

NEWS IN BRIEF

Eight cited for public drunkenness

Eight people, including one Penn State employee, were cited for public drunkenness Saturday, near Beaver Stadium and in surrounding lots, the Penn State Police said.

Police said the employee, whose identity has not yet been released, urinated inside of a CATA bus near the stadium at about midnight Saturday. The employee was taken to Mount Nittany Medical Center, police said, and will be cited for public drunkenness and criminal mischief.

Six additional people were transported to Mount Nittany Medical Center for on-campus alcohol-related incidents Saturday, police said.

An additional 30 people were also cited for Minor's Law on Saturday in the surrounding parking lots, police said, and all 30 incidents occurred between 12:30 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. near Beaver Stadium.

Police: Counterfeit bills passed at game

Four cases of counterfeit \$100 bills were passed around Beaver Stadium during the October 30 Penn State football game versus the University of Michigan, Penn State Police said.

On Thursday, a staff member reported that a counterfeit \$100 bill was passed in Lot Stadium West between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. during last weekend's game, police said. The bill was passed during a transaction between two people buying football tickets from one another, police said.

Police said three additional cases of counterfeit bills were also passed during the game in areas around Beaver Stadium, but did not specify the exact locations of the other counterfeit transactions.

Police said the incidents may be related and an investigation is ongoing.

Police: \$1,300 in items stolen from dorm

After breaking a window screen to gain entry into the building Friday evening, an unknown person stole about \$1,300 in personal items from a student's room in McElwain Hall, Penn State Police said.

The theft occurred between 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and items stolen include a computer monitor, a PlayStation 3 game console, controllers and video games, police said.

On Saturday, another student told police that an unknown person entered his unsecured room in Mifflin Hall and stole his laptop computer, police said.

The incident occurred between 8 p.m. Friday and about 11:30 p.m. Saturday, police said. Investigations into both incidents are ongoing, police said.

Police: Vehicle mirrors broken off at frat

Side view mirrors on eight vehicles parked outside of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity, 329 E. Prospect Ave., were broken off by an unknown person overnight Saturday, the State College Police Department said.

Also on Saturday night, a separate vehicle parked at the corner of East Nittany Avenue and Berry Alley had a window smashed out, police said.

Police did not specify a value on the damage in either case.

Police: Two seen having sex in laundry room

At about 11 p.m. Friday, two unidentified individuals were seen on surveillance video urinating and having sex inside a laundry room at Cedarbrook Apartments, 320 E. Beaver Ave., the State College Police Department said.

Police said the film shows a man urinating in a sink while a woman urinated inside of a top-loading washing machine before engaging in sexual intercourse.

The two will be cited for disorderly conduct or criminal mischief, police said.

Police: Several thefts reported

Several thefts from cars were reported this weekend, the State College Police Department said.

An unknown person stole several pieces of radio equipment — including a headset, microphone and phone line — from a vehicle parked at 316 S. Atherton St., between 10 p.m. Friday and 3 a.m. Saturday, police said.

Another unknown person stole a Garmin nuvi navigation device from a vehicle parked at 409 S. Atherton St. sometime overnight Saturday, police said.

Police did not specify a value on any of the items stolen and said investigations into all of the incidents are ongoing.

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Weather: Today: High 52
THON
2011 logo
revealed

By Vera Greene
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Cameras flashed, cheers erupted, and a steady hum of applause overtook the White Building gym Sunday after the reveal of the 2011 IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon logo.

After weeks of drawing, days of editing and hours dedicated to getting the design just right, logo creator Melissa Ginsiorsky said the long process led her to the perfect design to go along with the 2011 THON theme of "Together Without Limits."

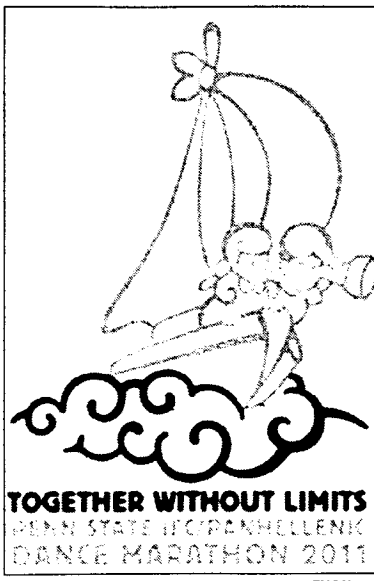
"I had different shapes, and originally the two kids were sailing into the sunset instead of toward us — toward the future and toward hope, like it is now," Ginsiorsky (senior-graphic design) said. "But through it all, the meaning of togetherness and the power of hope remained constant."

The logo includes a girl and a boy, telescope in hand, on a boat sailing through whimsical-looking waves.

Ginsiorsky, who competed with her GD 400 (Time and Sequence) classmates, said THON Overall Chairwoman Kirsten Kelly came into her class at the beginning of the year with a list that compiled what "Together Without Limits" meant to each overall chairperson. Once Ginsiorsky heard the emotion behind the theme, she went from there — her design has a lot of symbolism behind it, she said. The boy and girl on a boat are

Extended forecast campusweatherservice.com Courtesy of Campus Weather Service

Tonight: Low 32
Tomorrow: High 54



The 2010 THON logo was revealed at Sunday's THON Family Carnival.

embarking on a journey together — showing that as a team, members of THON can achieve anything, Ginsiorsky said.

"It could be seen as sailing in the sky, literally showing that the sky's the limit with THON," she said.

THON Merchandise Overall Chairwoman Caroline Fitzgerald said she has been planning the reveal for weeks. Having known for the past month what the design was, she had to get everything ready for Sunday at the Carnival.

"As we revealed what the new logo was, the merchandise captains in the back uncovered a table full of sweatshirts and t-shirts with the design on it," Fitzgerald (junior-marketing and women's studies) said.

In addition to the logo reveal, the main event of Family Carnival was for Four Diamonds families and different members of THON to unite for a day of activities.

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Room
rates
set to
rise

By Micah Wintner
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The Penn State Board of Trustees approved a 4.4 percent increase to room and board rates for the 2011-2012 school year at its meeting Friday.

The trustees approved the \$185 increase for the cost of a standard double-occupancy residence hall room with the most common meal plan, as well as other increases.

Gail Hurley, associate vice president for Auxiliary and Business Services, told the board the increases are necessary to maintain the more than 75 residence halls and apartment complexes, as well as their more than 18,000 occupants.

Senior Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations Rodney Kirsch spoke about the progress of the For the Future Campaign. In what Kirsch called "some of the most challenging economic terrain of our lifetime," the campaign has raised \$1.17 billion, 58 percent of its \$2 billion goal, through gifts and fundraising, Kirsch said.

Kirsch said \$535 million of the campaign money is targeted at ensuring student opportunity and enhancing honors education. The most expensive goal of the campaign is \$300 million in improvements to Penn State Hershey Medical Center, followed by \$225 million for intercollegiate athletics and \$200 million for the engineering program.

Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert Pangborn also made a report on enrollment and financial aid.

Penn State's enrollment this year is 95,883 students, an increase of 1,532 students since last year. Nearly 9,000 were accepted to Commonwealth Campuses, continuing a four-year trend of more than 8,000 enrollments at campuses other than University Park, Pangborn said. Between Commonwealth Campuses and University Park, Penn State is currently 42 percent out-of-state enrollment at the undergraduate level.

Financial aid exceeded \$1 billion this past year. About \$896 million of that went to more than 71,000 undergraduates, Pangborn said. Student loans make up the largest proportion of financial aid at 65 percent, and scholarship funding accounts for 10 percent.

Pangborn's report showed that Penn State seniors graduate with an average debt of \$31,133 — about \$8,000 more than the national average of a four-year public university. But their default rates are at 3.4 percent, lower than the national average of 7 percent.

The board also approved several construction projects at the university, including an \$11.7 million renovation project to Pollock Dining Commons, which has not been renovated since 1991, Senior Vice President for Finance and Business Al Horvath said. A new \$3.3 million broadcasting facility and a \$1 million scoreboard will also be installed at Rec Hall.

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Former PSU employee
sues local physicians

By Casey McDermott
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A former Penn State employee is suing seven local physicians and five local healthcare providers — including Mount Nittany Medical Center — for failing to diagnose a once-benign spinal tumor that has since left her permanently paralyzed, according to court documents.

Judith A. Meyers, 70, of Centre Hall, was first admitted to Mount Nittany Medical Center, 1800 E. Park Ave., on May 20, 2009 with complaints of left, lower abdominal pain and generalized weakness, according to a civil complaint of more than 49 pages filed on Friday morning on her behalf.

For two months, Meyers' physicians and the healthcare centers where she was being treated did not run tests that may have diagnosed her underlying neurological condition, said Joel J. Feller, one of Meyers' attorneys from the Philadelphia-based law firm Ross Feller Casey.

"The physicians in Mount Nittany recognized that she had neurological problems and in fact recognized that they needed to rule out a neurological cause that was causing her weakness and pain," Feller said. "But they failed to do CT or an MRI of her spine, which would have revealed her tumor two months earlier, when it was treatable."

Over the next two months, Meyers was seen by physicians at Mount Nittany Medical Center; HealthSouth Nittany Valley Rehabilitation Hospital, 550 W. College Ave.; Geisinger Clinic, 200 Scenery Dr.; Comprehensive Rehab Services, Inc., 325 S. Buckhout St.; and Nittany Valley Medical Associates, 1361 Brush Valley Rd., according to court documents. Meyers' neuromuscular condition continued to erode during this time, according to court documents, and she was eventual-

ly transferred to Hearthsides Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on June 19, 2009.

On July 28, 2009, after a follow-up with one of her physicians, Meyers was sent back to the emergency department at Mount Nittany Medical Center, where an MRI revealed a four-centimeter tumor compressing her spinal cord, according to court documents. She received an emergency operation and was left with permanent paraplegia, according to court documents.

"Basic and fundamental testing could have prevented this," Feller said. "And now she's permanently paralyzed for the rest of her life and needs care."

In addition to the five healthcare providers at which Meyers was treated, four physicians at Mount Nittany Medical Center and Geisinger Clinic — Sapano Mainali, John C. Coppes, Jessica Zingaretti and John Kevin Parry — are named as defendants in her case, according to court documents.

Three additional physicians at HealthSouth Nittany Valley Rehabilitation Hospital — John E. Mateer, Colin P. McCaul, Paul A. Koberna — are also named as defendants, according to court documents. Mateer also practices at Geisinger Clinic, McCaul practices at Comprehensive Rehab Services and Koberna practices at Nittany Valley Medical Associates, according to court documents.

Each of the 12 defendants faces one count of negligence and Mount Nittany Medical Center also faces one count of corporate negligence, according to court documents. Representatives from the healthcare providers could not be reached for comment by press time Sunday.

Meyers was a 28-year employee in Penn State Housing Services before retiring in 2003, Feller said.

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Two exposure incidents reported

By Casey McDermott
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Two indecent exposure incidents were reported on campus last week, and Penn State Police said they're not ruling out the possibility that they are part of the string of 11 similar incidents reported over the past 14 months.

None of the 13 total on-campus incidents reported since August 2009 have been closed, Penn State spokeswoman Lisa Powers said.

While police are considering the possibility that one person may be behind all of the incidents, they have acknowledged that some of the incidents may be from other "copycat" actors, too, Powers said.

The first incident occurred at about 3:05 a.m. Nov. 1 at the Food Science Building, police said.

When the incident was reported four days later, a staff member told police a light-skinned man with dark hair exposed himself outside of the building, police said.

Sgt. Frances McClellan of Penn State Police said a delay between the time of the incident and when it was reported has presented a challenge to police as they try to address the problem.

The second incident was reported almost immediately after it happened, police said, but they were still unable to locate the man who exposed himself. At about 11:23 p.m. Thursday, a masked man entered Patterson Building and exposed himself to a female student, police said. The student described the man as white or Asian and said he was wearing a dark-colored mask at the time of

the incident, police said. Police said these characteristics are similar to those found in past incidents reported over the past 14 months.

In those incidents, police said the man involved was generally described as a college-aged, light-skinned male with dark hair. He was also reported as wearing a mask in the majority of the incidents, police said.

Several off-campus reports of indecent exposure by a masked man have also been reported since June 2010: three in Nittany Garden Apartments, 445 Waupelani Dr., and one in Imperial Towers Apartments, 425 Waupelani Dr., the State College Police Department said.

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