

# Congress honors JoePa

By Steven Petrella  
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

An on-field celebration at Beaver Stadium followed Joe Paterno's 400th win two weeks ago. On Wednesday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution to congratulate the legendary coach on his historic accomplishment.

The resolution passed by a vote of 417-3 to congratulate the 45-year Penn State head football coach on his 400th win.

The historic win came in a 35-21 victory over Northwestern on Nov. 6 at Beaver Stadium and made Paterno the only Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division-I) coach to achieve the feat.

The resolution was introduced by local U.S. representative Glenn Thompson, R-Pa., and was sponsored by 28 different members of the House, including each member from Pennsylvania.

Thompson said he had thought about the proposal prior to the win and said felt it was the right thing to do.

"When you look at Coach Paterno's record, it's more than 400 wins," Thompson said. "It's what he does off the field, as well."

One of the three representatives to vote against the resolu-

tion was Jason Chaffetz, a Republican who represents the third Congressional District of Utah.

Chaffetz kicked two field goals as the Brigham Young University place-kicker in 1989 when Penn State defeated the Cougars in the Holiday Bowl.

Chaffetz's office said he made a pledge months ago that he would not vote for any kind of sports resolution when Congress needs to focus on the budget and other issues — it had nothing to do with Paterno in particular.

"Watch ESPN and hold a hometown parade, but Congress is not where you should come seeking recognition in athletics," Chaffetz said in his official statement. "While I am a big fan of Joe Paterno... there are Americans who are struggling to pay their mortgage, yet we are spending time recognizing sports. Congress must do better."

In addition to introducing the resolution, Thompson pushed for Paterno to receive the 2011 Presidential Medal of Freedom, but President Barack Obama did not decide to award the coach the honor.

Former Boston Celtics player and coach Bill Russell was given the award this week.

UCLA men's basketball coach

John Wooden, Alabama football coach Paul 'Bear' Bryant, Army football coach Earl Blaik, Yale men's swimming coach Robert J.H. Kiphuth, Negro League baseball manager Buck O'Neil and Baltimore Orioles manager Frank Robinson are the other only coaches in sports history to receive the honor.

Thompson said he would keep pushing for Paterno in future years.

"We're sadly lacking the right kind of heroes right now," Thompson said. "Paterno holds all those core values."

In addition to being honored by Congress, Joe and Sue Paterno were honored by the Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association for a lifetime of achievement. Paterno received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Dapper Dan Charities in Pittsburgh.

Paterno was also the first active coach to receive the Distinguished American Award presented by National Football Foundation and College Football Hall of Fame.

Thompson said Paterno is more than just a football coach to the Penn State community.

"What will be most remembered is his character," Thompson said. "He's a humble man and commits to excellence."



Sarah Finnegan, Collegian

Instructional technologist Chris Stubbs shows the differences between the standard PlayStation controller and the new Microsoft Kinect controller, which allows users to physically interact with the video games.

# Cigarette warnings revised

By Katrina Wehr  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A picture is worth a thousand words, but in the case of the FDA's latest proposed warning labels on cigarette packaging, the image conveys one message: This product can kill you.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced its plans last week for a new tobacco strategy — the first change to the health warning labels in 25 years, said Jeff Ventura, a spokesman for the Food and Drug Administration.

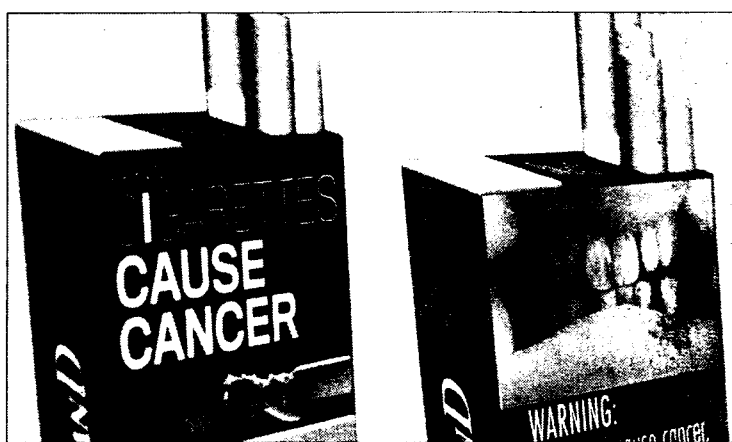
The FDA's plan dictates that "nine new larger and more noticeable textual warning statements and color graphic images depicting the negative health consequences of smoking appear on cigarette packages and in cigarette advertisements," according to a press release.

The changing labels are all part of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, passed in June 2009, which gives the FDA regulatory authority over tobacco products.

The re-labeling of cigarette packages is just one of many measures the act mandates, Ventura said.

It appears that the old labels, he said, which were only on the sides of packaging and solely text-based, have turned into white noise to smokers.

"New generations of smokers and potential smokers have become desensitized to that warning over time," Ventura said.



Evan Vuco, Associated Press

Above are two examples of proposed warning graphics that will appear on cigarette packaging for the government's tobacco prevention efforts.

The FDA will decide on nine images and accompanying textual warnings to be displayed on all cigarette packages starting in October 2012, Ventura said.

There are 36 proposed labels, which can be viewed on the FDA's website, depicting such images as cadavers with the text "smoking can kill you," and a mother smoking while holding her baby with the warning of "tobacco smoke can harm your children."

The Pennsylvania Department of Health said it realizes some people may think the proposed ads are "drastic or controversial," but the department supports the change.

"We support any opportunity that will cause youth and adults to cease tobacco use," Holli Senior, press secretary for the department, wrote in an e-mail.

University Health Services Coordinator of Educational Services Suzanne Zeman said the proposed labels were much more striking than just simple text.

"It's a lot easier to look past text as opposed to visual images," Zeman said.

"It has that visual component and it's something that will catch

people's attention much more."

Zeman said she wasn't sure the new labels would cause any smokers to quit. She said the ads might be more successful if seen by a person who had already thought of trying to quit before, she said.

"It depends too, on the situation," Zeman said. "In college populations, some people are getting cigarettes off friends at parties so they may not even have a pack with the label to look directly at it."

The most recent numbers regarding Penn State students' smoking habits come from a Pulse survey conducted in 2007. According to the report, 72.1 percent of students responded they did not smoke, 5.8 percent smoked every day, and 13.3 percent smoked only in social situations.

Zeman said the labels were, nevertheless, a good idea.

"I certainly think it's not going to hurt anything," she said. "Having images in the labels could be something to make people consider the warnings more than they would have before."

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# Students test new interactive console

By Paul McMullen  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Students and State College residents got to catch a glimpse of two of this holiday season's hottest gifts Thursday during the Educational Gaming Commons November luncheon, called "Move and Kinect — A revolution in input devices."

During the event, participants were given the opportunity to check out new additions to Sony's PlayStation 3 and Microsoft's Xbox 360 devices. Chris Stubbs, instructional technologist for Penn State's Education Technology Services, facilitated a question-and-answer session followed by demonstrations of each device.

"These systems represent the real motivation that will change how we think about gaming," Stubbs said.

"The Move and Kinect devices are blurring the line between gaming and reality."

Microsoft Kinect, which retails at \$150, easily connects to the Xbox 360 console and provides gamers with the same interactive experience as Nintendo's Wii console, but with one twist — the gamer is the controller.

Through the use of four different cameras housed within one small device, the user can stand five to ten feet away from their television and physically interact with what is being shown on the screen without the interference

"With these systems, the possibilities are endless."

Chris Stubbs  
Penn State instructional technologist

of a hand-held device, he said. "My wife hates seeing me play video games, but when she saw me playing Kinect, she tried it and instantly became attached," Stubbs said.

Sony's PlayStation Move, which retails at about \$100, provides a less expensive way to interact with the PS3.

Intrigued by both gadgets, Penn State employees Chris and Sarah Milito came to the event to decide whether they should purchase either gadget for their five-year-old son, who has a two-year-old brother they said likes to emulate his big brother.

Stubbs reassured them that the devices were child-friendly and both have the ability to allow their two little gamers the opportunity to play at the same time.

"These two systems have the ability to create a totally different interesting, possibly educational experience," he said. "With these systems, the possibilities are endless."

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# International students celebrate Thanksgiving holiday

By Micah Wintner  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

While most Penn State students are just a car ride away from home, Sunny Sang is too far from Quindao, China to spend Thanksgiving with her family.

Instead, Sang (freshman-division of undergraduate studies) will be spending Thanksgiving with her roommate's family in Philadelphia.

"I want to know the real American family, how they celebrate Thanksgiving," Sang said.

As much as she misses home, Sang said she has been enjoying Penn State since arriving in August.

"I have many choices and the adviser really helps me," Sang said. "I like the football, basketball and volleyball games. I really enjoy watching them."

International student Erik Lund has been away from his home in Sweden since April, and will also be spending Thanksgiving with a friend's family, he said.

Lund said Thanksgiving isn't celebrated in Sweden and he's excited to experience it in America.

He said Penn State has been different from what he expected.

"It's a lot more reading and a lot more studying just for the sake of studying, but other than that I like it," Lund said.

"I want to know the real American family, how they celebrate Thanksgiving."

Sunny Sang  
freshman-division of undergraduate studies

Thanksgiving dinner will also be available to international students spending the holiday on campus.

The student group Doing our Part will host its second annual Thanksgiving dinner 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Nov. 25 at SoZo, 256 E. Beaver Avenue. Doing our Part co-director Ayra Babb said.

Babb said she expects a similar turnout from last year's event, which included 55 guests from 12 countries.

"The most consistent feedback that we heard from students was that they were honored that we shared such a special family holiday with so many international students," Babb said.

Office of Physical Plant spokesman Paul Ruskin said Thanksgiving break isn't just a time for family celebration — it's also a time for energy conservation.

The university recently applied

its Christmas break conservation policies to Thanksgiving break through its new energy conservation policy AD-64, Ruskin said.

Penn State usually saves about \$200,000 in energy costs over the Christmas holiday, and now it hopes to start seeing savings over Thanksgiving, Ruskin said.

Ruskin said he urges faculty, staff and students to shut off their room appliances, unplug electronics, close their windows and draw their blinds during their break.

"They're simple little things but it makes a difference 1,000 times over," Ruskin said.

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# PSU-Indiana football game to benefit THON fundraising

By Megan Rogers  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Erin Barsanti will spend Saturday afternoon supporting two of her favorite things: Nittany Lion football and THON.

But Barsanti (junior-advertising) won't watch the game against Indiana University as just a fan. During an internship at FedEx Field, Barsanti discussed the possibility of turning the game into an opportunity to fundraise for the Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon.

Greg Myford, Penn State associate athletic director for marketing, collaborated with THON officials to turn the game into a fund-

raiser for the philanthropy.

As much as 5 percent of the ticket sales — or up to \$150,000 — will be donated to THON, Myford said. No figures are available yet about the number of total tickets sold because officials are waiting until Saturday to total the donation, he said.

Barsanti, who has never missed a home football game and is involved with THON organizations, said she thought the Indiana game would be the perfect opportunity to encourage more support for the philanthropy.

The game is at a great venue in an area with a large Penn State fan base, she said.

So far, the Penn State athletic

"It's a great way to cheer on and support Penn State athletics and support THON at the same time."

Jony Rommel  
THON public relations overall chairwoman

department has sold more than 21,000 tickets, Myford said. He said the anticipated crowd for Saturday's game is in excess of 75,000.

When Barsanti approached some of her superiors with the idea, they were supportive, especially as her boss was already a THON fan, she said. In fact, she credits a conversation about

THON during her interview with helping her snag the internship.

"People are so supportive when it comes to things like THON, it's just remarkable," she said. "It's absolutely incredible."

Once the idea was born, Penn State athletics was instrumental in making the event a reality, THON Public Relations Overall Chairwoman Jony Rommel said.

Rommel (senior-philosophy) said excitement for the game is high among students.

"It's a great way to cheer on and support Penn State athletics and support THON at the same time," she said.

The athletic department offered a Road Trip FTK package to provide transportation to the game for students, but the option was not popular, Myford said.

He credits that to the timing of the game.

"With everyone anxious to get home for break, the bus trip was not as attractive of an option as it would have been," he said.

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