

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police chief sentenced over check

CHESTER, Pa. (AP) — A police chief in suburban Philadelphia has been sentenced to nine to 23 months in prison after pleading guilty to charges he used someone else's benefit check as a down payment for a Cadillac Escalade.

ON THE WEB

Show to bring children's book to life

Students and community members will have the chance to see a popular children's book brought to life in musical form tonight. At 6 p.m., Singing Onstage will present "A Year with Frog and Toad" at the State Theatre, 130 W. College Ave.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Award-winning sports television talent Leah Secondo will speak at "A Conversation with Leah Secondo" at 12:30 p.m. in Foster Auditorium at the Paterno Library, and will include insight into her career with such outlets as the Big Ten Network, CBS College Sports, Fox Sports Net and ESPN.

The film "Chesapeake Past, Chesapeake Future" will be shown at 12:15 p.m. in 105 Deike Building, Earth and Mineral Sciences Library. The event is hosted by the Eberly College of Science.

Shelley Minteer of Saint Louis University will speak on "Bioelectrocatalysis for Energy Conversion and Sensor Applications" at 2:30 p.m. in 102 Chemistry Building.

Mark Mayford of the Scripps Research Institute will speak on "Genetic Control of Active Neural Circuits" at 4 p.m. in 108 Wartik Laboratory (with video-conferencing to room CG623 at College of Medicine).

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ON THE MENU

LUNCH

Findlay, Pollock, Redifer and Warnock: black bean chili, hot and sour soup, asian BBQ pork sandwich, asian stir-fry, shanghai chicken, sticky rice, vegetable egg roll, vegetable lo mein, kimono blend, sauteed zucchini

Simmons: black bean chili, chicken caesar salad, chicken caesar wrap, baked four cheese whole wheat penne, edamame, fried rice, turkey burger, vegetarian garden burger, broccoli with caramelized onions and pine nuts, brown rice and grain pilaf, cous cous tuscano, ginger glazed sugar snap peas, roasted roma tomatoes, sweet potato wedges, whole baby carrots

Warning: lunch roll basket, pear soup, soup of the day, oriental chicken salad, chicken cosmo not, feature grilled chicken sandwich, grilled chicken breast, kyoto blend, quarter pound cheeseburger, quarter pound hamburger, sauteed zucchini, shanghai chicken, shoestring fries, sticky rice, pork fried rice, asian stir fry, baked potato, black bean chili, broccoli florettes, brown rice, cheese sauce, vegetarian burger

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Elizabeth Edwards dies at 61

By Mike Baker and Nedra Pickler ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAPEL HILL, North Carolina — Elizabeth Edwards, who closely advised her husband John in two bids for the presidency and advocated for health care even as her marriage publicly crumbled, died Tuesday after a six-year struggle with cancer. She was 61.

She was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004, in the final days of her husband's vice presidential campaign. The Democratic John Kerry-John Edwards ticket lost to incumbent President George W. Bush.



Edwards

"Today we have lost the comfort of Elizabeth's presence, but she remains the heart of this family," the family said in a statement. "We

love her and will never know any one more inspiring or full of life. On behalf of Elizabeth we want to express our gratitude to the thousands of kindred spirits who moved and inspired her along the way. Your support and prayers touched our entire family."

John Edwards launched a second bid for the White House in 2007.

He lost the nomination to Barack Obama.

The couple separated in January after he admitted fathering a child with a campaign videographer.

Health care

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and staff up to date on what's going on through the site. Be sure to make use of the employee benefits staff if you have any questions and concerns as well," Willits said.

Willits said ailments covered under the transition to care plan extending in-network benefits include: heart attack, cancer, mental

health, bone fractures, joint replacement, pregnancy and other traumas or surgeries.

She said cases will be judged on a case by case basis by Highmark officials. Penn State spokeswoman Lisa Powers said the open enrollment period — when university employees can alter their healthcare benefits — ended in early November, which makes Geisinger's announcement an inconvenient one. Powers said the Employee Special

Assistance Fund helps full-time staff and faculty in financial hardship.

"If someone has a chronic or ongoing medical condition, we're going to help them in continuing that care with their provider," Powers said.

Willits said interested employees can apply for the funds through Penn State's Employee Benefits Division.

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Airport

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currently handles more than 200,000 passengers annually — will be able to accommodate larger flights, Centre County Airport Authority Chairman Joe Beigel said.

The increase in capacity will make the area more attractive to businesses and provide for substantial growth in the area, Spanier said. "Penn State is striving to make a difference locally and throughout the commonwealth," he said.

Even though it is unusual for a university to own an airport, Spanier said the addition of the tower shows further innovation at the facility and will contribute to the economic growth of the Centre County region.

Spanier and Steve Garban, chairman of the Penn State Board of Trustees, both shared their own experiences at the airport and their thoughts about the future of the facility.

The addition of the tower is a long time coming, Garban said, and will be a great improvement in the safety procedures at the facility.

Following the ceremony, airport officials took small groups on a tour of the facility. After exiting the elevator and climbing 25 stairs, groups were treated to sweeping views of Happy Valley and multiple planes taxiing for takeoff.

Spanier, who said he completed his pilot control training at the airport, said the facility holds a special meaning to him. Spanier shared his

knowledge about aviation and "airport trivia" with those in attendance on the tour.

Even some local government representatives are excited about the possibilities the new tower offers the region.

"The growth of this airport means the growth of this community," Cormann said.

"This was a major investment that was needed."

The completion of the project — which involved Penn State, the Federal Aviation Administration and other government agencies — is a great example of federal, state and local government working together to improve infrastructure, Cormann said.

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Tour

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Goreham joined the faculty, students and other lights members on the Holiday Lights Tour for the third consecutive year, she said.

"It's a traditional event that really allows the residents of surrounding boroughs to peek inside the fraternity houses," she said. "I'm impressed by how friendly the fraternities are and how well they decorated the houses. It's a good memory to

take away," Goreham said.

All tour-goers were asked to give each fraternity a score based on interior and exterior decorations.

Phi Kappa Theta house won first place in the exterior lights category and Sigma Phi won first place for interior lights, said PHC Vice President for Programming Kaitlyn Kirby (senior-management). President of Phi Kappa Theta Alex Shaub said he was thrilled for his fraternity, as brothers bring stringing lights on the house, trees, and bushes and donning wreaths on

windows Wednesday night.

"We put a lot of work in especially in cold weather so it feels pretty good and looks amazing from the outside," Shaub (sophomore-geosciences) said. All of the participants involved said the event was a great way to strengthen relationships between the greek and residential communities.

"We share the same neighborhood, so it's nice to build relationships," said outgoing PHC President Sara Linkosky (senior-political science).

Royster

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game being in his college career, and that legacy is regarded by many as one of a good — but not great — Penn State tailback.

But Warner said he and Royster avoided talk about legacy. Instead they talked more about the Penn State "family" and how much respect they had for each other.

This year, to say Royster's season has been like a roller coaster would be an understatement. He has broken records and shined in prime-time games like Joe Paterno's 400th win. He also came under scrutiny for a stalled ground attack in the season's first half and for taking longer than expected to break Warner's mark.

Neither the positives nor the negatives seem to matter to Royster, whose motto this season has been "no regrets."

"You lose games, you don't have the season you hoped you had," Royster said. "But it doesn't mean you're gonna go back and cry about it."

Royster felt the team had the talent to go 11-1 or 10-2, but underperformed with its 7-5 finish. He admitted he was one of the players who didn't perform up to expectations.

But while he didn't have the season he may have wanted, when asked if he would change his decision to return for his senior year — a question he's been asked at just about every interview and teleconference he's had this season — his response remained the same. "Never," he said. "I knew it was the right decision the day I made it. Playing at a place like this can't be matched."

"[The team's] become such a family."

Evan Royster Penn State tailback

Royster's father, Ted, said the media tends to overlook the motives for returning to school. While his son may not have had the 2010 season he hoped for, his return to Penn State wasn't solely a football decision.

"He realizes the value of what Penn State has given him in terms of his football skills and the friendships he has built on the team," Ted Royster said. "I think he's gonna miss that. There are some real close bonds when those guys are out there every day."

Ted Royster said sometimes he is amazed at how his son stays grounded.

The early season criticism started to get to him and his wife — specifically because they felt most of it was unfounded speculation about Royster being in Joe Paterno's doghouse or the unfair notion their son was indifferent toward the team's struggles.

They heard so much negativity about their son, Ted said, that it began to depress the two of them. But Ted said Evan didn't seem affected by any of it. Evan admitted he was bothered — only because it upset his family.

It took only a few minutes of chatting with Warner to call Royster a "very level-headed young man."

Despite his struggles and his critics, Royster certainly has had his share of great moments as a Nittany Lion. After he rushed for 150 yards while breaking the school's record in a win against Michigan, Royster

said it was the most fun he ever had playing football. When he went for 134 yards (on 11.3 yards per carry) the next week to help get Joe Paterno his 400th win, the previous week's moment, he said, already had competition.

"I've been here for five years with the same guys," Royster said. "It's become such a family and such a tight group that I think when I look back at my years here, I'll look back at those people. Of course the whole record and being here for Joe's 400th definitely stands out, too."

Much was made about Royster's relationship with his head coach this season. Before camp, Paterno questioned Royster's weight, saying he needed to shed a few pounds. During the season, Paterno refused to flatter Royster, often offering one-sentence responses when asked about the importance of his senior tailback.

When Paterno broke the record, the only praise Paterno offered was: "He's a good back — a good, solid back." The coach then quickly shifted to the offensive line's play.

But Royster and Paterno have both said their rift was overblown. Royster dropped the weight shortly after Paterno asked, and he quietly put up a solid season — one with 916 yards rushing on just less than a five-yards-per-carry average.

"We're here to win games," Royster said. "We're not here for records or benchmarks or whatever."

Given Royster's well-spoken, but quiet demeanor and the under-the-radar legacy he'll leave behind, it's fitting he sits on the cusp of yet another 1,000-yard season with almost no publicity surrounding it.

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Runt

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safety every day of his life, his older brother was naturally talented.

"Neither of us has ever tasted defeat while the other is on the field," he said.

Before running out of the locker room, Eason prays to God to let him win the game. As he's about to leave he prays for his brother's safety, because he's not going to go easy on him.

After hearing the noises of the game off-stage, Eason returns to

the locker room, bloody and dirty. His team is going to the Super Bowl, but his brother's lung was punctured when Eason tackled him. In the end his father doesn't care that he is going to the Super Bowl, he only has eyes for his injured child.

"It's only a game," his father told him.

Brothers Lou and Mike Lafuria attended the show with their parents.

"I really liked when he described playing football with his brother," Lou Lafuria, Class of 2009, said. "It was Lafuria."

Mike Lafuria, a Lock Haven

University alumnus, agreed, adding that he was surprised by the ending. "You never want to see your brother get hurt," he said.

Sarah Culver, who attended the show with her father, also thought the ending was unexpected.

"I definitely thought his brother would beat him," Culver, a State College Area High School senior, said.

"I was left with the message that it really is only a game and his brother ended up being more important to him."

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