

Coke dealer found guilty

A Centre Hall man arrested in 2009 was found guilty for his involvement in a cocaine ring.

By Zach Geiger
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Edwin Rhoades, 39, was found guilty on Tuesday night for his involvement in a \$1 million cocaine ring operating out of the State College area.

Rhoades, of Centre Hall, was convicted on six counts of possession of cocaine with the intent to sell, the Attorney General's office said. He was also convicted on one count each of criminal conspiracy and criminal use of a communication facility, the Attorney General's office said.

He was also acquitted on four counts each of selling cocaine and two counts each of corrupt organization, the Attorney General's office said.

Rhoades was arrested in December 2009 in connection with helping to operate a cocaine-dealing ring that brought 20 pounds of the drug from Philadelphia and Delaware

County to Centre County.

In January 2009, an investigation dubbed "Operation Rhoades Block" was launched to focus on the distribution of "several hundred ounces of cocaine" throughout State College.

Five men, including Rhoades, were arrested in December 2009 in connection with the drug smuggling operation.

Andre Spangler and Brian King, both of Media, Pa., pleaded guilty earlier this year for their involvement and await their sentence.

A fourth man involved, James Losch, of Howard, Pa., has yet to go to trial.

Hasan Bradley, 29, was also charged for his involvement in the drug ring but the Attorney General's office could not specify what counts he was charged with.

According to court documents, Spangler and King transported the cocaine to Losch and Rhoades, the two men named as the local Centre County dealers. Losch and Rhoades then distributed several ounces of cocaine and also purchased additional cocaine in Harrisburg and Delaware County to distribute in the State College area.

Charges

Convicted:

- Six counts of possession of cocaine with the intent to sell
- One count of criminal conspiracy
- One count of criminal use of a communication facility

Acquitted:

- Four counts each of selling cocaine
- Two counts each of corrupt organization

according to court documents.

Through court-authorized wiretaps on Bradley and Spangler, authorities learned that the two discussed "cutting" cocaine, prices and difficulties in acquiring the drug, according to court documents. The men commonly called cocaine "the work," "jawn," "babyjawns," and "funny-looking stuff," according to court documents.

Rhoades will be sentenced in January 2011, the Attorney General's office said.

To e-mail reporter zjg5012@psu.edu



Christian Castillo (sophomore-mechanical engineering) holds a sign promoting the PSU vs. MSU Blood Drive Challenge.

Competitors each top 2,000 units of blood

By Danae Blasso and Kristin Stoller
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Thursday "Penn State is a school that likes to win. They want to save lives."

After three weeks of fierce competition, Penn State and Michigan State University's 10th annual Blood Donor Challenge ended Thursday with the outcome still uncertain.

A tentative first count suggested Penn State had beat Michigan State by only three units of blood, Penn State Red Cross representative Wendi Keeler said.

The official numbers will not be available until Saturday, Keeler said. Students can check psu.redcross.org then to find out who won the drive, Keeler said.

Michigan State collected more than 2,000 units of blood for the first time this year, Michigan State Donor Representative for Blood Drive Kelly Weber said.

"We met and surveyed our goal here," Weber said. "We're our hospital needs."

While Penn State students collected 2,000 units of blood this year, it wasn't the first time the university has done so, Keeler said.

Keeler, the Penn State Donor Resource Center's Donor Representative, said the 2010 season is the most difficult for the Red Cross to obtain blood donations.

"We have 40 people waiting which shows me that they're excited," Keeler said as the drive wrapped up around noon.

Each individual donated a unit of blood, which is about 500 milliliters, said volunteer and member of the Student Red Cross Club Joshua Conrad (senior mathematics).

After giving blood, donors are encouraged to eat foods high in sugar content to get their blood sugar up, he said.

Keeler said every prospective donor was entered into a raffle with various prizes, such as a cash, a TV and ski lift tickets and resorts like Jack Frost or the Boulder.

State College resident Deborah Laughtlin said she was watching a story on the drive on the local news and saw Penn State was behind. She and her daughter were one of the 428 people who signed up to give blood Thursday.

Laughtlin said she and her daughter arrived at the HUB-Bobson Center Alumni Hall at 3 p.m. and did not get their blood taken until around 7 p.m.

Although Laughtlin's daughter is a senior at State College High School, was a first time blood donor Student Red Cross Club President Rino Sato (senior pre-engineer) was not. She said she donates every 56 days. The minimum allowed for white blood cells to replenish.

The Red Cross Club will be holding another blood drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 2, also at the HUB.

Student trustee position to open

By Mike Hricik
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State's Board of Trustees is now accepting applications for its student trustee — the only student position on the board.

Current student trustee Rodney Hughes will vacate his position when his term ends on June 30, 2011.

Hughes (graduate-education) has acted as student trustee since 2008.

University officials praised the work of students who previously held the position.

Penn State President Graham Spanier wrote via e-mail that he commended recent student trustees for their work.

"We've had truly superb student trustees, and I'd be delighted if we found students as capable as [former trustee] Nicole Lobaugh and Rodney Hughes," Spanier wrote.

Hughes said a roster of student leaders as well as non-voting administration members will interview candidates for the trustee position starting in February.

He said interviewers will narrow down the list of candidates to five for further interviews.

"They need to be individuals of great character with strong interpersonal skills."

Graham Spanier
Penn State President

Hughes and a representative from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of the Governor will make the final decision for student trustee in early March.

Hughes said serving as a trustee — though time-consuming — inspired him to go to Penn State for his master's degree in higher education.

He said the student who fills his position can expect equal opportunities to affect board decisions as other trustees.

"The student trustee has the same rights and responsibilities as any other board member. There are no restrictions on access," Hughes said.

According to the application, responsibilities of a student trustee include the selection and evaluation of the Penn State president, reviewing of university policies and approval of the \$3.8 billion operating budget.

Spanier wrote that students should personify the best that

Penn State offers.

"They need to be individuals of great character with strong interpersonal skills who can fully appreciate the student perspective but who at the same time can understand the broader experience that more senior members of the board may have," Spanier wrote.

Applications can be sent to BOTstudent@psu.edu or mailed to the Board of Trustees Office, 205 Old Main, University Park, Pa. 16802.

Students should send their applications by 7 p.m. on Dec. 1.

To e-mail reporter mh507@psu.edu

If you apply

Send applications to BOTstudent@psu.edu or by mail to 205 Old Main, University Park, Pa. 16802

Applications should be sent by 9 a.m. on Dec. 1

The Daily Collegian
Top Account Executive of the week

Lindsey Kamens

Note to self:

Step 1: Sign up for Twitter
Step 2: Follow @mycollegianad

Stay up to date on deadlines and promotions!
814-865-2531
www.twitter.com/mycollegianad

Ellie's Collection

HURRY! Limited Time Offer:
FREE 18K White Gold Plated Bracelet/Anklet for every order over \$30
Enter Offer Code: FREE 18K 10P at checkout.
Style may vary.

CZ Rose Gold Finish Bracelet Starting \$54

www.elliescollection.com
Gift Certificates available for purchase!

Advanced Eye Care Services
1470 Martin Street
State College, PA 16803
814-231-3937

Grad Students!

Can now take advantage of an appointment during our convenient hours and enjoy these benefits with your new DVA vision insurance plan:

- \$75 annual contact exams and contact lenses
- \$100 off contact lenses or glasses (minimum \$50)

And the best part is that you receive these benefits every year. So apply now before the end of December to take advantage and get full benefits starting in January.

IUP University of Pennsylvania

You have to start somewhere. With more than 60 graduate programs to choose from, we think it should be here.

www.iup.edu/GoToGradSchool
graduate-admissions@iup.edu • 724-357-2222
A member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education

Penn State vs. Towson
Saturday Nov. 20 @ 3:30

Youth Hockey Night
youth hockey players enter for free!
* Must be wearing jersey and accompanied by paying adult

Upcoming Games:
Dec. 3-4 Delaware
Dec. 10 Niagara

ADVANCED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE ICE RINK OR CALL (814) 863-2037
\$5/STUDENTS \$7.50/ADULTS @ DOOR

Let's Give Thanks!

The Daily Collegian will be closed for the week of November 22-26

Early Deadline Information:

- Deadline for Monday, Nov. 29 is Thursday, Nov. 18
- Deadline for Tuesday, Nov. 30 is Friday, Nov. 19

Contact your Account Executive for advertising information!
123 S. Burrowes Street
State College, PA 16801
(814) 865-2531

The Daily Collegian

Check out our Classifieds section with listings from the Greater Philadelphia Area

83% of students said their parents take them out to eat

Advertise in the Daily Collegian
(814) 865-2531