he has always liked Hynde.

"I needed a shot of rock and roll," Pingry said. "It's a rainy night and I needed some good live music."

Opener Amy Correia started the show with "Powder Blue Trans Am," a song off her latest album "You Go Your Way."

Dressed in a solid V-neck shirt, See CONCERT, Page 2.

Biden set to speak

By Katrina Wehr
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Preparations are under way for Vice President Joe Biden's visit to Penn State this afternoon.

The "Moving America Forward" rally is scheduled to begin at 1:20 p.m. in HUB-Alumni Hall, university spokeswoman Annemarie Mountz said. Free student tickets are available at the HUB Information Desk from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. today, and free tickets for both the public and students are available at the Centre County Democrats Headquarters at 224 S. Allen St.

Those planning to attend are asked not to bring bags for security reasons, but there will be a bag-checking service available in Room 110 of the HUB, Mountz said.

"People attending should expect airport-like security," Mountz said. "It would be best to arrive early to make sure you get through quickly and get a spot." See BIDEN, Page 2.

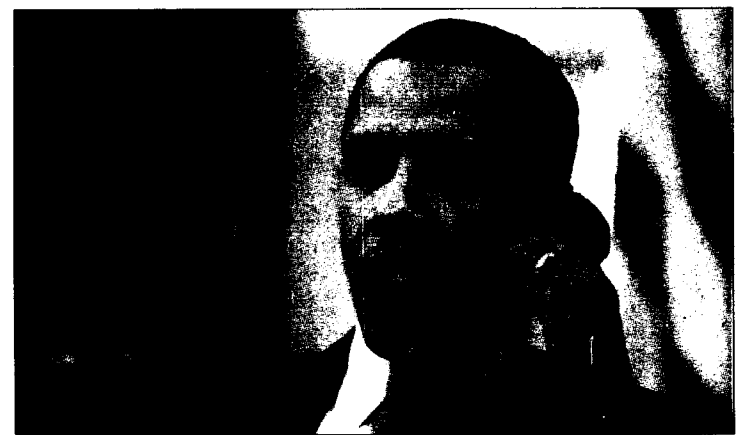
If you go

What: Joe Biden speech

When: 1:20 p.m. today

Where: HUB-Alumni Hall

Details: Doors will open at noon and admittance is on a first-come first-serve basis



Official White House Photo/Pete Souza

President Barack Obama participates in a conference call with college and university student journalists in the Oval Office Monday.

Obama chats with students

By Katrina Wehr
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

President Barack Obama was on the phone with more than 200 student journalists Monday afternoon to talk about initiatives his administration has taken toward helping students.

He even gave the Nittany Lions a shout out for their victory over Texas last weekend, too.

The president held a press conference to discuss what Washington has done for students and get them involved in the upcoming midterm elections.

Young adults played a significant role in the 2008 elections, said Kerri Axelrod, a spokeswoman for Organizing for America of Pennsylvania. The president will also make an

appearance on Tuesday at the University of Wisconsin in Madison to generate student interest in the elections.

Obama began the call by stressing the importance of higher education and the future of the United States in the global market. He said the nation has fallen from first to producing the 12th most college graduates in the world, and he has made it his goal to get the country back to the top by the year 2020, he said.

"The single most important step we can take is to make sure every young person gets the best education possible," Obama said. "Countries that out-educate us today are going to out-compete us tomorrow."

The president also talked See OBAMA, Page 2.

Alumnus talks advertising

By Mike Hricik and Anna Orso
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Advertising industry experts Lance Miceli and Chris Smith introduced themselves on stage in front of about 75 AdClub members by joking about the last time they visited Penn State.

"It took five years for the university to recover from our last trip," said Miceli.

Representatives from The Richards Group, an integrated marketing and advertising serv-

ices company based in Dallas, Texas, visited the Carnegie Building Monday night to speak to a full auditorium of Penn State AdClub members.

The Richards Group employs 650 people and manages \$1.27 billion in billings. Their clients include Chick-fil-A, Motel 6 and Fruit of the Loom. The firm has been awarded several national titles, including being named one of the magazine Graphic Design USA's most influential advertising agencies in the nation.

Smith and Miceli visit colleges around the country to recruit employees and educate students about the advertising industry.

Smith, Class of 1994, serves as the Brand Creative Group Head for the Richards Group. He said that his education at Penn State helped to propel him into the career he knew he wanted.

During his years at Penn State, Smith recalls watching a Richards Group presentation in the Carnegie Building that See ADVERTISING, Page 2.

Musicians showcase diversity

By David Strader
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Rap, metal, funk and acoustic hardcore — try packing all of that into one night.

The Songwriters Club hosted a free show in the Pollock Recreation Room Monday night, presenting a multitude of genres on the same stage.

The musical groups were Felix and the Fire Escape, In Other News, Empire, The "U" and Maura Westerlund.

Songwriters Club member Ugochukwu Onyanta, also known as the "U," said the organization wanted to collect and showcase original music talent in the State College area.

"A lot of people put a negative stigma on the music scene in State College," he said. "But we want to show that it's so much more than just cover bands."

Maura Westerlund,



Kelsey Morris/Collegian

Maura Westerlund (sophomore-business) performs a song that she wrote during a concert hosted by the Songwriters Club Monday night.

Songwriters Club vice president and opening musician for the event, said the night ended up

catering to a wide range of musical tastes.

See MUSICIANS, Page 2.