

# Corbett: I've never condemned Paterno, 'never will'

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Gov. Tom Corbett said Thursday he has never condemned the late Penn State coach Joe Paterno for his actions regarding now-convicted child sex abuser Jerry Sandusky, and he "never will," citing what he called the "unusual circumstances" surrounding what happened.

The Republican governor, now in the middle of a re-election campaign, also told The Associated Press that he regrets that the Penn State board decided to fire Paterno by phone rather than in person. The governor was a voting trustee when the scandal broke in November 2011.

"When they were talking about the whole thing I said, 'You've got to remember the children,'" Corbett said. "Since that date the only thing I have said about Joe Paterno is I've quoted him. As he said, I wish he would have done more. I've not condemned, one way or the other, never have, never will. These are unusual circumstances."

Corbett said his recollection was that he did not take part

in a voice vote on Paterno's firing. But other accounts said that the proposal to fire Paterno was made and that no board members objected. The report for Penn State by former FBI director Louis Freeh said trustees' recollections of Corbett's role in the discussion differed.

Corbett said when he hung up from the trustees' conference call that night the board had not decided how they were going to tell Paterno he was no longer the coach. They ended up having someone deliver a note directing Paterno to call a phone number, and when he did, board vice president John Surma fired him.

"If I had known that, I would have insisted they do it in person," Corbett said. "Man up."

In 2001, assistant coach Mike McQueary had contacted Paterno at his home to complain about Jerry Sandusky, then retired after decades as the school's top defensive coach, in the Penn State showers with a boy. Paterno in turn notified the athletic director, but the

complaint did not result in a criminal investigation and it would be more than a decade until he was charged.

McQueary testified against Sandusky at trial in 2012. Jurors convicted Sandusky of indecent assault and other offenses related to that victim but acquitted him of the most serious charge, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse. Overall, Sandusky was convicted of 45 of 48 counts involving 10 victims and is serving a lengthy prison sentence.

The Freeh report concluded that Paterno and three other top administrators covered up information about Sandusky's actions to avoid bad publicity. Paterno's family has vehemently denied that allegation.

Paterno's firing in 2011, three months before he died of lung cancer, remains a sore spot among many Penn State alumni and fans. But the governor said he does not believe the scandal is hurting him politically in his campaign for a second term.

Corbett acknowledged

some voters dislike his role in Paterno's firing, but many others have moved on.

"I think when it comes to an election, the vast majority of the people are going to vote on the two candidates, not just vote on Penn State," he said during a wide-ranging interview in his official residence in Harrisburg.

Corbett was attorney general when the Sandusky investigation began in 2009 and also a candidate for governor during the second year of the probe in 2010.

The state's new Democratic attorney general, Kathleen Kane, had suggested that Corbett may have slowed down the investigation because of donations and other support he had received from Penn State trustees and those linked to a Sandusky charity.

Corbett declined to say whether he believes Kane should apologize to him.

Penn State has removed the governor as a voting member of the university board but he remains a member ex officio.

# Arizona worker safety agency reviewing prison rape

PHOENIX (AP) — Arizona's workplace safety agency confirmed Thursday that it has launched a review of the rape of a teacher inside a state prison classroom.

The teacher was alone in the room with no guard nearby when a convicted rapist assaulted her, documents state.

The Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health review comes a week after a report by The Associated Press highlighted concerns about how the Jan. 30 assault occurred.

The agency said the review was launched as a result of those reports about the rape at the Eymann state prison south-east of Phoenix.

The review doesn't mean there will be a full investigation, agency spokeswoman Rachel Brockway said.

The agency can't give the state Department of Corrections notice that it plans to investigate, and if the agency does proceed, it is barred from discussing it unless a citation is issued and no litigation is

underway, Brockway said.

The Department of Corrections did not report the assault to ADOSH. It is only required to report incidents in which there is a fatality or more than three people are hospitalized.

Corrections spokesman Bill Lamoreaux said the department will cooperate and assist with any investigation and is always reviewing its security policies to ensure staff are safe.

Spokesman Doug Nick previously said there were no security issues at the prison but said officials are now adding cameras in prison classrooms. Nonguards statewide were issued pepper spray in the weeks following the assault, but Nick said that had already been planned.

The attack occurred at the prison's Meadows Unit, which houses about 1,300 rapists, child molesters and other sex offenders. The teacher was administering a high school equivalency test to about a half-dozen inmates in a classroom with no guard nearby

and only a radio to summon help.

The Department of Corrections issued only a bare-bones press release after the attack, but the AP pieced together what had happened based on interviews and investigatory reports obtained under the Arizona Public Records Act.

The teacher told investigators that inmate Jacob Harvey lingered in the class as the other inmates left, then asked to use the bathroom before stabbing her with a pen, forcing her to the floor and sexually assaulting her. She said she screamed for help, but none came.

After the attack, reports say Harvey tried to use her radio to call for help. It had apparently been changed to a channel the unit's guards didn't use, so Harvey let the woman use a phone, according to the reports.

A former deputy warden at the prison, Carl ToersBijns, said the assault highlights chronic understaffing and lax security policies that put staff

members at risk.

State prison officials, however, dismiss the concerns. They say assault is a risk that comes with the job of over-seeing violent prison inmates.

The state safety agency can issue citations if it finds the prison violated worker safety laws. It can also consult with prison officials on how to improve safety standards.

The teacher was treated and released from a hospital after the assault and has filed a workers' compensation claim. The AP does not usually identify victims of sexual assault and she did not want to comment on the case.

Harvey, 20, was charged last month with sexual assault, kidnapping and assault with a deadly weapon. A public defender was appointed, and Harvey pleaded not guilty at his arraignment. The public defender assigned to his case has declined to comment.

Harvey was in the first year of a 30-year sentence for the brutal home invasion rape of a suburban Phoenix woman in 2011.

# Obama seeks \$500M to train, equip Syrian rebels

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the conflicts in Syria and Iraq becoming increasingly intertwined against the same Sunni extremist group, President Barack Obama moved on Thursday to ratchet up U.S. efforts to strengthen more moderate Syrian rebels.

Obama's request to Congress for \$500 million in training and arms to the opposition in effect opens a second front in the fight against militants spilling over Syria's border and threatening to overwhelm neighboring Iraq. The train-and-equip mission would be overseen by the Pentagon

and would mark a significant expansion of previous covert effort to arm the more moderate rebels who are fighting both the extremists and forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar Assad.

Obama has long been reluctant to arm the opposition, in part because of concerns that weapons may fall into extremist hands. But administration officials say the U.S. has grown increasingly confident in recent months about its ability to distinguish the moderate rebels from the more extremist elements that include the al-Qaida-inspired

Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL, which has stormed into Syria and captured much of the northern part of the country.

The risk of U.S. weapons and ammunition falling into the wrong hands appears to have only heightened now that ISIL has strengthened. But Obama's request to Congress on Thursday appeared to indicate that tackling the crumbling security situation in Syria and Iraq trumped those concerns.

White House spokeswoman Caitlin Hayden said the military assistance "marks another

step toward helping the Syrian people defend themselves against regime attacks, push back against the growing number of extremists like ISIL who find safe haven in the chaos, and take their future into their own hands by enhancing security and stability at local levels."

The Syria program is part of a broader \$65.8 billion overseas operations request that the administration sent to Capitol Hill on Thursday. The package includes \$1 billion to help stabilize nations bordering Syria that are struggling with the effects of the civil war.

## Shoot

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Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Shoot For A Cure holds sporting clay events all over the country and raises money for leukemia and lymphoma research. Other charitable causes that the events help include the National MS Society, Boy Scouts, Knights of Columbus and other worthy causes.

When asked to describe sporting clays, Gagliardi explained that it is "golfing with shotguns."

He further explained that it simulates live-hunting subjects like what one would hunt in the wild, such as rabbits, birds or deer.

What happens is that the shooter must hit the clay targets, which may either come from the sky or bounce across the ground.

Gagliardi added that at the tournaments, everyone shoots 100 targets. "We have clinics for new shooters, and people, of course, have to pay to get in."

One-hundred percent of the proceeds go to whatever charity those holding the event are raising funds for.

"One-hundred percent of every dollar that I send goes to finding a cure. Every dime we raise goes to research," Gagliardi said.

When it came to starting up the organization, Gagliardi needed to make the right connections.

He met with Vince Salazar, a retired United Food and Commercial Workers international representative, who coordinated the organization's fundraisers for leukemia.

Salazar then introduced Gagliardi to Tim Hamann, who was president of UFCW Local 120 at the time.

Humann also ran successful golf tournaments, and Salazar asked if Humann could advise Gagliardi on how to get things going with Shoot For A Cure. Humann agreed to help Gagliardi out, and in 2003, Shoot For A Cure hosted its first event.

Gagliardi said 86 shooters showed up, and they managed to raise \$10,000.

"Since we started in 2003, we have raised 2.1 million net that we have given to charity," he added.

Shoot For A Cure has raised \$56,000 for the National MS Society.

"We have done 10 events for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society," he added.

The Shoot For A Cure organization travels across the country in its shoot trailer.

The trailer was donated by basketball star Michael Jordan who, along with Nike, had a non-profit charity that went around the country providing sneakers to underprivileged youth.

When the charity went out of business, Jordan had several trailers left over. His organization agreed to donate the last trailer to Shoot For A Cure for free.

Gagliardi said the trailer was stripped and rebuilt in order to meet Shoot For A Cure's gun repair, gun cleaning and clay shooting needs. He went on to explain that the trailer is funded by corporate sponsors and vendors.

Those who help out with the Shoot For A Cure events are volunteers who dedicate their time to helping out a good cause.

Gagliardi added that there are 15 Level I instructors who volunteer, two of the master instructors being John Higgins, who works on the east side of the country, and Dave Fiedler, who works the west side.

Higgins and Fiedler are responsible for overseeing target setting and event safety.

Master trailer fabricator and armorer Tom Spear and his wife drive the rig from one event to another.

When it comes to the events, Gagliardi said everyone has a lot of fun.

"I have met so many great people doing this," he said, adding that he gets to shoot in 10 different states.

The shoots are run by shooters for shooters and charity.

Shoot For A Cure gives away NSCA Complimentary Limited Memberships and copies of Sporting Clays Magazine to each participant.

## Scarantine

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she said.

She also does the law library and veterans affairs audits.

Scarantine is serving her second term on the executive board of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Auditors (PSACA). She is also the treasurer for the Northeast Society of County Auditors.

She is both a member and treasurer for the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 62 and for the McCalmont Township Fire Company.

"I enjoy doing what I do. It keeps me busy," she said. "I enjoy helping both of them out with fundraising and everything that they do."

Married to her husband, Jim, for 44 years, they have three grown children and six grandchildren.

Scarantine said that when she isn't busy with auditing, she enjoys watching her grandchildren play sports.

In her spare time, she enjoys quilting and working in her flower garden.

## Drink up, NYC: Ban on big sodas canned

NEW YORK (AP) — Big sodas can stay on the menu in the Big Apple after New York state's highest court refused Thursday to reinstate the city's first-of-its-kind size limit on sugary drinks. But city officials suggested they might be willing to revisit the supersize-soda ban.

The Court of Appeals found that the city Board of Health overstepped its bounds by imposing a 16-ounce cap on sugary beverages sold in restaurants, delis, movie theaters, stadiums and street carts.

The appointed board tread on the policy-making turf of the elected City Council, the court said.

## JOC

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post this position, make a recommendation from the substitute list or advertise it.

- The employment agreement for Megan Bundy, new adult education coordinator, effective April 28, 2014, to June 30, 2019.

- A motion to allow Heather Anderson, guidance counselor, five additional days of employment to work during July and August for scheduling at her per diem rate of pay.

- The hiring of Brock Bovaird as a guidance counselor under the association contract, effective when practical, on step one of the salary schedule, with insurance benefits to begin as per the administrative regulations on insurance coverage and with five extra days to be worked in August at the per diem rate.

- The hiring of Jim Gould at \$150 per

day for up to five days to set up the HVAC shop.

- A motion to hire a co-op student to be employed in the food service operations cafeteria for up to three hours per day at minimum wage for the 2014-2015 school year.

- The hiring of Pam Kerr as auto body instructor under the association contract effective when practical, on step one of the salary schedule, with full benefits to begin as per the administrative regulations on insurance coverage and with up to five extra days to be worked in June, July or August at the per diem rate.

- To add James Foltz of Reynoldsville to the substitute list.

- Taylor Trumbette for part-time summer employment with custodial/maintenance staff.

- A motion to award the milk bid to

Schneider's Supreme Dairy Products, which has low bid-meeting specifications, for the 2014-2015 school year.

- The second reading of the Practical Nursing Class No. 61 Student handbook.

- A motion to renew the following Activity Clubs for the 2014-2015 school year:

- CTSO, NTHS, Health Assisting, Co-op, ITASO, Class of 2015, Culinary, Protective Services and FBALA.

- The resignation of Dr. Frank Bizousky as the school physician for 2014-2015 school year.

- A motion to approve the purchase of a textbook, "7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens."

- A motion to discard 9 textbooks.

There will be no JOC meeting in July, with the next meeting scheduled for August.

## Board

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Baun said that he would present the blueprints to KTH Architects, and if they want to use them, they can; if they choose not to, he said he knows "a guy in Indiana who will use them and construct the building."

Pascuzzo and Young were also concerned about who would be overseeing the process.

Young feels the district will run into trouble with construction of a building using the blueprints, because there is no contractor.

When Baun mentioned taking the blueprints to KTH himself, he was quickly reminded by Pascuzzo and Young that members of the

administration must do that.

District Business Manager Susan Robertson took the blueprints and said she will make sure they get to KTH.

However, the other concern is whether KTH will agree to use them, as Superintendent Dr. Keith Wolfe stated that KTH had presented a proposal of its own, which the board rejected.

Young said a lot of factors go into the process of constructing a building.

He reminded the board that he has been involved with the construction of both IUP and West End Elementary and that an architect was needed for those and will be needed for the maintenance building construction.

McGinnis agreed with Young that an architect is indeed needed. "Someone will need to get us a proposal," he added.

McGinnis said the board will not blindly hire the person that Baun knows.

Other items discussed included:

- Wolfe mentioned that the life skills students have been working at Goodwill Industries and also go to the main facility in Falls Creek.

It is there that they receive the training needed to enter the workforce.

At the end of the year, there is a graduation held for them.

"I was so impressed with they are doing up there, with

not only the students but adults," he added.

- A news release was brought up, which talks about boys and girls being able to participate in various sports. For example, if a boy would like to try out for a girls' sports or a girl wants to try out for a boys' sport, they are permitted to do so.

- With the fitness center officially open, Wolfe thanked the Punxsutawney Athletic Foundation, Athletic Committee and Booster Club for all their help.

He also added that cameras will be installed in the fitness center.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, July 14, at 7 p.m.

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