A storm of THON committees and club members accompanied by music, free cake and free ice cream marked THON’s Kickoff Celebration in Pollock Commons.

The celebration, held from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 18, is the academic year’s first major THON-related event — beginning the high-energy support surrounding the 2020 dance marathon.

Gage Frye, a public relations captain, said: “The Kickoff is the first thing we’re able to do for the dancers. Everyone thinks ‘I can’t wait for the next THON weekend...’ Frye simpson horsting said: ‘The Kickoff is the first thing we’re able to do for the dancers.’

He said the day acts as a way to boost THON energy and inform students of the committees and organizations they can join to get involved in THON, as well.

Jackson Brown, outreach coordinator of THON, said this was the first time the event was hosted in Pollock Commons — previously, it was held on the HUB Lawn. However last year it was moved indoors because of rain.

It actually turned out well because of the nice day and getting the freshmen introduced to THON. Brown (sophomore-public relations) said: ‘I’m so excited for THON,’ not only for us as a college, but also for the participants, friends and families that all pull around us.

Brown said he is impressed with new members, as they are able to experience all that he has in his past THON involvement.

Rebecca Boyle is part of a smaller THON fundraising organization, Monarch. Her older brother was one of the organizations, ‘Monarch to make their ‘close-knit family’ a little larger.

Brianna Boyle is part of a smaller THON fundraising organization, Monarch. Her older brother was one of the founding members of Monarch.

‘Monarch’ started out in a dorm room in McKeon Hall in East. My brother and I grew up participating in the events like the Kickoff Celebration and Family Carnival on Dec. 8. Boyle (sophomore-elementary education) said: ‘They felt it was big and they couldn’t get their faces out there or make a ton of friends, so they thought, ‘Why can’t we start an organization that is a close-knit family?’”

Boyle said one of Monarch’s biggest goals this year is to grow member outreach. Events like the Kickoff Celebration and past involvement fairs are a way for organizations like Monarch to make their “close-knit family” a little larger.

“It is more difficult [to fundraise] than bigger THON orgs due to having less people,” Boyle said. “But when we do fundraises, we get the whole team involved.”

Maddie Detoeville is a dancer relations committee member from the THON 2020 weekend. The dancer relations committee is in charge of helping the dancers feel the best they can by creating activities to keep them entertained.

“I think it’s really cool the dancers are able to represent their families and organizations on the floor and think it’s important they have the best experience possible,” Detoeville (minor in science) said. “It’s our job to be there so they can be there for their kids, for their families, for their organizations.”

Shelby Speaker sat at a table selling THON merchandise at the Kickoff Celebration. As an inventory captain, Speaker (junior-elementary education) works at least three hours a week in the THON store.

While we know the theme of THON 2020 yet, when it is revealed, the day acts as a way to boost the energy for THON.

THON merch will also be available online at store.thon.org. All profits benefit THON.

Committee applications close Friday, Sept. 25, and many THON organizations are still open to those who want to join.

Looking to the future, THON will host its THON celebration on Nov. 13 and the Family Carnival on Dec. 8.

To email reporter: email address. Follow her on Twitter at @connordonlon26.

Judge removes himself from Jerry Sandusky resentence

By Maddie Aiken

The judge who was appointed to handle the ressentencing of Jerry Sandusky has taken himself off the case, according to the Associated Press.

It is not clear why Judge John Pappas of Jefferson County will no longer handle the resentence. He cited an unidentified recent action from the Pennsylvania attorney general as his reasoning.

While Sandusky’s ressentencing was originally scheduled for Sept. 13, Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro put the resentence on hold on Sept. 14. It is unclear when the sentencing will be rescheduled.

In 2012, Sandusky was convicted on 40 counts of sexual abuse after it was uncovered that the former Penn State football defensive coordinator sexually abused boys for decades.

He was initially sentenced to 30 to 60 years in prison, but that sentencing was vacated and rescheduled to the lower courts in February.

To email reporter: email address. Follow him on Twitter at @connordonlon26.
Fostering Lions providing support to foster youth

By Melissa Manno

Fostering Lions program launched at Penn State in fall of 2018 with $10,000 in funding, to provide support to foster students. Says program is the best organization to have on campus.

According to the National Foster Youth Institute, about half of all foster alumni fail high school. Addi tionally, one in four graduates from a four-year college.

To combat this issue, the Fostering Lions program was launched at Penn State in fall of 2018 with $10,000 in funding, to provide support to foster students. "Fostering Lions is a vital need," said Travis Perry, a psychology professor at Penn State. "It's a really important issue that we need to address.

According to Perry, the program is the best organization to have on campus. "Fostering Lions is a really important issue that we need to address," he said.

In the beginning stages, the program is in development phase. According to Perry, the program is in development phase.

The program focuses on four main areas: financial aid, educational and career planning, emotional support, and logistical support.

For many foster youth, the biggest roadblock when it comes to getting higher education is financial aid. Many students don't have the necessary information to navigate grants, scholarships and other financial resources.

According to Perry, many students aren't aware of the resources available to them. "They're not aware of the resources available to them," he said.

In addition, there are social events planned where students get to meet and interact with each other.

Students are also highly encouraged to meet with McConnell on a monthly basis, however, they can meet with her as many times as they desire. A great part of the program is being able to connect with others, and being able to talk through their experiences.

"It's really important to have someone who understands what they're going through," said Perry.

According to Perry, the program is the best organization to have on campus. "It's the best organization to have on campus," he said.

For more information, visit fosteringlions.com.
The Area 51 raid meme is dangerous if taken seriously

Maddie Aiken

“It should be obvious that the event was postulated as a joke, but there is a dangerous possibility if anyone takes it seriously.”

Madeline Aiken

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Comicon/Madeline Aiken/Collegian

The Area 51 raid meme is dangerous if taken seriously

Maddie Aiken

“It should be obvious that the event was postulated as a joke, but there is a dangerous possibility if anyone takes it seriously.”

Madeline Aiken

One day in May, my roommate and I looked up a Facebook event to attend a popular anime convention in Chicago. As we scrolled through the various events on the page, a meme that read “The Area 51 raid meme is dangerous if taken seriously” caught our attention. We clicked on the link to read the article by Madeline Aiken, a senior and the Opinion Page Editor of The Daily Collegian, and were struck by her insightful analysis of the potential dangers associated with the meme.

In her article, Aiken argues that the Area 51 raid meme, which has been circulating on social media and has attracted over 2.1 million likes, poses a serious threat. The meme, which references the Area 51 training facility in Nevada, suggests that visitors to the training base are being hidden or guarded by a secret government agency. The meme has been shared widely, and as Aiken notes, “It is not just a meme.”

The Area 51 raid meme is based on a real event that took place in 1950, when the U.S. Air Force sent out a secret mission to investigate reports of extraterrestrial activity at Area 51. The mission was code-named Project Blue Book and involved the deployment of armed authorities, including the air force, in the Nevada desert. As Aiken points out, the meme is a modern-day version of this incident, and it has been amplified by the internet.

Aiken warns that the meme could attract a significant number of people to Area 51, leading to an increase in the number of visitors to the training facility. She notes that the Area 51 raid meme is not just a harmless joke, but rather a potentially dangerous call to action. The meme has the potential to attract a large number of people to the area, and as Aiken points out, “It is not just a meme.”

Aiken also highlights the potential for the Area 51 raid meme to be taken more seriously, even by those who have no intention of actually going to Area 51. The meme could be taken more seriously by individuals who are already interested in the possibility of extraterrestrial life, or by individuals who are simply looking for an excuse to travel to a remote area.

Aiken concludes her article with a call to action, urging readers to consider the potential consequences of the Area 51 raid meme. She writes, “It is our responsibility to consider the potential consequences of the Area 51 raid meme, especially as the internet has the power to mobilize large numbers of people. Let us not be complicit in spreading dangerous and potentially harmful ideas.”

In conclusion, Aiken’s article is a powerful reminder of the potential dangers associated with the Area 51 raid meme. It is a call to action for all of us to consider the consequences of our online behavior and to be responsible in the ways that we engage with social media.

Madeline Aiken's article, "The Area 51 raid meme is dangerous if taken seriously," is a powerful reminder of the potential dangers associated with the Area 51 raid meme. It is a call to action for all of us to consider the consequences of our online behavior and to be responsible in the ways that we engage with social media.
**Penn State should host NHL preseason every year.**

As both the Penguins and Sabres traded great chances and great saves in overtime of the season opener, the Roar Zone was decked out in blue and gold. The high-level talent displayed by the student-athletes and the students who saw them up front and close in action was unforgettable.

Penn State hockey is special. It’s the moment the puck nearly crossed the goal line, reacting every edge of its seats, reaching the last seat, the game was over. It was easy to forget that it was a perfect opening game.

Penn State hockey is exciting, but the NHL is different. Level, preseason or not. It’s the moment when the lineup was released with more experienced players on the ice and it was a surprise to see.

The Sabres traded great chances with the Penguins, but they didn’t happen, but the Sabres did. Fans got to witness the likes of Jack Eichel, Jeff Skinner and Rasmus Dahlin, all top-10 draft picks in their respective years.

Penn State hockey is special, it’s special for the fans. It’s special for the student-athletes. It’s an opportunity to grow with more experienced players on the ice.

It’s an opportunity to use the NHL game to its fullest extent. Perhaps most surprising was seeing an Atlanta Thrashers jersey, a team that hasn’t played in over eight years. I’ve been a fan hard-pressed to see my whole life,” junior Jeremy Schieler said.

They moved away in 2011 from Atlanta to Winnipeg, I hate the Jets, they stole our team. They were terrible, they never won a game in over team history, but I love them and I’m waiting forever until they come home. It’s an opportunity to grow with more experienced players on the ice.

Penn State hockey is special, it’s special for the fans. It’s special for the student-athletes. It’s an opportunity to grow with more experienced players on the ice.
Penn State’s struggles against elite competition

By Caleb Wilfinger

Russ Rose will be the first one to tell you that he doesn’t believe in moral victories. The Hall of Fame coach has been the face behind one of the nation’s premier programs since the 1990s. And in fact, Stanford is the only team in NCAA history that has beaten Penn State. But for a program as prestigious as Penn State, a notice-able loss is not that big of a deal. "I don’t view losing to a competitive team as a moral victory,” Rose said. "If you do not get the results, the fight [during a loss] does not really seem to matter."

Rose’s mentality toward competition and winning at the highest levels is often the standard that the Nittany Lions have not had to live up to the standard of most of the Big Ten. "If you do not get the results, and not about the fight," Rose said. "If you do not get the results, the fight [during a match] does not really seem to matter," Rose said. "If you do not get the results, the fight [during a loss] does not really seem to matter."

Penn State has won at least 22 matches in each of the last four seasons — just one in the last four seasons — could be a cause for concern. "For me, it’s all about the results," Rose said. "If you do not get the results, the fight during a match does not really seem to matter."

Rose’s mental toughness comes from competing and winning at the highest level. "I have been coaching at Penn State for 41 years, and I want to see us compete and win," Rose said. "I do not want to do anything, either do it or you should not do it at all." Over the course of his tenure at Penn State, Rose has led the program to seven NCAA National Championships; the first came in 1981, then in each of the years 2007 through 2013, and most recently in 2014 and 2015. In that span, the team won six national titles and qualified for the Final Four seven times, losing at only 22 matches in that span. Penn State has won at least 22 matches in each of the seasons played under Rose.

In fact, the only other program to have appeared in every NCAA tournament since the NCAA championship began in 1981. At the conclusion of the 2014 championship run, Rose’s career winning percentage was 886, which was ranked as the highest in NCAA history by the AVCA. However, since the Nittany Lions won both the national championship and the NCAA title in 2013 and 2014, the team has lost at least 22 matches in each of the seasons played under Rose.

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Check your ride, every time.

Always check your ride before getting in:

1. License plate
2. Car make & model
3. Driver photo