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Race issues hit PSU

Racism rattles fans

By Micah Wintner
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Most fans cheered for the Nittany Lions during their home game victory against the University of Michigan on Oct. 30, but interracial couple Linda and Bobby Baker said the fans behind them were slinging racial slurs.

Linda Baker, 45, whose husband Bobby, 44, is black, said the comments were "horrendous."

"They kept calling me a n— loving bitch," Linda Baker said.

The Bakers, of Greensburg, Pa., were forced to leave the game early after Linda Baker was harassed while her husband went to the bathroom.

Bobby Baker, a Michigan native and Michigan Wolverine fan, was confronted by a Penn State fan who prevented him from entering the bathroom. When he told his wife about the situation, she said she was ready to leave the game for good.

"I didn't expect that at Penn State. I swear I didn't," Linda Baker said. "I was blown away."

The couple wrote a letter to the university describing their experience. Linda Baker said, prompting a quick response from university officials.

Letters of apology from the university, including two from Penn State President Graham Spanier and Joe Paterno, have had a positive impact, Linda Baker said.

The Bakers sat in the alumni section of the stadium but said they are not sure if the harassment will be resolved. See RACISM, Page 2.

FDA limits Four Loko

By Casey McDermott
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITERS

Four Loko is set to lose three of its four main ingredients — caffeine, taurine and guarana — according to a statement posted Tuesday on the website of its parent company, Phusion Projects.

Phusion Projects' announcement came one day before the Food and Drug Administration sent letters to four beverage manufacturers, including Phusion Projects, warning them that "caffeine included as a separate ingredient is an 'unsafe additive,'" according to a release posted on the FDA website.

The agency gave Phusion Projects, Charge Beverages Corporation, New Century Brewing Company and United Brands 15 days to respond to its warning. If the companies don't comply, the FDA may take legal action to ban the sale of caffeinated alcoholic beverages, according to its release.

Other alcoholic beverages with added caffeine could also be subject to action from the FDA if scientific data demonstrates that the combination doesn't meet safety standards, according to the release.

The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, which previously urged stores in the state to pull Four Loko and similar drinks from their shelves, commended the FDA's decision in a press release.

"We hope today's decision by the FDA and the [Federal Trade Commission] will serve as a reminder to all consumers about the dangers alcohol can pose when mixed with mind-altering stimulants like caffeine and not responsibly," Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Chairman Patrick J. Stapleton said in the release.

Despite the FDA's warning and its announcement to eliminate stimulants in its products, Phusion Projects said it stands by its previous statements that

See FOUR LOKO, Page 2.

THON couple named

By Vera Greene
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Quortne Hutchings and Carolyn Depuy were donned with silver sashes on Wednesday night as they were named Mr. and Mrs. THON 2011.

Stepping forward to receive their sparkly gold crowns and regal titles, the Family Relations captains smiled from ear to ear as a crowd of 1,200 erupted with cheers in the Eisenhower Auditorium.

"This was just really amazing and I just want to thank you all for supporting us," Hutchings (senior-African and African-American studies) said. "It's been awesome."

After speaking to the crowd, Depuy (junior-nutritional sciences) jumped on top of Hutchings to give him a hug.

As only the second Interfraternity Panhellenic Dance Marathon pageant ever, this year the event was organized a little differently, Public Relations Captain Colleen Hanrahan said. The event was previously held in the HUB-Robeson Center Auditorium, which was too small a venue, she said.

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Family Relations Captains Quortne Hutchings (senior-African and African-American studies) and Carolyn Depuy (junior-nutritional sciences) celebrate after winning Mr. and Mrs. THON 2011.



The State Theatre received its liquor license in February 2009.

Alcohol sells at Theatre

By Lauren Ingeno
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Almost two years since the State Theatre first received its liquor license, consistent sales have ensured that theatergoers can look forward to enjoying a drink — or two — there for years to come.

"Sales have been very good. We won't get rid of our liquor license," said Susan Shedd, operations manager of the State Theatre, 130 W. College Ave.

The State Theatre received a liquor license in February 2009, enabling the venue to cater to new events, Shedd said.

For the first time ever, the State Theatre will host a wedding and reception, set for June 2011.

Shedd said she is excited for the wedding, which will feature

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Program benefits team

Men's basketball team learns from Marines' experiences.

By Alex Angert
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Midway through their season-opener, the Nittany Lions were struggling, and their seniors weren't helping. They weren't playing with heart and they weren't playing like leaders.

Down by nine points late in the first half, senior Talor Battle hit a last second 3-pointer that changed everything going into halftime.

Last year, the senior guard would have tried to come out of the locker room and do everything by himself to lead his team back to victory.

But that was last year — this season Battle is a new kind of leader.

Behind an offseason team-building program taught by a former Marine who once saw six of his fellow Marines killed under his command, Battle is approaching this season trying not to get his team — or his metaphorical troop — figuratively killed as well.

That man is Eric Kapitulik, and that exercise could quite possibly make a difference for Penn State this year.

"He got out of the Marines and started 'The Program' where all the money he makes goes back to the families of the lost Marines so they can use the money for their children to go to college," coach Ed DeChellis said. "We brought these two guys in to work with our team on leadership and communication. I thought they needed a different thing, a different voice."

"The Program" is a rigorous three-day exercise challenge that puts teams through different

and the program is challenging players to be a team and to be leaders.

"I've never seen a leader like Kapitulik," Battle took the program to the practice floor. "Multi-

Through the program, Kapitulik and DeChellis have been challenging the team to be a team and 50-percent of the program is about the players' communication with each other and how to work together."

The program is a challenge for Battle and his teammates.

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Elaine Thompson/Associated Press
Four Lokos will no longer include three key ingredients.

Roller derby team forms in State College

By Megan Rogers
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER



Rebekah Wagner (graduate-ecology) leads a warm-up exercise at Penn Skate on Wednesday night. The State College Area Rollers compete Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m.

On Monday and Wednesday nights, a group of women shed their daytime identities — Penn State students, lawyers, teachers and librarians — strap on a pair of skates and get physical during roller derby.

Student Devan Zeger competes as an in-line skater before coming to college. But she said she's content with her decision to trade in her in-line skates for a pair of quads.

Zeger (junior-international politics) and her sister decided they wanted to continue skating, but Penn State didn't offer an in-line skating program. So when they saw an ad posted by student Rowan Cota on craigslist.com looking for people interested in setting up a roller derby league, they decided to take up the challenge.

Cota (sophomore-letters, arts and sciences) had posted the ad after the 2009 film "Whip It" caught her interest.

All members of the State College Area Rollers are new to the sport of roller derby, but team members said they are learning the game together.

The best part — aside from learning a new sport — is bonding as a team, Cota said.

"One girl is a preschool teacher, one is a librarian, there's a mixed martial artist and one of our refs works at a grocery store," she said. "Everyone comes from a different place, but roller derby brings us all together."

State College resident and team member Barbie Gallo joined after realizing roller derby was something she'd enjoy doing. She said she honestly never pictured her

See DERBY, Page 2.