

# The Daily Collegian

**COWGIRL CASANOVA**  
Country superstar returns to BJC | VENUES  
psu.collegian.com  
@dailycollegian

Published independently by students at Penn State

Vol. 111 No. 66

Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010

30 cents off campus

## Man robs store Subway held at knifepoint

By Casey McDermott  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

An unidentified man robbed a local Subway, 283 Northland Center, at knifepoint at about 8 p.m. Tuesday, taking an undisclosed amount of money with him as he fled the scene, the Ferguson Township Police Department said.

Wearing a bandanna to conceal his face, the man entered the store at about 7:57 p.m. and approached the clerk with a knife and demanded money, police said. The man then ran around to the back of the store and fled the scene, police said. No one was injured during the incident, police said.

Police said the man was described as a white, brown-haired male in his twenties, standing between 5 feet 10 and 6 feet tall with a medium build.

In two security photos released by police Wednesday morning, the man police are looking for is also seen wearing a brown zip-front hooded sweatshirt and loose-fitting jeans.

In one of the photos, the man is seen walking from the entrance of the restaurant toward the cashier, holding a small pointed object in his left hand. The other photo shows the man pointing a small knife in the direction of an employee.

Police said an investigation into the incident is ongoing.

The sector of the Ferguson Township Police Department charged with handling the investigation was not available for comment Wednesday.

Subway employees were not able to comment on the investigation, and a spokesperson for the company could not be reached for comment.



Jon Linn (senior-actuarial sciences) helps Emily Whitehead, a THON child from Phillipsburg, blow bubbles during Wednesday's 100 Days 'Til THON celebration in the HUB-Robeson Center. The merchandise table, where students could purchase gear for THON 2011, drew the longest line.

## Countdown takes over HUB

By Megan Rogers  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The HUB-Robeson Center was noisier, more crowded and more colorful than it would have been on a normal Wednesday — but that's OK. Renee Messina, the mother of a THON child, told the crowd at 100 Days 'Til THON.

Even if the celebration annoys some of the students not involved in the Interfraternity Council-Panhellenic Dance Marathon, it is acceptable

because it is part of the fight against cancer, Messina said — and cancer will at some point affect everyone in the room.

"Cancer is a disease that will disrupt your life in a way that you can never imagine," she said.

Messina spoke not only to those studying in the HUB, but to a crowd of THON supporters. She told the story of her daughter's fight against leukemia and said THON and the Four Diamonds Fund has provided exceptional financial and emotional support.

In the Messina household, THON is a holiday second only to Christmas and Thanksgiving, she said.

Messina's story, along with other events at the celebration, pumped up the THON spirit on campus, some students said.

Communications committee member Chris Hershey said the event summed up the spirit of THON.

"What other school does this?" Hershey (sophomore-division of undergraduate studies) said.

"What other school has this celebration?"

Hershey's friend, Lindsay Scher, with whom he waited in line to purchase THON 2011 merchandise, said the 100 days can't go quickly enough.

"It's the one time of year — probably the one time of my life — when there's such a huge group of people together as a family," Scher (junior-recreation, parks and tourism management) said.

The HUB was decorated with a See THON, Page 2.



Courtesy of Tommy McCann  
Lt. Michael P. Murphy, Class of 1998, will be honored with the class of 2011's senior class gift.

## Class remembers veteran

By Julia Anselmo  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Remembered today for their sacrifices for the country, Penn State veterans will be honored through the class of 2011's senior class gift — a memorial plaza that will commemorate Lt. Michael P. Murphy, Class of 1998, and all Penn State veterans for their military service over the years.

Murphy was the first Penn Stater to be awarded the Medal of Honor, which was given for his service in Afghanistan. He was killed in combat in 2005.

The memorial will serve as a

tangible reminder to Penn State students, alumni and staff of the sacrifices Penn Staters have made and continue to make for their country, supporters said.

Tommy McCann (graduate-landscape architecture), Murphy's former roommate, said he can't think of a better way to honor his friend and all war veterans at Penn State.

"Although my opinion's biased, Lt. Murphy clearly exemplifies a character of which any student or university should deem worthy of extraordinary tribute," McCann said. "I was an undergraduate here between '94 and '99 and now

back as a graduate student this year, and in this time have never seen a gift of such value to the Penn State community, nor a cause more worthy of recognition."

McCann said having the memorial become a reality makes him proud.

"It's a hard one," he said. "Like any friend you have, it's hard to put it into words. We're all very proud that it's happening."

Though its location has not yet See VETERAN, Page 2.

More coverage on Veterans Day | NEWS, Page 3.

To e-mail reporter:  
cmm5773@psu.edu



Courtesy of Ferguson Township Police Department  
An unidentified white man robbed a local Subway Tuesday.

## Advocate discusses gay rights

By Leah Gillen  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Dan Savage, a world-renowned LGBT advocate and columnist, spoke to an audience of students, faculty, staff and community members alike, addressing questions on LGBT rights — from marriage and relationships as part of his "It Gets Better" campaign.

Laughter dominated the Suttiff Auditorium in the Lewis Katz Building as a crowd of more than 100 people gathered for a question and answer session with Savage.

Savage addressed the current political climate surrounding the LGBT community and the issue of civil equality.



Andrew Dunheimer, Collegian  
Dan Savage speaks to an audience about LGBT rights.

"We've been subjected to a gay hate campaign by the religious right — that we're a threat to family, a threat to the army and a threat to national security," he said. "It's like we're a bigger threat than climate change."

While Savage joked, he touched See ADVOCATE, Page 2.

## Plans for arena in progress

By Anthony Barton  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Of the three architectural firms that had been vying for the rights to design Penn State's new ice arena, Joe Battista asked only one thing: Listen.

The associate athletic director for ice arena operations had been part of architectural selection teams in the past, and each time, finalists would fall short in that area.

"No matter what we were telling the architects they would say, 'That's great, but here's what we think,'" Battista said. "I like the idea that we're the customer, and there are certain things we want to see in our project."

In stepped David Murphy and Crawford Architects of Kansas City, Mo.

The firm worked with Penn State on the original feasibility study of the ice arena and following the announcement of the project, Crawford Architects received



Courtesy of Crawford Architects  
Members of Crawford Architects discuss plans for the new ice arena.

the Request for Proposal. While Murphy said the size of the arena is Crawford's expertise, he knew if he were to get the con-

tract, he had to assemble the right personnel.

Murphy said Crawford always See ARENA, Page 2.