

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police: nearly \$8,500 in furniture missing

An employee who was checking inventory Monday afternoon at the James Building found nearly \$8,500 worth of office furniture absent from one of the building's storage rooms, Penn State Police said.

The employee said the loss of the six missing desks and 14 missing chairs probably occurred between Sept. 1 and the time the incident was reported, police said. An investigation is ongoing.

One killed, five injured in crash

NORTHAMPTON, Pa. (AP) — Authorities in eastern Pennsylvania say one person has been killed and five others injured in a crash involving a bus and a sedan.

The crash was reported shortly after 2 p.m. Wednesday in Palmer Township, Northampton County.

Coroner Zachary Lysek says he pronounced the woman driving the sedan dead at the scene. He says another adult and an infant were taken to hospitals for treatment of serious injuries.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Drexel University professor Mitra Taheri will be giving a speech entitled "Electrons, Camera, Action: Advance in-Situ Microscopy Techniques for Understanding Microstructure-Property Relationships in Various Materials," at 10:10 a.m. today in 26 Hosler Building. The event will be hosted by the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. Call (814) 865-4992 for more information.

University of Manchester (United Kingdom) professor Roger Plymen will be giving a speech entitled "Kazhdan-Lusztig Parameters and Extended Quotients," at 11:15 a.m. today in 106 McAllister Building. The event will be hosted by the Department of Mathematics. Call (814) 865-7527 for more information.

Brown University professor Richard Kenyon will be giving a speech entitled "Tilings with Rational Polygons," at 2:30 p.m. today in 113 McAllister Building. The event will be hosted by the Department of Mathematics. Call (814) 865-7527 for more information.

Penn State professor Nigel Higson will be giving a speech entitled "Weyl Character Formula in K-Theory, Part Four," at 2:30 p.m. today in 106 McAllister Building. The event will be hosted by the Department of Mathematics. Call (814) 865-7527 for more information.

Brown University professor Richard Kenyon will be giving a speech entitled "Dimers and Integrability," at 4:00 p.m. today in 114 McAllister Building. The event will be hosted by the Department of Mathematics. Call (814) 865-7527 for more information.

Rutgers University professor Rong Chen will be giving a speech entitled "Inference of High-Dimensional Truncated Distribution with Sequential Monte Carlo," at 4:00 p.m. today in 201 Thomas Building. The event will be hosted by the Department of Statistics. Call (814) 865-1348 for more information.

University of California professor Marvin Cohen will be giving a speech entitled "The Influence of Structure, Pressure, and Composition on Nanoscale and Superconducting Properties of Materials" (Marker Lecture: No. 2 of 2), at 4:00 p.m. today in 117 Osmond Laboratory. The event will be hosted by Vin Crespi of the Department of Physics. Call (814) 863-0163 for more information.

LUNCH

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: beef rice soup, mushroom barley soup, autumn chicken salad, broccoli cheddar, baked potato

Simmons: turkey cobb sandwich, chicken & broccoli flatbread pizza, whole wheat rustic flatbread pizza, whole wheat shrimp taco, vegan pot pie

Warning: beef rice soup, lunch roll basket, soup of the day, autumn chicken salad

DINNER

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: beef rice soup, mushroom barley soup, General Tso's chicken, grilled chicken breast, rice, shrimp & pasta, spinach & mushroom strudel

Simmons: Asian beef salad, Cajun baked tilapia, grilled chicken breast, grilled chicken curry, pasta florentine



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Weather: Today: High 68



Tonight: Low 41



Tomorrow: High 70



Extended forecast
campusweather.com
Courtesy of Campus Weather Service

Concerts

From Page 1.

But Haynes (senior-energy, business and finance) said organizers do know that they will look into corporate sponsorship and University Park Allocation Committee (UPAC) funding to help offset the costs.

Ragland (senior-political science) said he was pleased that the assembly passed the resolution.

"It's one of the best ideas in regards to collaboration that has come forth this year," he said.

The assembly also passed a resolution to form a University Libraries Student Advisory Group, which will be comprised of eight to 10 members from UPUA, Council of Commonwealth Student Government (CCSG) and the student body.

Gary White, acting head of Reference, Collections and Research, said he gave a special presentation on the proposal before the assembly members voted.

"It would create a more formal structure so that the university libraries can have a mechanism in place to get direct feedback from students," he said.

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Zoning

From Page 1.

see what can happen in that environment when dealing with the lives of 18, 19, 20 and 21 year olds," he said. "This is an unwise course to take, and I encourage you to be very reluctant."

Adding more student housing to that area would likely increase vandalism and foot traffic in the adjacent neighborhood as students travel to and from fraternity social events, meeting attendees said.

State College resident Noah Coleman said he fears that bringing more students into the often rowdy area would cause many non-student residents to consider moving out of the borough.

Another resident, Peg Hambrick said adding more student housing to

Beaver Avenue would jeopardize the safety and stability of the area. She suggested that the strip of businesses be used as a daycare or a student center instead.

But commission chairman Evan Myers said the borough does not have control over what the establishment is used for, only the zoning parameters.

Some commission members agreed with the concerns of the community members.

"This is very bad for the neighbors on East Foster, with things barely under control down there already," commission member Anita Genger said. "A horrendous amount of borough taxes are going to the police, and a tremendous part of the problem is down on Beaver Avenue."

But commission member Charles Gable said it's not the apartments

on Beaver Avenue that cause problems.

Rather, it's the nearby fraternities that attract many students on the weekends, he said.

"If students don't live there, they will still be living somewhere and will still be going to fraternity parties," he said.

Commission member Ron Madrid said before Wednesday's discussion, he was prepared to support student housing in the building because anything would improve the current aesthetics of the property.

"What swayed me today is this," he said.

"I often say, 'Do I want to live here?'"

If this decision forces residents to leave, he said, then the commission should not take that course of action.

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Carnival

From Page 1.

string, while others tried to keep their balance and avoid an inflatable wrecking ball.

Inclement weather throughout Wednesday put the event in danger of being cancelled, Homecoming Public Relations Director Caitlin Rush said. But the steady rain subsided to intermittent drizzling, letting the carnival continue. Only a few tailgating games had to be scrapped, Rush (junior-marketing and psychology) said.

She said the event was an overall success.

"It's one of the events that community members come out to," she said. "I saw a dad and his two little girls here."

Attendees said it was a great way to relax on a Wednesday evening.

For Homecoming Technology Director Joe Kampman, the carnival provided a chance to unwind after a long week. And he said he did just that as he velcroed himself to an inflatable velcro wall.

"It's just been a fantastic week," Kampman (senior-information sciences and technology) said. "It's

everything we expected and hoped it would be."

The rain and muddy ground didn't deter attendees, said Rush — the second annual event had a strong turnout.

Some students agreed.

"For being really rainy, it's pretty fun," Ashley Stryker said, throwing a dart at a wall of balloons to get a free slice of pizza.

Stryker (sophomore-English) spent her night at the carnival attempting to convince her friends to ride the mechanical bull.

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Candidates

From Page 1.

disappointments in Washington. He thinks party bias in Congress is like a pendulum.

"Every time one party takes control, the pendulum swings farther in that direction," Thompson said. "It's time to stop. It's time for the pendulum to hang right in the middle."

Pipe agreed that partisanship was a problem in Congress, and said another issue that representatives have is with being consistent with where they stand on the issues.

"We need to have consistent messages from representatives," he said. "You may not always agree with what I say, but you'll always know where I stand."

Vandenbergh said the event offers community members a unique

opportunity to interact with the candidates in a non-partisan environment. The League of Women Voters is non-partisan as a rule, she said.

"Candidates go to various events throughout the campaign season," Vandenbergh said. "This debate allows anyone to have a chance before the election to come and ask their questions in a different arena."

Thompson said the event was a good way for citizens to get informed about the upcoming elections and thanked the League of Women Voters for organizing the debate in his closing statement.

"When I took this job, I made a promise to always do my best each and every day for the people of Centre County," Thompson said. "My commitment is to lead, and I've demonstrated that over the past two years."

In his closing statement, Pipe said

the upcoming election is about the residents of the fifth district, not the candidates. He said he would bring a unique perspective to Washington through his experience working at a fast food restaurant.

"It's safe to say I'm the only candidate who has to flip patties for a living, and I'm proud of that job," Pipe said.

"I work alongside people who work two jobs, don't have health care, have had to drop out of college because they couldn't afford it. There are people in Washington who don't know those struggles like I do."

The debate also featured candidates from the 76th, 77th, and 171st legislative districts, as well as State Sen. Jake Corman, R-Centre and his opponent Jon Eich from the 34th Senate district.

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Marshal

From Page 1.

Despite opportunities to graduate from another university in Michigan, Baver chose instead to take summer classes and earn her marketing and management degree from Penn State.

"For me, going to Penn State was much bigger than Berks County," she said. "I had a lot of pride in my state and in my school."

That pride is obvious to some students who've talked to Baver.

Though he's never met Baver in person, Homecoming Alumni Relations Director DJ Ryan said he can tell she's a genuine person.

To start, he said, she doesn't use an agent or a publicist to book her

events. Her accessibility to the Homecoming executive committee has been "outstanding," Ryan said — despite the fact that each time he talks to her, she's in a different state.

"I think she's more worried about us than herself," Ryan (senior-communication arts and sciences) said. "She's constantly saying, 'What's easier for you guys?'"

Baver said she was incredibly surprised to be chosen as the Homecoming Grand Marshal — she said it was flattering that the committee chose her despite her atypical Penn State experience.

Homecoming executive committee members selected Baver as marshal at the end of the spring semester and they're excited to finally have Baver in State College, Public Relations Director Caitlin

Rush said. Rush (junior-marketing and public relations) said Baver is a great choice because she's personable and can relate to many of the students.

It's Baver's first Homecoming at University Park.

And also her first time eating Berkey Creamery ice cream — a milestone she's already looking forward to.

As Grand Marshal, Baver's job is to be in as many places as possible, Ryan said.

She will attend the ice cream social, ride in the Homecoming parade and speak during the "When I was a Lion" segment of the pep rally.

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Theater

From Page 1.

wanted to direct an NRT production of "Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog," so they decided to team up to co-direct it, bringing on Colin Farley as the assistant director and vocal director.

"We've both only done dramas before, so this is really strange," Ringer said.

"Dr. Horrible" is also a relatively short musical: It only runs about 45 minutes. In longer dramas the focus is mostly on character depth, Ringer said, whereas in "Dr. Horrible" the focus is more on the jokes.

"Drama is about keeping the characters alive," Farley (junior-music education) said. "But in a comedy the funniest lines can fall flat if they're not delivered properly. It can be so difficult if the chemistry isn't there."

Auditions for the show were held at the end of the spring semester. In the end Jim Dickey, Stephen Levine and Mary Katerman won the roles of Dr. Horrible, Captain Hammer and Penny, respectively.

Just Another Day

The actors began rehearsals on Aug. 29. Originally the entire cast would meet up on Sundays in the

Forum. Dickey, Class of 2010, Levine (junior-history) and Katerman (junior-music education) would have another practice during the week.

During the third rehearsal Levine and Katerman had to practice their kiss scene, where Dickey watches on, for the first time. After a few times running through it, Dickey ad libbed a beep sound to interrupt the kiss.

A few rehearsals later, Dickey and Katerman had to plan the brief dance that happens in Dr. Horrible's imagination at the laundromat. In the original version of the show this was accomplished with the magic of editing, but on stage, things had to be handled differently.

The show wasn't without its shakeups.

A week before opening night, the student playing the female news-caster dropped out of the show and Sarah Espinoza, an NRT newbie, was called in to replace her.

"It's exciting," Espinoza (freshman-broadcast journalism) said. "I love the thrill of having to be on top of everything. It's really cool to see what people have already done."

Show Time

NRT's "hell week" takes place entirely in the Forum. The set is put up and taken down every night and the entire play is rehearsed, includ-

ing the musical numbers.

Because classes and exams are held in the room during the day, NRT sometimes doesn't get 111 Forum until late at night. It was because of this that "Dr. Horrible" couldn't have a Thursday night show, but allowed a group of fans to watch the dress rehearsal.

All the long hours in the Forum bonded the cast.

They played "tape bowling" while waiting for the directors to arrive and had a running joke of substituting Levine's first name in place of lyrics in the songs from the show. A favorite was "A Steve's Gotta Do What a Steve's Gotta Do" instead of "A Man's Gotta Do What a Man's Gotta Do."

Both the Friday and Saturday night shows brought full crowds and the Saturday matinee yielded a fair-sized audience.

The crowd roared with laughter at the Bad Horse Chorus and Simone's character holding up a picture of Harris during the lyric, "Next up, who's gay!"

NRT members said the show was a success, but they couldn't dwell on that for too long.

The set had to be torn down — after all, there were classes on Monday.

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