



MID-SEASON CHECKUP

Lions limp into bye week | Page 18

psucollegian.com

@dailycollegian

Published independently by students at Penn State

Vol. 111 No. 66

Friday, Oct. 15, 2010

30 cents off campus

Community grows, thrives

By Alexa Agugliaro
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Allison Jones said she constantly asks herself why she still attends vigils honoring gay students lost to suicide, hate crimes or even murders.

Throughout the country this month, at least six gay students have committed suicide as a result of being bullied about their sexual orientation.

"It is no longer a moral issue,



but more of a safety issue these days," said Jones (senior-nursing), the president of the Rainbow Roundtable. "We need to not only be proud to be Penn State students, but students of the gay community as well."



State College resident Oddy Lombrana speaks at the end of the Rally at Old Main on Wednesday.

Though National Coming Out Week was filled with celebration of the gay community, "we have come so far and yet we have so far to go," she said.

And in the past week, Penn State's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Allies (LGBTQA) community

See LGBTQA, Page 2.

Pres. takes stand

Ragland to hold ground

By Kathleen Loughran
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

UPUA President Christian Ragland apologized to the student body for the organization's internal unrest in response to his chief of staff appointment — a move some assembly members said caused them to feel undermined.



"I'm working hard," Ragland (senior-political science) said. "I'm going to keep on doing what I'm doing whether I have the assembly's support or not."

Ragland said he had no intentions of undermining the assembly when he appointed Dustin Dove as his chief of staff.

"From a personal standpoint, I am very disappointed and insulted that the assembly would think I would try to undermine them," he said. "I don't have time to undermine the assembly."

But UPUA Chairwoman of the Assembly Jessica Pellicciotta said many members said the appointment weakens the assembly's power.

"The discontent arose not from the chief of staff himself, but rather the circumvention of both the decision of the Board of Arbitration and the approval of the assembly," Pellicciotta (senior-political science) said. "It sets a dangerous precedent that undermines the responsibilities of the assembly."

The UPUA assembly voted to censure Ragland Wednesday night for appointing Dove as chief of staff through what some members call a loophole within their organization's constitution.

After UPUA's Internal Development (ID) committee refused to interview Dove for the position earlier this year because members thought it was unconstitutional, Ragland decided to bring the appointment to the Board of Arbitration on Tuesday.

The controversy stems from a constitutional provision that forbids any member of the election commission to serve on UPUA within the same year. Dove served on the election commission last spring, when Ragland was elected.

Ragland said he asked UPUA's judicial branch — the Board of Arbitration — if Dove could serve as his chief of staff.

The Board of Arbitration

See UPUA, Page 2.

ULTRAMAN



Chris Ulmer (senior-media studies) runs near the HUB-Robeson Center. Ulmer, who had surgery six months ago, is training for a 50-mile marathon.

Student runs toward dreams

By Julia Anselmo
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

His friends called him crazy. His doctor told him "no."

But those close to Chris Ulmer knew it would take much more than a torn meniscus and major surgery to stop him from lacing up his running shoes.

In February, Ulmer (senior-media studies) tore his meniscus and had 30 percent of it surgically removed. There was a good chance he would never run again.

But on Saturday, just six

months after his April surgery, Ulmer will compete in the Tussey Mountainback 50 Mile Relay and Ultramarathon Race.

"Everyone was saying, 'You'll never be the same,'" Ulmer said. "I took this as motivation to do an ultramarathon. And I've been training ever since."

Running crazy

Ulmer began training only weeks after his major surgery — against his doctor's recommendation.

"I had so much energy in me

after that I had to get out," Ulmer said.

Ulmer's girlfriend Lauren Frank (junior-kinesiology) said he couldn't wait to run again.

"He was very restless," Frank said. "We would always talk about running and how he wanted to do it again."

Ulmer's friend Max Levi (senior-mathematics and economics) said Ulmer is "tough" for getting right back into running after his surgery.

"It's definitely impressive that he's running this much," Levi

said. "Whether or not it's good or bad, I don't know if it can be said for certain."

Ulmer's vigorous training schedule includes running between five and 35 miles per day, totaling about 100 miles per week.

"A day off for me, in my head, is running like, five miles," Ulmer said. "A lot of times I intend on not running, but I can't. I always have to do it."

Justin Emery (senior-broadcast journalism), Ulmer's friend and roommate, said he thinks

See RUNNER, Page 2.

Café, bakery partner

By Casey McDermott
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Webster's Bookstore Café's kitchen is coming back to downtown State College — this time inside Sugar on Top Bakery, 121 1/2 E. Beaver Ave.

Starting Monday, the cafe operations of Webster's will set up shop inside the gourmet cupcake bakery, Webster's owner Elaine Meder-Wilgus said.

During the first week, the

Where in the world is Webster's?

Webster's Bookstore Cafe will begin serving beverages and some food products inside Sugar on Top Bakery beginning this Monday.



- Webster's downtown locations:
1. Opened at 128 S. Allen St. (1999)
 2. Relocated bookstore to 121 S. Fraser St. (August 2010)
 3. Temporarily relocated cafe to 121 1/2 E. Beaver Ave. (October 2010)

Source: www.webstersbookstorecafe.com, Collegian archives

menu will mainly consist of espresso drinks, teas, smoothies and other beverages, Meder-Wilgus said. In the coming weeks, she said it will expand to include other food items.

Webster's employee Anne Triolo said the cafe inside Sugar on Top will be open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to noon on Saturday and will be closed on Sunday.

After 11 years at its 128 S. Allen

St. location, rent issues forced Webster's to relocate to 121 S. Fraser St. in August — and the kitchen had to be sacrificed.

The cafe's new home inside Sugar on Top is temporary, Meder-Wilgus said, until Webster's finalizes plans for a new location that can accommodate both its bookstore and cafe.

And though the two share a space, customer base and rent, See CAFE, Page 2.

Chinese students adjust to new life

By Christina Gallagher
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

China native Xinren Yu made a promise with his roommate: They'd speak only English in their dorm room.

With Chinese as his first language, Yu (freshman-engineering) said he finds it difficult to perfect his English, as most of his friends are Chinese and only speak Chinese with each other.

Halfway through their first semester, some first-year Asian students said assimilating into Penn State life is challenging because of the language barrier.

"Not too many Chinese students talk with English students because we have cultural differences, and Chinese students can relate to the feelings of other Chinese students better than American students can," Weimo "Lynn" Xu (freshman-finance) said.

Some Asian students said the language barrier is a problem preventing them from communicating with and befriending American students.

"I have no friends who are American students, because I don't have the chance to talk and

See STUDENTS, Page 2.