

# The Cornell Daily Sun

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# RWD



## As Reported Flu Cases Decrease, IFC Lifts Party Ban

By SHANNON FRANK  
Sun Contributor

The Interfraternity Council voted unanimously last night to lift most of the restrictions it had imposed on fraternity social events over the past several weeks due to H1N1 concerns. The Council decided to remove its ban on large, open parties but reaffirmed mandatory safety precautions and the prohibition of drinking games.

The IFC vote comes after a week of slowed flu-related activity at Gannett Health Services, which had been swamped with calls and visits over the past few weeks.

"The clincial demand at Gannett has diminished considerably since last Thursday," Sharon Dittman, associate director of community relations at Gannett Health Services, said last night, adding that the demand for the University's home flu kits and dining hall "sick trays" had similarly declined.

"It's safe to assume that there has been a drop in probable H1N1 cases across campus," Dittman said, though she cautioned that the H1N1 virus is not well-understood and it's difficult to predict how it will continue to spread.

According to IFC president Eddie Rooker '10, the Greek community has been communicating frequently with Gannett Health Services about the current situation with the



YI-KE PENG / SUN STAFF

**Members of the square table** | Interfraternity Council members meet at Willard Straight Hall yesterday where they voted to lift the ban on open parties.

swine flu virus.

"[The staff] was overwhelmed," he said. "Now that we are all at a point in which we feel it is under control and that people are aware and taking the appropriate measures, it should help in controlling the virus."

Rooker nevertheless emphasized that although fraternities can once again host all types of events, it is necessary to continue implementing safety measures, such as providing

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## Gannett Offers Seasonal Flu Vaccine Early

Seasonal flu shots to be administered early, avoiding overlap with H1N1 vaccine

By MICHAEL LINHORST  
Sun Staff Writer



SWINE FLU AT CORNELL

So as to avoid overlap in the distribution of seasonal flu and H1N1 flu vaccinations, Gannett Health Services will begin distributing the seasonal flu vaccine on Friday, about a month earlier than usual compared to past years. Gannett wants to finish administering seasonal flu vaccinations before the H1N1 vaccines arrive so that the distribution system does not become too congested.

"Our plan is to offer vaccination clinics throughout the fall semester to offer the vaccine we have (whether seasonal or H1N1) when we have it," Sharon Dittman, associate director of community relations at Gannett Health Services, stated in an e-mail. "Though we are starting early with seasonal flu vaccine, we

will offer H1N1 vaccine as it starts to come in."

Health care providers expect the H1N1 vaccine to be ready for distribution sometime in October, according to Gannett's website.

The seasonal flu vaccine is not typically distributed until late October. This year, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended that the vaccine be offered earlier than normal.

"The same organizations and medical providers that deliver the seasonal flu vaccine will be needed to deliver the H1N1 vaccine as soon as it becomes available," Dittman stated. These organizations will need as many resources as possible to conduct the H1N1 vaccinations, so they want to finish many of the seasonal flu vaccinations first.

Gannett's staff has already been working extra hours to meet the needs of the H1N1 outbreak, Dittman stated. The vaccination clinics further stretch the system.

"We will have reinforcements from our crew of per diem nursing staff members" working at the clinics, in addition to regular nursing staff, Dittman stated.

Gannett will be holding fewer vaccination clinics this year in order to conserve its limited staffing resources.

"Though we will hold fewer clinics, they will be longer and well-staffed to move people through as quickly as possible," Dittman stated.

Last year, 11,300 people received the seasonal flu vaccine. Cornell has ordered 12,000 doses of the vaccine for this year, she said.

"More people than usual are aware of the reality that Ithaca is not immune to the flu," Dittman stated.

The Tompkins County Healthy Department has also begun vaccinations for seasonal flu earlier than usual this year. According to its website, its first vaccination clinic was

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## Body of Woman Found In Cayuga Heights; Son Charged With Murder

By BEN GITLIN  
Sun Senior Writer

At about 2:13 a.m. yesterday morning, police officers from the Cayuga Heights Police Department and Tompkins County Sheriff's Office found the body of 53-year-old Carol E. Butler in her residence at 522 Cayuga Heights Road, after responding to a 911 call received from inside her home. Further investigation revealed that Ian C. Butler — Carol's 29-year-old son — physically assaulted his mother and caused her death.

Ian Butler was taken into custody at the scene and charged with Murder in the Second Degree. He was arraigned before Justice Glenn Galbreath and remanded to Tompkins County Jail without bail.

The 911 call was made by another family member inside the residence at the time of the incident. It was this family member that alerted authorities to the homicide.

Officials from the Cayuga Heights Police Department would not comment further on the death, as the investigation is still ongoing.

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### WEATHER:



HIGH: 71°  
LOW: 48°