

# Rock Calendar

Listings taken from the  
SRU Master Calendar of Events.

## **Today, Nov. 2**

Harambee Summit continues  
University Union  
(Also Saturday, Sunday)

SRU women's soccer hosts PCAA semi-final  
in N. Kerr Thompson Stadium, 4 p.m.

## **Saturday, Nov. 3**

SRU women's volleyball hosts IUP  
2 p.m. Morrow Field House

"Dig for the Cure" Day

## **Sunday, Nov. 4**

Daylight Saving Time arrives, 2 a.m.

SRU Marching Pride  
Stadium Echoes Concert  
James Berry, conducts  
4 p.m. Morrow Field House

## **Monday, Nov. 5**

Spring semester registration opens

## **Wednesday, Nov. 7**

Last day for course withdrawal with "W"  
Deadline, 5 p.m.

SRU Sax Quartet Concert  
Jeremy Long, directs  
7:30 p.m., Swope Recital Hall

## **Thursday, Nov. 8**

Native American Day Celebration  
10 a.m., opening  
University Union

Teaching Learning Technology Roundtable  
Annual Gadget Show  
12:30 p.m., Bailey Library

University Forum  
12:30 p.m.

Lunafest 2007  
6 p.m.

Advanced Technology and Science Hall

## **Saturday, Nov. 10**

Transition Student Development Series  
Intercultural Programs Office  
1 p.m., University Union

Women's Swimming  
Chatham Invitational in Pittsburgh  
2 p.m.

## **Sunday, Nov. 11**

Jazz and Tap Dance Ensemble  
3 p.m. Swope Music Hall

# rockpride

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A newsletter for faculty, staff, and friends of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania



## ROTC Challenge Team earns regional competition honors

The culmination of six weeks of six-day-a-week training paid off for the Slippery Rock University Army ROTC Ranger Challenge team when it recently captured second place in its tier and third place overall in the annual 2nd Brigade Eastern Region Ranger Challenge.

Ranger Challenge is the varsity sport of Army ROTC. The competition focuses on infantry skills in which squad-sized teams of 10 cadets compete against other colleges and universities in the eastern region. The region includes colleges and universities from New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

Specific competitions are conducted in: rifle marksmanship, constructing a one rope bridge, patrolling, weapons assembly and disassembly, an Army Physical Fitness Test, land navigation, obstacle course, hand-grenade assault course and a 10-kilometer forced road march.

The SRU team took first place in the one rope bridge competition with a time of 9 minutes, 6 seconds. The team took second in the weapons assembly/disassembly competition and fifth in the fitness test, obstacle course and road march competitions.

The challenge, which involved 19 teams, was at Fort Indiantown Gap.

The SRU cadet team includes: Jonathan Turner of Pittsburgh, Micah Linderman of

(See ROTC page 4)

## Liberal Education Forum examines career links

A panel discussion about "Connecting Liberal Education with Career Choices Education, Non-profits, Business and Public Service" will highlight Slippery Rock University's College of Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts Liberal Education Initiative Committee's "Liberal Education Forum" Nov. 8.

The session is at 4 p.m. in the Advanced Technology and Science Hall Auditorium. William McKinney, dean of the college, will serve as moderator.

"We are offering this program as a way of beginning dialogue on how important a liberal education is today and how selecting a liberal education major can help students in nearly every field of employment," said I.T. Meztli, assistant professor of English and program organizer. "Students spend their first two years in college gaining a general education. We hope our program will show them how that education can be helpful in many career pursuits."

Additional related programs are being planned.

(See Liberal Education page 4)

**AND THE WINNER IS:** Christiana Howell (left), a vocal performance major from Erie, is joined by Colleen Neubert, associate professor of music, after taking top honors in SRU's 15th Chad Williamson Memorial Scholarship Competition. Fourteen students competed for the honor judged by Guenko Guechev (right), chair of the voice department and opera workshop director at Duquesne University. The competition honors Williamson, a Slippery Rock High School graduate who had planned to enroll at SRU but was killed in a traffic accident. Honorable mentions were given Brian Mueller, a voice major from Butler; Anna Michelle Cypher, a music performance major from Evans City; and Lauren Pattera, an education major from Bentleyville.



## Women's soccer makes fifth appearance in PSAC semifinals

The women's soccer team will make its fifth straight appearance in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference semifinals today when it hosts Edinboro at 4 p.m. on Bob DiSpirito Field in N. Kerr Thompson Stadium.

The Rock enters the game with a 15-3-1 overall record, a No. 14 ranking in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Division II national poll and No. 2 rankings in both the NSCAA and NCAA Northeast Regional polls.

The Rock earned a first-round bye and the host role for today's game when it won the PSAC-Western Division title with an 8-1-1 mark.

With a win today, Noreen Herlihy's squad would set a school record for single-season wins. More importantly, The Rock would move into Sunday's 1 p.m. conference championship game which will be played at the home school of the winner of the West Chester vs. East Stroudsburg match up. Those two teams meet in today's other semifinal game.

The Rock's ultimate goal this weekend is to claim its third PSAC title in the last five seasons. SRU won titles in both 2003 and 2005.

A win today would also almost assure The Rock of a berth in the regional tournament, which starts Nov. 9. Regional berths will be awarded Monday.

In other Rock sports news:

- Jaime Wright's third-place individual finish paced the women's cross country team to a fourth-place finish in the PSAC Championships.
- The football team took a No. 7 regional ranking into Thursday night's game at Lock Haven. George Mihalik's squad owned a 7-2 overall record (2-2 PSAC-West) after it lost a 22-13 decision last Saturday to No. 6 California University of Pennsylvania.
- The men's soccer team lost a 1-0 decision last Saturday at Millersville to finish the season with a 9-8-2 overall record and an 8-6-2 mark in PSAC action. The loss denied Matt Thompson's squad a third straight trip to the conference playoffs.
- The women's volleyball team saw its record drop to 21-14 overall, 2-7 in PSAC-West play, when it lost a 3-0 decision Tuesday at division champion California University of Pennsylvania. Laurie Lokash's squad closes out its regular-season schedule with a 2 p.m. home match Saturday against IUP.

## Committee plans 'Memory Book' for Alkhafaji

Slippery Rock University faculty, staff, students and alumni are asked to contribute to a "Memory Book" for Abbass Alkhafaji, professor in SRU's School of Business, who died Sept. 20 following a brief illness.

The committee organizing the book is seeking reflections as to why he was admired and any other special memories or photos. Contributions will be copied for presentation to Alkhafaji's family members.

"We decided a memory book would be an excellent way for his young children to help remember their father," said Lori Zulauf, assistant professor in professional studies and a committee member.

Items should be submitted by e-mail to: AAMemorial@sru.edu by Dec. 7. Adel Fergany, associate professor of computer science, will assemble the book during semester break.

Alkhafaji, 59, joined the SRU marketing and management faculty as an assistant professor in 1987. An Iraqi native, he earned his doctorate at the University of Texas after earning both his master of science degree in accounting and his master of science degree in economics at North Texas State University. He earned his master of business administration degree at Bowling Green State University and his undergraduate bachelor of arts degree from the University of Baghdad in Iraq.

He became ill while on an academic sabbatical in the Middle East and returned to his New Castle home for treatment. He was transferred to Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore where he died.

In addition to his wife, Fatin, he leaves six children.

## President's Commission seeks Women of Distinction nominations

Nominations for Slippery Rock University's Women of Distinction Awards are being accepted through Nov. 30.

The awards, created in 1997, honor student, staff, faculty and administrative women who have set themselves apart in their mentoring and support of females on the SRU campus.

Recipients are chosen by a committee comprised of members of the President's Commission on the Status of Women and are presented at the annual Women's Studies Mentoring Dinner Feb. 19. The award is a necklace made by a local woman artist.

"Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to recognize women on this campus who have made an exceptional effort to provide leadership and mentoring to others, especially women," said Jace Condrary, professor of English and program chair.

Nominations and recommendation forms should be returned to Betsy McKinley, associate professor of physical education.

Details on how to nominate a candidate and a list of previous recipients is at: [www.SRU.edu/pages/10053.asp](http://www.SRU.edu/pages/10053.asp)

## SRU education dean earns Teacher Educator award for 2007

Jay Hertzog, dean of the College of Education at Slippery Rock University, has been named Pennsylvania Teacher Educator for 2007 by the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators. Hertzog is a respected expert on middle school education and an informed and concerned advocate for students and teachers.

"Jay has worked tirelessly to make a difference in the way the children of Pennsylvania, if not the nation, are educated, in many venues," said John Hicks, an SRU trustee and professor emeritus from the College of Education, who nominated him.

"When my peers recognize my work, it's always an honor," said Hertzog. "I have consulted all over the U.S. and completed several national studies on the importance of successfully transitioning students from middle school to high school. I get one or two e-mails a week asking about middle school pedagogy and the transition process."

The PAC-TE is a professional association working to ensure that students at all levels have the opportunity to learn with highly qualified and effective teachers. It is comprised of 95 deans, faculty and department chairs from university education departments statewide who select and honor a top educator annually.

Hicks, who graduated from and taught at SRU for 30 years, noted Hertzog's accomplishments in developing articulation agreements between SRU and local community colleges, including Butler County Community College.

"This working arrangement included having the community college develop a program to assist with certification testing that has spread across the state," Hicks said.

Hertzog joined SRU in 1999. He oversees curriculum for more than 2,500 education majors and supervises 85 faculty members. He was instrumental in launching SRU's principalship certification program and developing a science content course for elementary education majors. He also established a diversity committee for the college that works to implement diversity issues into curriculum and introduced an online master's program in special education.

Hertzog has published several papers and presented at numerous national conferences.

Before joining SRU, Hertzog was department chair and on the faculty at Augusta State University and Valdosta State University. He also taught and held administrative positions in public schools.



**GET A JOB:** More than 300 would-be teachers turned out Wednesday for the Office of Career Services-sponsored "Teacher Job Fair." Representatives from some 60 school districts in the state and across the nation, including Maryland, Arizona, Florida, Delaware, New Jersey, Alaska and others visited campus to recruit SRU students and those from other nearby colleges and universities for teacher vacancies in their home districts. "It was another success for both students and employers," said Anthony Linnan, associate director of career services. "The program gave students great opportunities to interview and consider employment in Pennsylvania and other regions of the country, and it gave school districts needing teachers the chance to interview some really great candidates."

## Unity Week designed to help unify campus

Jeff Johnson, national youth director for the NAACP, founder of My Nation Online.com and regularly seen on the BET Network, is the keynote speaker for SRU's Student Union for Minority Affairs Unity Week Nov. 11-17. The week is designed to help unify the campus community.

Johnson's address, titled "Hip Hop, Politics, Power and Authority," is at 6 p.m. Nov. 15 in the Advanced Technology and Science Hall. He joined BET in 2004 and produced his own show "Jeff Johnson Chronicles" which addressed issues relevant to young people in urban America. He is also co-host for the network's "Meet the Faith." The lecture is sponsored by SRU's Black Action Society.

The sixth annual event opens with a Gospel Fest at 5 p.m. Nov. 11 in the University Union. The traditional "Mr. And Miss Unity Pageant" is at 7 p.m. Nov. 12 in the union. Tickets are \$3 in advance.

"Taste of the World" food tasting is at noon Nov. 13 in the union lobby sponsored by AVI Foodsystems, the campus food vendor. At 6 p.m. Nov. 13 the Office of Intercultural Programs and the President's Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual Issues, and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual Association hosts a "State of America" panel session on "Separation of Church and State" in the ATSH Auditorium.

A "Mock Step Show" will be presented at 7 p.m. Nov. 14. "Novelty Events" will be offered at noon Nov. 15. Both events are in the union.

A 9 p.m. Nov. 16 student-faculty basketball game, featuring players from AND 1, is scheduled for Morrow Field House.

A special "Party Walk" and after party conclude the week from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Nov. 17 at the Slippery Rock Township Building.

## Louis Libitz displays art at Martha Gault Gallery

"A Video Exhibition" featuring works by Louis Libitz, assistant director and program coordinator of the Black Maria Film + Video Festival in New Jersey, is on display in Slippery Rock University's Martha Gault Art Gallery.

The gallery, located in the Maltby Center, is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 2-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The exhibition continues through Nov. 20.

Libitz, an adjunct professor of foundations of media design in the media arts department at New Jersey City University, earned his bachelor of arts degree in media arts from the College of Arts and Sciences at New Jersey City University. He received his master of fine arts in art video degree from the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University where he taught advanced post-production techniques as an adjunct professor.



**LAYING NEW TRACKS:** It was smooth, cold and hard during the recent warm weather as cement masons poured and formed new sidewalks around Old Main. Crews took more than a week to tear out old sidewalk segments and curbing, before putting down new walkways. Work is now complete, and the sidewalks are open.

## International students share customs, cultures in weeklong program; Special Dinner Nov. 10

Internations Week at Slippery Rock University opens Sunday with the spotlight on international sports and giving international students opportunities to explain many of the cultural customs of their home countries and American students and the regional community the chance to ask questions and learn about different cultures.

The week's activities, set Sunday through Nov. 10, are sponsored by the SRU Internations Club.

The opening event is at 7 p.m. in the Robert N. Aebersold Student Recreation Center.

The week's culmination is the 7 p.m. Nov. 10 International Dinner, featuring food items from around the world prepared by the students and staff from AVI, the campus contract food vendor. Tickets to the dinner in the University Union are \$20 for the general public, \$10 for SRU students and \$6 for children under age 12. Tickets, which must be purchased in advance, are available in the International Services Office in Carruth Rizza Hall.

The Internations Club will offer an "International Fashion Show" at 8 p.m. Monday in the University Union, featuring clothing from student's home countries. At 12:30 p.m. Tuesday an "International Showcase" in the union is planned for students to show and explain items from their homelands.

The Nov. 7 event is a 2 p.m. "International Coffee House" in North Hall, featuring coffees and teas from the international student's home countries along with the opportunity to talk with students about their homelands.

An "International Roundtable" is at 12:30 p.m. Nov. 8 in the University Union. The discussion topic will be employment opportunities in the student's home nation.

"The week is a perfect opportunity for students, both from America and from nearly 40 countries represented by our international students, to share information, learn about other cultures and discuss customs," said Pam Frigot, director of international services.

## ROTC (Continued from page 1)

Winchester, Va., and Chris Spudic of Cranberry, all seniors; Collier Wright of Pittsburgh, Bradlee Spudic of Cranberry, Emma Christensen of Mountaintop, and Zachary Majzun of Bethesda, Ohio, all juniors; Chad Baker of Freeport, Zachary Foster of Volant, sophomores; and Merle McConnell of Aliquippa, a freshman.

Team alternates are: Jessica Brothers of Mahaffey, Ruth Pippin of Knox, Michael Botjer of Lake Aerial, and Patrick Plumberg of Denver.

The team is coached by Master Sgt. Sheldon Monroe and 2nd Lt. Andrew Sharp.

Competition top honors went to IUP in first place and Lehigh University in second place.

## Liberal Education

(Continued from page 1)

Panelists are:

- Yaw Asamoah, dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. A native of Ghana and an economist by training, Asamoah earned his bachelor of arts degree from Brandeis University and both his master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from Washington University.

- Nina Persi, house coordinator at the I CARE House in New Castle. An SRU graduate, Persi earned her doctorate in interpersonal communication from Ohio University. She formerly served in SRU's communication department. The I CARE House, an SRU affiliate, leverages financial, physical and social capital for community-identified social changes that enhance the quality of life of local residents, engage students and faculty in community-based learning, and encourage a civil society.

- Mark Nye, senior manager of leadership and organization development at H.J. Heinz Co. Nye has been with Heinz since 2001 where he manages a wide range of human resources functions. He works with developed countries such as Europe, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and in emerging markets such as India, China, Singapore, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. A graduate of Brigham Young University with a bachelor of arts degree in organizational communication, he has undertaken master's work at the College of St. Thomas.

- Norman Bristol Colón, executive director of the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs, was born and reared in Puerto Rico. He was appointed by Gov. Edward G. Rendell as the commonwealth's advocate for Latino residents.

In his public service, Colón makes recommendations to the governor, state agencies, the legislature, and local and county governments on issues, policies, procedures and legislation that would enhance the status of the Latino community in the commonwealth.

As the governor's liaison to the Latino community, he ensures state government is accessible, accountable and responsive to Latino needs and that strategy and programs are developed to enhance the community's educational, social, political and economic status. A graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, Colón earned his bachelor of arts in political science.

A reception will follow the discussion.