THE COUNCILLOR

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Voice of the Students on the Board of Trustees

By: Tony Pomicter

By Tony Pomicter

Most Penn State University students are not aware of who makes the important decisions in the university and what kind of a voice students have in school-related matters.

The Board of Trustees is THE decision making body of this university. It directly approves things such as this year's 6.23% tuition increase, the naming of university administration, and university appropriations.

The board is comprised of 32 people, nine from the Alumni Association, six are governor-appointed seats, six are elected from agricultural societies, six are elected from industrial societies and five are ex-officio, including President Spanier and Governor Ridge. The board meetings are held every other month throughout the year. Four of these meetings are held at the University Park campus, one at the Hershey Medical Center, and one at one of the nineteen commonwealth locations (Abington this year). All meetings are open to the public.

The majority of the work of the board goes on in its four committees: Campus Environment, Finance and Physical Plant, Education Policy, and the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

Of the six governor-appointed seats, one seat goes to a student at the university. This student holds the seat until he/she graduates. Geoffrey G. Grivner is the current student representative. This is his first year on the board, and it is his job to voice the student body concerns to the board.

One of the first things to happen on the board after Grivner's appointment was the recent tuition increase. He has taken quite a bit of heat over the last few months over this, but states that the increase was necessary to keep up the high standards that Penn State has set for itself. He believes that the university must find a "line of reason…between quality and cost." He states that much of the working of the board is rather informal, and that most of the members are very accepting of the idea of a student representative. Grivner feels that he gains respect and influence (on behalf of the students) with every meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Some argue that Grivner should be elected by students since he represents them. Grivner says, "There is nothing that says that a student has to sit on the board at all. Governor Ridge has simply continued the precedent set in the 70's of selecting a student representative from the student body." He believes that turning the process into a student campaign would demean the position. He says that he, along with other members of the board, are always open to questions, concerns, and suggestions from the students about what goes on at the university. He can be contacted at ggg111@psu.edu



Board of Trustees 2000-2001, Geoff Grivner excluded from this photo

Spanier Addresses the Council at its October Meeting

By: Tony Pomicter

University President Graham Spanier spoke to the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 14. He fielded a variety of questions about recent changes (and lack of changes) throughout the university. Many of the questions brought up were concerning state appropriations, usually in conjunction with the recent (and potential future) tuition increase.

It was made known that PSU receives the same funding as all the other Pennsylvania State affiliated universities, but that the funding per student is not equal. Due to the great amount of students attending this popular university, each student is getting less funding than those attending other Pennsylvania State affiliated schools.

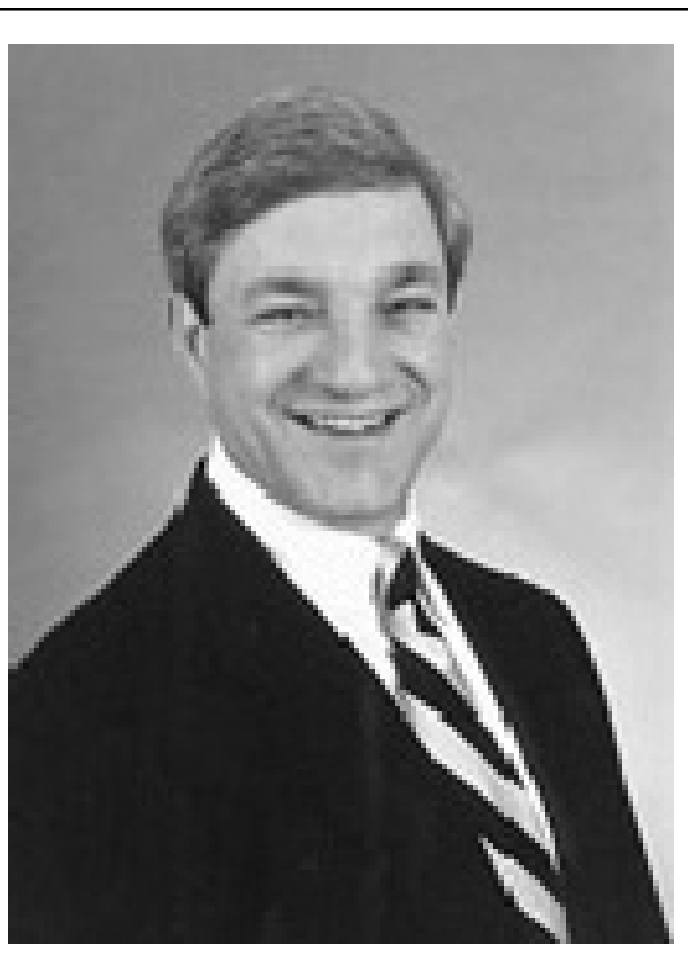
Penn State is only allowed $3200 per student. Lincoln gets $6000 per student, Temple gets $5700 per student and Pitt gets $4700 per student, but each school gets the same overall amount. Pennsylvania is ranked 47th in the country for state funding for education.

President Spanier did say that if the 6.75% proposed tuition increase for next year passes, each campus would receive (approximately) an equal increase in funding. This was good news to those concerned with the university's placement of the incoming funds.

Many students were concerned with how each campus gets funded. The question was brought as to how changes in enrollment affect campus funding. President Spanier stated that no campus budget has decreased since he has been president (1995). It was brought up that York campus has had apparent budget cuts recently - no athletic director and no health personnel. President Spanier said that these positions are filled by each individual campus, and that it is an individual decision whether or not to have them at all.

Students from the Beaver location asked whether or not funding is related to enrollment. A commonwealth location will receive more money with an increase in enrollment, but not less (per student) if enrollment were to drop. He said that many locations in the western part of the state have been watching enrollment decrease over the past several years.

It was also stated, with much enthusiasm, that the university has NOT banned Napster. The email that everyone received was simply a reminder that it is against university policy to use university services to violate federal copyright regulations. President Spanier said that traffic on the university server was down 30% within two days of the email. This in itself was a part of the goal of the email; everyone has noticed the reduced speed of the server over the last year or so. Many Big Ten schools have completely banned specific sites due to reduced bandwidth and all Big Ten schools were consulted before the email was sent out. So far, several students have been warned about their use of the server, but no one account has been restricted.



President Graham Spanier Spoke at the October Council of Commonwealth Student Government Meeting

Commuter Students Learn How to Save Money

By: Rhonda Broadway,
Collegian staff reporter

This year, Penn State McKeesport has a higher number for enrollment than in past years with commuter students contributing largely to this increase.

There are about 724 commuters that attend the McKeesport campus, while only 177 students live on campus in the Residence Hall, according to the Registrar's Office.

Commuting to school has opened up many opportunities to students, especially those with families that cannot afford the price of college. "The big plus to commuting to school, instead of living in the dorm is saving money. Commuters save $10,000 over a two-year period," said Mr. Richard Washington, a Penn State McKeesport admissions counselor.

Still, there are a few things that are not ideal for commuting students; for example, the cost of gasoline when traveling to campus everyday, depending how far or how close a commuter lives.

"The worst thing about commuting is the ride, because I live so far away," said Megan Coupland (freshman-science).

Commuters also do not have a meal plan, so they have to buy their food with cash, eating at the Buck Union Building or Dining Hall.

But, according to Mr. Washington, there is a downside to living in the dorms as well — first, the extra cost of dormitory living and, second, the atmosphere of living in the dorms, which is why students sometimes tend to become unfocused.

Penn State McKeesport has also opened doors to young mothers with children to make it possible for them to attend college. But, this just does not apply to the McKeesport campus. Mr. Washington said the programs at University Park are made even more convenient for students with children because of student living and day care.

Currently, the McKeesport campus does not have a day care program for students' children, but Mr. Washington has a solution for that. "I had hoped that when we redo the BUB, I would propose that we would turn it into a day care center . . . utilizing students that are majoring in some form of education and child development to work and even complete an internship," he said.

The McKeesport campus has definitely had an impact on lives of commuter students, giving local residents the ability to attend college and save money.

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Schreyer Scholars Named at McKeesport Campus

By: Lindsay Olcott,
Collegian staff reporter

Penn State McKeesport recently announced five students have been accepted for admission into the Schreyer Honors College.

These newly accepted scholars are: Mary Kay Antonelli (sophomore-international business), Lisa Hazinski (sophomore-aerospace engineering), Sara Korinko (sophomore-animal bioscience), Nicole Dirling (sophomore-political science) and Peter Hammond (freshman-aerospace engineering).

According to the Undergraduate Degree Programs Bulletin, the Schreyer Honors College is a university-wide honors program. It is designed to offer students more demanding classes to better prepare them for graduate study or a profession. The program also promotes civic responsibility and international studies.

Mr. Hammond received an invitation to join the program during his admission to Penn State. The four sophomore scholars were selected based on superior academic performance during their freshman year and recommendations from Penn State faculty members.

"We are fortunate at Penn State McKeesport to have a large number of honor students," said Mrs. Dorothy Ikach, public information assistant.

Participants in the program work with faculty advisers to complete undergraduate research projects. They must take three honors courses per year and file annual plans of study.

Worthington Sponsors Alcohol Awareness Week

By: Pat Abdalla

Penn State Worthington Scranton put on a week long program designed to show students how alchohol can affect life. The week was highlighted by a mock- DUI checkpoint in which campus security officers stopped students in their cars and gave them information on DUI checkpoints. Campus nurse, Mary Brown, coordinated the events that also included "The Date." This was a theatrical program that discussed Date Rape. The week was closed out with the annual Mock Tail Contest where clubs offer mock-alcoholic drinks. Clubs that participated included the Public Affairs, Engineering, Music, Veterans, Student Union Board, and SGA. The Music club and Public Affairs clubs finished 3rd and 2nd respectivley. The SGA won the contest with their drink, the Nipple in a navel.

Delaware Campus Deals with Security Issues

By: Mari Ostbye

Every year during the fall semester, campus crime statistics are mailed to all students, faculty and staff, in a brochure titled, "Policies, Safety, and You." Listed among many safety tips, rules and regulations are reported crimes that have taken place on our campus for 1996 to the present.

For this year so far, there have bee 33 reported crimes, according to the Penn State Delaware County Department of University Safety, Year 2000 Public Incident Log.

Among these crimes are 11 thefts, ranging anywhere from textbooks being stolen out of students' cars in the main parking lot, to wallets stolen from unattended book bags, student robbing the vending machines, stealing Penn State Delaware County banners, and other minor insidents.

Seven auto accidents have been reported so far including striking the vehicle of a campus visitor (twice), backing into a light pole, but just mostly students bumping into each other.

Two hospital cases; one student was stung by a bee, and one slip and fall.

One incident of property damage has been reported, entailing a damaged plastic hockey goal.

Two cases of solicitation included three non-students selling artwork to staff and faculty members, and three males were stopped in the parking lot for placing business cards on parked vehicles.

One fire took place when a university employee was operating a John Deere tractor and the equipment caught on fire. "Mostly I noticed the smell of the smoke. I was surprised at how much fire and smoke came out of the tractor," said Charles Reed, a senior English major, who was witness to this most exciting event. Lima Fire Company responded and put the fire out.

One University employee reported an irritating odor, apparently coming from the mechanical room area. Lima Fire Company, Delaware County Hazardous Materials Unit responded and evacuated the building. The odor turned out to be excessive biocide injected into the cooling water tower. Faculty and staff were allowed back in the building after clearance from the representative from DEPA.

Two reports of vandalism included one person (unknown) forcefully removed a ladies room sign from the door, and an unknown object shattered the window of a student's vehicle.

So far, one reported disturbance; a female student became very loud and aggravated during registration because of a financial hold on her account.

The numbers for 1999 were unavailable at press time, however, they will be mailed to all students, staff, and faculty by the second week of October.

In 1998, a total of 13 offenses including nine thefts, two unlawful entries, one forcible entry, and one assault.

In 1997, similar trends were noticed with a total of nine offenses, however the frequency of theft decreased from 12 incidences to four. One forgery/ counterfeiting took place, one vandalism, one forcible entry, as well as two acts of drunkenness.

In 1996, 20 crimes were reported, among them; one burglary, 12 thefts, one motor vehicle accident, one act of vandalism, and five other offenses.

"It's hard to compare the Delaware County campus to other campuses and Universities because we have no residential hall," said Dave Horevay, half of Delaware County's own security force. Horevay believes that because this is a commuter campus, we will see less theft, and underage drinking.

"We would most likely see more criminal activity during the Christmas season, especially theft, because people need more money," Horevay stated, however spring and fall semesters (compared to summer sessions) are the most active seasons for Horevay and John McKnight (the other half of Delco's security team).

When asked to give the students advice regarding their own security, Horevay stated that every crime or offense should be reported; if they are not, nothing can be done.

"Keep everything in site, have a friend watch your things if you can't. Identify all your books and belongings, use your parking permit number or parts of your student number-something you will recognize." Horevay also recommended recording your identification number or code more than once, especially in your books, on different pages. Bottom line is to be aware of your surroundings at all times.

For more information on crime statistics for Delaware County campus, or any other campus or university in the United States, log on to http://ope.ed.gov/security.

THON Fundraising - Within Reach

By: Paul Mihalko

Fundraising!!! What do we do to make this THON the best ever for the Commonwealth? There are many ways that you can raise money to increase your campus total. You can hold different activities on your campus, for instance pledge drives, but there are two very important ways that can make your total skyrocket.



Paul Mihalko, 2000-2001 THON Director

The first one is canning. There are four weekends that are designated solely for canning purposes. The first one, which has just passed on October 27-29, hopefully went well and was very productive for all of you. The next weekends that you are allowed to do canister solicitation are December 1-3, January 26-28, and February 9-11. Canning is an easy way to raise a great deal of money in a short amount of time.

Of course, as we all know, canning is not the simplest thing in the world to do. Most of the time you are standing out in the freezing cold, exposing yourself to the harsh elements the winter season brings into this region. We are out trying to get just one more penny to add to the total to help the kids out. But always remember when you are canning and you get a handful of change or even that occasional five or ten dollar bill that every little bit helps. Each penny turns into a nickel and then into a dime. You will eventually get into some serious money while canning.

There are a few different ways that you can do canister solicitation. You can get in contact with local stores or businesses to see if you can stand out in front of theirs buildings to ask for money. You can also contact your local courthouses and try to obtain permits to can on street corners. Permits sometimes will cost money. Many areas also do not let you can on street corners, so make sure you contact the local authorities before going out there and do something illegal. Another way, and a way that you can do canister solicitation all year is by having a can placed in a business. You can leave a can in any business that will allow it for the duration of THON solicitation. I want to again reiterate that canning is a great way to raise money, and to have fun doing so.

The other form of donations that I want to stress is corporate sponsorship. Corporate sponsors are a great asset to attain. All you need to do is to draw up a letter on your SGA letterhead explaining what Dance Marathon is, what the proceeds go to and why you need the corporations help. Many corporations, and people for that matter, will be hesitant to give you a donation though because they only tend to help causes that are in their area. You need to stress to them that any child can be treated at the Hershey Medical Center and be helped by the Four Diamonds Fund. Also, with the agreement to donate $5 million over a five-year span to a research park at the Hershey Medical Center, each and every person in the world will be helped by Dance Marathon. WHEN a cure is found, through all the help that the donors to THON have given us, the whole world will benefit. A great way to sell your corporate sponsorship pitch is to possibly do t-shirt ads and sales. It gives corporate sponsors a benefit to give you money for this cause and also another fundraising technique. Even if you ask ten companies, and only get one to donate, if you ask a hundred you will get ten back. This starts to get into some serious donations for the Four Diamonds Fund.

Always remember that every little bit helps out, and adds up. Do not be ashamed or afraid to even pick up a penny lying on the classroom floor to give to THON. I want to again rehash that my committee and I are always here to help you out in any way. If you need us to attend a function on your campus or just to answer questions, feel free to always come to us. THON 2001—WITHIN REACH!

IST Students Excel in Summer Internship at Beaver Campus

BY: JOHN DINGFELDER

Four students in the new Information Sciences and Technology (IST) program at Penn State Beaver got a taste of the "real working world" when they served as interns this past summer.

Chad Lamp and Brooks Canavesi were involved in several major projects at FedEx Ground. Art Napor worked for WRS Inc., while Kyli Sitterley interned at Penncrest School District.

Lamp, a sophomore from Chester, West Virginia, was involved in two projects: the conversion of the legacy AS/400 forms into the Lotus Notes system and developing and maintaining parts of the FedEx Ground intranet.

"It was incredibly challenging work, but I loved every minute of it," Lamp said. "It's been a terrific experience and it keeps getting better."

Lamp was so highly thought of by his supervisors at FedEx Ground that they've provided him with a PC for his residence hall room to keep him working throughout the academic year.

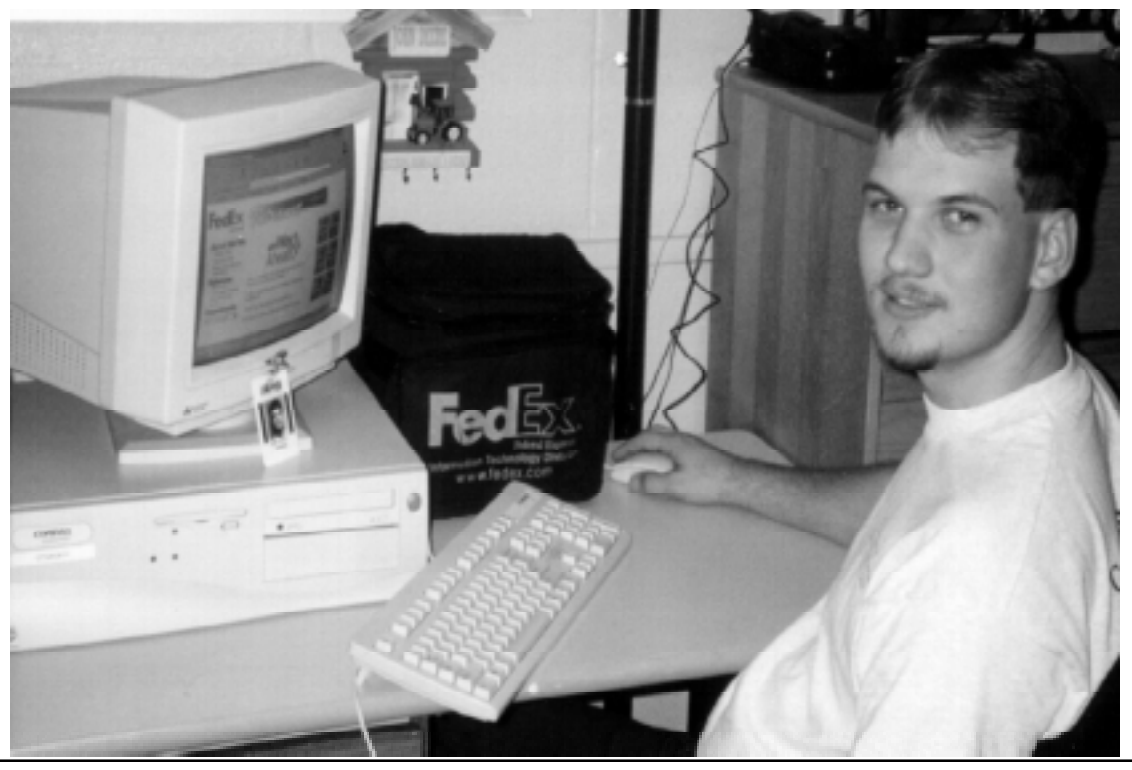
For Canavesi, a sophomore from Beaver Falls, his internship at FedEx Ground focused on the development and maintenance of the PAR (profitability analysis review) system, which provides the company's marketing department with a way to judge profitability in various venues.

"The Beaver campus students exceeded our expectations," said Denise Sabolcik, director of Information Technology at FedEx, and a member of the Penn State Beaver Industrial Advisory Council. "Each of the interns jumped right in and instantly made a contribution."

Sabolcik said that it became common for company managers who didn't have an intern to ask if she could go to Penn State Beaver and "bring one back" for them. "We had never before opened our intern program up to students below the junior level. We took a chance on freshmen, and to say it paid off is an understatement."

Art Napor, a sophomore from Pittsburgh, worked with WRS Inc., a company specializing in video editing and duplication, film processing, graphic design, web design, e-commerce, and custom software development.

His project, e-KIDS Internet, is a private network for children that includes corporate investors such as HewlittPackard and Cisco. Napor, along with his supervisor, successfully developed the e-KIDS browser, including regular updates and maintenance.



IST student Chad Lamp worked for FedEx Ground in Moon Township last summer. He made such an impression that the company has outfitted his dorm room with a computer to keep him working through the school year.

Sitterley, a sophomore from Spartansburg, worked for the Penncrest School District in Saegertown. Her team was responsible for connecting and coordinating a computer network involving seven different campuses, each of which used a variety of computer models and equipment.

She assisted in a variety of jobs, including the development of elementary wireless network records and diagrams, monitoring individual machine performance, making equipment "server ready," installing cards to configure network information, and rebuilding machines. Sitterley also developed training sessions for staff to bring them up-to-date on numerous software packages.

MP3 Wars Arise at Penn State

BY: VERNON COX

The Mp3 debate is heating up for Penn State, including the McKeesport campus.

As of Sept. 20, the use of Napster, an Mp3 file-swapping program, was discouraged from use on computers connected to the Penn State University server. The penalty if you are caught downloading copyrighted material of any website, including Napster, can be a cancellation of your computer account.

"The university hasn't confiscated any computers. I don't see that happening without probable cause," said Mr. David Gribble, supervisor of computing services at McKeesport.

The controversy started about a year ago when Napster came onto the scene and created what some called a revolution in Mp3 technology. The brainchild of 18-year-old Shawn Fanning, Napster makes it possible for a person to use the technology to go on-line and connect to someone's computer and download songs in Mp3 format. It is called file sharing. Napster has taken off in a matter of months with about 70 million users to date.

The controversy started over copyright laws. The music being sent through these files are materials that are protected under the United States' laws against piracy. It is meant to bring punishment to those who illegally sell or give away that material without the permission of the person that material belongs to. That is how Napster is seen to some people, especially to executives and artists in the music industry, who view the individuals as stealing their music without their permission.

The debate has grown in a matter of months, as the recording industry has brought a lawsuit against Napster through its union, The Recording Industry of America (RIAA). Stars of the music world entered into the arena on both sides, too. Rapper and producer Dr. Dre and the rock group Metallica have both brought lawsuits against the service, while groups like Limp Bizkit and The Offspring have supported Napster. Napster was temporarily shut down a few months ago by a judge, but Napster won an appeal to stay on-line until a final court decision is made. By the time this article is published, a final decision could have been made.

The warning as it pertains to Penn State University was applied after lawyers for Dr. Dre and Metallica issued letters to major universities nationwide to stop the use of Napster through their computers. Other universities have banned Napster as a result of this, as well as because all the downloading was slowing down their computer systems. As reported by The Weekly Collegian at the University Park campus of Penn State, there will be scans used to detect high traffic going to computers to detect if they are downloading onto a student's computer.

The technology isn't foolproof though. Luke Simak (sophomore-information sciences and technology) explained, "Penn State really can't check for real," Mr. Simak said. "There are too many large files to catch them all." He may be right. There are other large files that move through the Penn State system other than Mp3s.

"The ban won't stop students from using the Mp3 swapping program altogether," Mr. Gribble said.

There are also alternatives now with Napster clones popping up all over the Internet with a majority being too small for the music industry to track. One type of technology called Gnutella is like Napster, but cannot be shut down because it's peer-to-peer sharing and does not go through a central computer like Napster. What this means is that you do not connect to a Web site to use it. It's free software.

The controversy continues to grow and tempers are heating up, especially for students who use the technology. Most students are angry at the ban and call what Penn State is doing an invasion of their privacy regarding the scans. One student who agreed to comment on condition of anonymity said, "I can understand why they're doing it, but they shouldn't be peeping in my computer files. That's an invasion of my privacy."

All of this is coming to a boiling point. Who knows what the future holds and what might result from the war over Mp3s.

"When it's all said and done, I have a feeling Napster is going to win in the long run," Mr. Gribble said.

Engineering Shirts Offend Altoona

BY: SUSANNAH BORTNER

Oftentimes, at Penn State Altoona, it is necessary to walk with your head cocked toward the ground to avoid sloshing through various colors and consistencies of duck feces. However, if you were to take the time, every now and then, to look up and observe your fellow classmates, you will most certainly notice a trend amongst a specific population of students.

The trend is a long-sleeved gray t-shirt that on the front simply reads "Penn State Engineering". So far this shirt is a non-offensive, typical college academic t-shirt. Well follow me, if you will, to the back of this shirt, which reads, in large blue letters, "If you can't handle it, switch to Business!"

I am not a Business major, nor will I ever be. The thought of endless foreign language, economics, and accounting classes keeps me far enough away from any sort of Business degree whatsoever. I can honestly say I could not handle the requirements of a Business major.

Not one student at Penn State Altoona can validly claim that their major is more difficult than another. Each major is unique and that is the beauty of a university. We are all so vastly different in our talents and interests, yet we ended up at the same place, which gives us a common goal.

I am an English major in the college of liberal arts. I am majoring in English because writing and literature are my passion, because I cannot see my life without the written word involved in it. So you see, I have not chosen English as my major because I found Engineering too

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Hundreds of Students Come Together toWatch the First Presidential Debate

(NSNS)- People looking in on YouthVote 2000's Debate Watch at Fenway Cinema in Boston on October 3 would have seen over 500 students filling the theater, excited about the debate, chanting "Youth Vote!" and interested in hearing what Vice President Al Gore and Governor George W. Bush had to say about the issues.

On October 3, Vice President Al Gore and Texas Governor George W. Bush came to the University of Massachusetts at Boston for their first debate, and students from around the state gathered to watch the debate in a movie theater across town.

"We're showing that young people are not apathetic [with this gathering]," said Julie Cohen, executive director of YouthVote 2000.

The debate watch was the last event of YouthVote 2000's National Youth Mobilization for Democracy which brought students and community leaders together to discuss youth issues and bring attention to the topics of concern of young people.

Gathering before the start of the debate, students participated in roundtable discussions of the issues and the candidates. The discussions touched on a number of topics ranging from same sex marriage to school violence to the environment.

Students from all political ideologies discussed the topics and their relevance to youth. All students did not agree on the issues, but they did agree that it is important for student topics to be addressed by the candidates.

"We [youth] are engaged," said Liese Schnieder, a student at Mt. Holyoke College and the Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group (MASSPIRG) State Board Chair. "We're fighting for things we believe in. We're citizens, and we deserve the right to have our issues addressed."

Neglection 2000, a yearlong study conducted by Third Millennium focusing on the relationship that exists between young people and candidates, released a yearlong study that found that 77% of registered voters agree that youth issues should be a focus of the candidates during this election season and the theme for one of the presidential debates.

This led YouthVote 2000 to call for the last debate on October 17 to be a youth debate. Youth moderators and youth questioners would have highlighted the town hall meeting.

Abeer Abdallah, a 19 year-old organizer for Young Americans for Freedom, stressed the importance of the candidates answering youth questions. "Voting means nothing if you don't know what you're voting for," she said.

YouthVote 2000 also wanted the youth debate to show students that their vote does matter, and that they should be involved in the electoral process.

Mike Ross, a Boston City Councilman, won his election because of strong support from students. "Throughout the history of this country one vote has made a difference," he said. "[In my election] I got so excited that we could engage youth to get involved."

Jon Isaacs, program director for YouthVote 2000 agreed in the importance of youth involvement and called for a youth debate. "It is important to finally see ourselves positively reflected in this issue [voting]," he said.



Bush and Gore Debate to Win the Public's Vote

Road to the White House Nears Election Day

By: Vernon Cox

The presidential race is heading into the home stretch. The third debate is finished and the candidates, Republican George W. Bush and Democrat Al Gore, are hitting the road on city-to-city tours for their campaign.

The third debate in St. Louis was considered the liveliest of the three. The two candidates squared off on everything from welfare reform to the recent international happenings in Yugoslavia and the Middle East.

Our two main candidates have dug in their heels and are going full speed ahead in preparation for the Nov. 7 election. Al Gore has been vice president for the last eight years under President Bill Clinton. George Bush has made his name by being the governor of Texas and being the son of former President George Bush Sr. Both candidates are on opposing sides on a large amount of issues. While Gore is pro-choice on the abortion issue, Bush is pro-life.

As the road to the White House is being decided, the question now is how are the people going to vote and why? Leydi Espinal (freshman-information sciences and technology) said, "I really like the idea that Gore is willing to get more money for public schools and it seems he really wants to help the lower class. As a woman, I agree with his stand of pro-choice. I think women should have the right to choose. He's got my vote."

When asked why she wouldn't vote for Bush, Ms. Espinal smiled and said, "I remember the last Bush that was in the White House."

Some have taken alternative routes to voting in the elections this year. "When the time comes, I've decided to vote against Gore," said Dr. Margaret L. Signorella, psychology professor and acting director of academic affairs. "I'm either going to vote for George Bush or (third-party candidate) Ralph Nader."

When asked why, she responded, "I believe there should be a change of administration. Generally, Clinton soured my position on the Democratic Party."

Some students have a low opinion on both candidates. "I don't like either of them," said Dan Machen (sophomore-communications). "They both seem generic to me."

Yahoo.com news reported that only one of every three eligible voters, age 18-25, vote. A lot of young Americans think their voices fall on deaf ears when it comes to the candidates. What can the candidates do to reverse this? Ms. Espinal said this is the advice she would give to the candidates if she could talk to them now: "Pay more attention to us because by giving us more attention you'll show our voice doesn't fall on deaf ears and that are voice does count in this country. That will get us more interested in voting."

With election results just around the corner, the people are left with a choice of which person they want to represent the United States for the next four years. The sides have been taken and the lines drawn. On November 7, will you be at the polls?

Engineering Shirts Cont'd

Cont'd fm pg 3

difficult. I see my English education as something I was meant to do, and anything else would not satisfy me.

Ultimately, the point is this: We are all here for the same purpose, which is to become well-rounded individuals, to form lasting relationships, and to excel in one particular area that will serve as our careers in the future. If we have such common goals, why does our diversity of interests separate us? If we all wore arrogance on the backs of our shirts, we would become too divided to learn from each other, and destroy our purpose as students.

A Long Road to Recovery

By: Seth Flesch,
Collegian Staff Reporter

Hi. My name is Seth, and I'm an addict.

That phrase is something I must never forget. In fact, it is something I must remind myself of every day or I may go back to the life I used to live.

My drug and alcohol experience began when I was 13 years old. I was very curious, and I decided to try marijuana. I tried it, and I loved it. Many people experiment with marijuana and enjoy it, but don't think too much about it after that. This is where I am different. As soon as the high wore off, I was already looking for more. This first high was the beginning of a long and bumpy road.

Between the ages of 13 and 16, I stuck to using marijuana and alcohol, thinking my life was just fine. I kept my grades up in school and continued playing ice hockey for the varsity team. I had lots of "friends" and everything **seemed** fine; however, now that I look back, things were far from okay. My "friends" were all fellow drug abusers. My relationship with my family was slowly deteriorating. And, I was losing respect at school.

In my junior year of high school, I was arrested for possession of marijuana and placed on probation for six months, but I still refused to see the problem. While I was on probation I was given random drug tests, so I couldn't smoke marijuana. Instead, I resorted to LSD, because it is undetectable in urine tests. After six months, I was released from probation and began using marijuana again. Soon, I was using a variety of drugs, but mainly acid and pot. By this time, my life was quickly spiraling out of control.

Through my senior year of high school, I continued to abuse drugs daily. In January, my parents gave me a choice. They told me to either get clean or get out. The only rational solution would have been to get clean, so in my insanity, I left home.

I moved in with a fellow drug addict, which was the worst thing I could have possibly done. Without my parents there to motivate me, I fell deeper into my addiction, but still managed to go to school. For the three months I lived at my "friend's" house, I was high all day, every day. I was to the point where I couldn't deal with myself when I was sober, and I would go to any lengths to get high. This feeling of desperation led me into the rooms of Narcotics Anonymous (NA) on Apr. 25 of this year. I was sick and tired of being sick and tired, and I needed help.

My parents loved me very much and were willing to help me, as long as I wanted help. I was admitted into a hospital for five days, and then began outpatient rehabilitation in Monroeville. I graduated rehabilitation, and continued attending NA and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings. That was about five months ago, and today it feels great to have my life under control. I will, however, continue to attend NA and AA meetings four or five times a week. I do this so I can see people in the same position as I was, and to hear suggestions from people who have long-term sobriety. I can't stay clean on my own, so I depend on NA and AA for support.

A very important thing to remember is anyone can be an addict, and it is nothing to be ashamed of. Many young people believe they can not be alcoholics or drug addicts simply because they are young. This is not true. Anyone can be an addict, no matter what age, sex or religion they are. Anyone who thinks they may have a drug problem, reach out and get help. If you don't believe recovery is possible, look where I am today. Feel free to approach me or look for the NA or AA listing in a phone book. Try and find a meeting in your neighborhood. I could very possibly see you there.

Will We Ever Reach a Cultural Balance?

By: Mistique Primar, Collegian
Editor in chief

Fact or fiction: The negative viewpoints of race relations will always remain in America. Some people may answer that this is true, others may vary. From first hand experience, I think that ignorance will never go away, but, as an individual, you must learn how to deal with it and take it in stride.

Everyone seems to think that children are so innocent; they do not know right from wrong; and they are brutally honest. That is the case in only a few situations. All throughout my younger years, I was never too popular amongst other black children. My family taught me to speak properly and dress very neatly, and I read a lot. Being proclaimed as a "gifted" child in the first grade also made many children leery of me. I was teased in elementary school, called an "Oreo," told that I thought that I was better than the rest of my black classmates and so on. So, I had a few, what I called true friends, and I was happy. All of them were white. Being a child, I never really understood too much of it until a few years later.

Once I hit middle school, I encountered the same problem. But this time, I had black friends, but I still felt left out. Because I didn't act up in class or mouth off to teachers, I was labeled the "teacher's pet" and "goodie-two-shoes." I still had white friends, but it seemed like I didn't really fit in with them either. The one day that I decided to act stupid with the rest of the class, I got sent to in-house detention, and I didn't like it too much. That was when I finally realized that what everyone else thought of me wasn't really important, simply because in-house wasn't fun.

Finally, I reached high school. There, I had friends of every color. My intelligence paid off, along with my writing skills and the type of music that I listened to. Everything that I liked to do, but thought no one liked me for, suddenly changed. High school was the melting pot, and I was happy to be in it. That was until my sophomore year. One of my closest friends got jumped after a flag football game, supposedly because he called someone a "nigger" out on the field. The fight quickly became an all- out locker room fight, seemingly blacks against whites. I was hurt, confused and torn. I didn't understand what I was supposed to do, if there was anything that I could do at all.

Coming to college made me realize a lot. Being from Pittsburgh, I do not see a lot of racist things. My neighborhood is intermixed, and I am accepted. I wasn't raised to hate anyone. I was raised to accept people's differences and treat them the way that I would want to be treated. I have tried to do that here on the campus of Penn State McKeesport, but yet, it doesn't always work. I have a variety of friends, and some of my closest and most reliable friends on this campus, are not the same race as me.

When I came to the Penn State McKeesport campus, I was disappointed to see the Buck Union Building (BUB) as segregated as it was. I tried to sit in the larger side of the BUB for a while, but I felt odd, not because I was sitting over there, but because of the stares that I consistently got. It has changed a lot from last year, but for the majority, it is still the same. As much as I would like the stares to stop when I walk into the BUB with one of my white friends, they won't. Simply because in the year 2000, some people are still ignorant to the fact that I, as a black female, have the right to be here, just as much as everyone else. So just because I listen to Vertical Horizon, 3 Doors Down, Dave Matthews Band along with DMX, Eminem and Tupac, doesn't mean that that I am to be talked about. It means that I am diverse. Just because I don't use slang all of the time does not mean that I think that I am better than anyone else, it means that I am educated and that I choose not to use slang all of the time. Furthermore, just because I walk through the BUB with someone who is different than me doesn't mean that I don't know who I am or where I am going in life, it means that I have friends next to me that are supporting me on my path of getting there.



Environmental Riders Threaten Students' Work to Protect the National Forests

(NSNS)- As the Congressional session comes to a close, environmental riders are being placed on must-pass appropriations bills jeopardizing the campaigns of environmental groups calling for President Clinton to preserve 60 million acres of National Forests.

At the end of every Congressional session, Congress passes bills that fund government agencies for the coming fiscal year. Without the funding bills, government agencies are forced to shut down. Because the budgets must be passed, amendments, known as riders, having nothing to do with the bill, are sometimes attached. These amendments can be placed on the bill with no prior approval from a committee.

Up to 50 environmental riders were attached to the appropriations bills for the fiscal year 2001 budget. One of the riders, the Domenici amendment, has environmentalists up in arms.

The Domenici amendment targets forest fuel reduction. As a result of the wildfires that blazed in the west this year, the amendment calls for the reduction of wildfire fuels near residences.

Environmentalists fear that the Domenici amendment will lead to increased logging within the National Forests and not just around the residences it is meant to protect.

"Without adequate environmental safeguards, fuel reduction service contracts to remove trees could take place in roadless areas, old growth forests, and endangered species habitats and could include logging of large fire-resistant trees," said Steve Holmer, campaign coordinator for American Lands. "The recent behavior of the Forest Service during the Salvage Logging Rider and implementation of the National Forest Plan suggests that the kind of discretion found in this fuels reduction program will be abused."

The amendment gives the U.S. Forest Service a funding increase for timber sales $40 million above what they asked for. It also requires the Forest Service to log 3.6 billion board feet next year. Currently, the Forest Service logs 1.6-2 billion board feet per year.

Student environmentalists are worried about riders. "We need to bring attention to the riders," said Noah Chutz, a freshman at the University of California, Berkeley and the Berkeley California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG) research coordinator for the National Forest campaign. "The riders are a backdoor way of nullifying something good."

Although the State Public Interest Research Groups (State PIRGs), American Lands, and The Wilderness Society asked President Clinton to veto the bill unless the rider was removed, he signed the appropriation bill with the Domenici amendment into law. However, the groups still hope that President Clinton will prevent logging in the remaining 60 million acres of pristine National Forests with new U.S. Forest Service proposals.

CALPIRG has been working with the State PIRGs to prevent logging and road building in these 60 million acres of National Forests. The goal is to get President Clinton to sign strong Forest Service regulations that do this before he leaves office.

The State PIRGs have been leading a campaign since 1999 that calls for strong protection of heritage forests including ending logging and road building in unprotected forests of 1,000 acres or greater.

Already, over 1 million public comments to the U.S. Forest Service have been generated for this proposal.

Students across the country have added their voices to this count. Students at the University of California, Berkeley logged 150 phone calls to the White House over a five-hour period recently. Students at five campuses in New Jersey made 350 phone calls, and on October 5, other schools up and down the East Coast made almost 500 calls to the White House.

"This [preservation of 60 million acres] can be one of the most important 'legislations' to be passed concerning environmental issues," said Chutz. "There is a finite time for this to be done. It is important that we do it now."

Spring Break Travel Tips from eStudentTravel.com

By: Shawn Andreas

We see it every year, plastered all over the walls, and halls. SPRING BREAK!!! It's in the papers, and in all the clubs. So how do we know we are choosing the best company?

The most important thing to do is be careful. There are a lot of travel companies that you can choose from. Colorful brochures make spring break look like paradise, and for the most part it is. But we have all heard the nightmares: students stranded, no hotels, sleeping on the beach, SCAMS.

How do you avoid being the next spring break scam headline? There are many valuable tips. The most important is to have the company provide you with references of travelers from prior years. Also, find out whom they are associated with, for example, they should have affiliations with other reputable travel companies in the industry, and should be able to provide you with that information.

Don't go just for price, that is the biggest giveaway. Remember the saying, "You get what you pay for?" That's the truth. So let's break down these trips.

Roundtrip air. This is the single most important feature that needs to be researched. If you are delayed, you have started off on a trip that is nothing but trouble to begin with. So make sure that the air provided is a reputable airline. There are companies claiming "We use only TWA" or other scheduled named carriers, but these companies only offer this service in a very select area, and may have to connect you in. And if you do get the TWA service, be prepared to leave at ridiculous times, like 2 a.m. or 3 a.m. and your return is the same, which means you check out of your hotel at noon, and only have 15 hours to kill, protecting your bags while you wait for your flight home. Student travel companies have learned to word things to sound the way you would like them to sound. Be careful, and don't let them fool you with the TWA on the brochure.

Hotel accommodations. Check out the properties on-line, most of the hotels are good quality properties, but have a tendency to overbook. Have an understanding of what the policy is about overbooking. Call the company and ask them. You should get an honest answer. The correct answer would be that you are moved to a property of equal or greater value, that is standard in the travel industry, but be careful of those companies that guarantee "NO OVERBOOKING." That's nice to say, but it happens in the industry, especially with spring breakers. It's busy, it's crazy, and the travel companies have little or no control over these occurrences. You will find a travel company that will say anything to get your business, and those you need to be aware of. You can even call the hotels directly, make sure they have heard of the company you are thinking of traveling with. If you confirm that, you should feel good about your rooms. The hotel will not have your name and your roommates until about a week before you arrive, that's ok. Don't panic, most operators have room blocks, and fill in the names prior to arrivals, so confirm that the company has rooms at the hotel first.

Meals. This is a great program without a doubt, especially for college students who are on a tight budget. This is the single most misleading issue out there. Meal programs were introduced about 7 years ago by one student travel company, many others have tried to copy, or implement their own version. Travel companies say they offer meals, but these meals are not what most of us would even consider edible. Ask the travel company to provide you with last year's meal program, the actual coupons, the restaurants it worked with, and other menu-related information. What are the restrictions? Times? How long have you been offering a meal program?

Drink program is another great benefit for the budget conscious students. But the same questions have to be asked that you asked about the meals. Only one company that we are aware of that offers both at NO additional cost and actually distributes it to the students.

Another common question is what is the difference between a travel agent (locally on your campus), or a tour operator (the many brochures posted around your campuses.)

There are as many differences about travel agents and tour operators as there are advantages and disadvantages between the two.

Travel agents resell packages provided by tour operators. The advantage in going with a local travel agent is you have someone locally there to answer your questions and provide you with your final documents locally. But the same questions above still apply. Remember that the travel agent will more than likely be selling a package that is offered directly to you from all those flyers that are hanging up around campus. So why does a travel agent sell the package? What's the advantage to them? Commissions! For every package the travel agent receives a 10% commission but you will be able to negotiate a free trip for the group, usually one free for every 15-20 travelers.

The ideal for students is to find a company that has local representation, a company representative, and still have the negotiating power of free trips.

So when should we go through a travel agent? If they are offering a different package other than what is on campus. If you go to a travel agency and they offer you a package that you see hanging from all the posted boards, there is no advantage, but if you go to the agency and buy a package that can only be sold through a travel agency, this is much different. There are a few companies, mostly adult operators, such as GOGO World Wide vacations, or Apple Vacations that have by far the most reliable packages in the industry. They operate year round and are the most credible. The problem or drawback to these packages ar4e they are usually much higher priced, sometimes as much as $300.

So when calling a travel company, add this last question to your list: "Do you have local representation?" You want a full-time sales representative that has an office or lives locally.

Penn State Updates Policy on Academic Integrity

This Article is Taken from The Behrend Beacon

By: Jason Snyder,
Editor-In-Chief, The Behrend Beacon

In an effort to promote the importance of academic integrity at Penn State schools, the council of Academic Deans has recently issued a statement stressing the benefits of honesty in the college setting. Last spring, the University Faculty Senate passed massive changes to the then current policy on academic integrity, which is currently in effect for the 2000-2001 academic year.

Senior Associate Provost and Dean Dr. Jack Burke said, "The revised policy is aimed at promoting academic integrity as a fundamental value in all scholarly conduct and at dealing with incidents of academic integrity."

The responsibility for promoting academic integrity on campus and for implementing procedures for handling cases of academic dishonesty falls on the college's Student Life Committee. The biggest change made from the original policy includes the levying of the grade "XF." The "XF" grade will be included on students' transcripts for classes they have failed due to academic dishonesty. The Student Life Committee is also developing record-keeping procedures for handling cases on the issue.

The statement made by the Council of Academic Deans defines, encourages and lists ways to accomplish academic integrity at all Penn State locations.

According to the statement, academic integrity is defined as "the pursuit of teaching, learning, research, and creative activity in an open, honest, and responsible manner." It "includes a commitment neither to engage in acts of falsification, misrepresentation, or deception, nor to tolerate such acts by other members of the community."

The statement calls for the support and promotion of academic integrity by not just the faculty and administration, but by students as well. It reads, "students and faculty should contribute actively to fostering a climate of academic integrity in all their scholarly activities, through discussions in first-year seminars and in other courses, and through involvement in college Academic Integrity Committees."

According to the Council of Academic Deans, the benefits of academic integrity enhance the overall college experience. "It must be at the heart of all our endeavors and must guide our actions every day as students and as members of the faculty, administration and staff." It continues, "an academic community that values integrity, promotes the highest levels of personal honesty, respect for the rights, property, and dignity of others, and fosters an environment in which students and scholars can enjoy the fruits of their efforts."

More information on the policy changes will be printed when they become available.

What is the Tuition Increase Used For?

By: Mistique D. Primar,
Collegian editor-in-chief

A great deal of speculation has been happening lately over the tuition hike that Penn State is going to implement for the 2001-2002 academic year. It has been explained more than once as to what this money is for, but how does the average student fare out in all of this?

When I was searching for colleges to attend my senior year of high school, I knew that I wanted to go to a big name school. I also knew that I wanted to go somewhere that was going to provide me with the skills that I was going to need in the future, along with a college that would fit into my price bracket. So I stumbled upon Penn State and debated about whether or not I was ready for that huge of a college experience. After doing further research, Penn State seemed to be beneficial in education, along with the tuition expense.

Now, looking at another tuition hike, it makes me wonder about a lot of things. For one, did anyone notice the Penn State Tuition Assistance Grant on his or her semester bill? After thinking about it, that grant just about covered the increase in tuition for this year. I am all for the tuition hike if it is used to make Penn State facilities better for the students, but what was the real purpose of the grant? It seemed odd that Penn State is raising our tuition, but at the same time, they gave some of us the money to cover that increase. Don't get me wrong, I was happy to get the grant, but the situation really didn't make too much sense after truly thinking about it.

For those of you who get your spring semester bill before your parents, take a look at it. Think about what the tuition increase really means and what it is doing for you.

Raytheon Creates Scholarships in IST

This Article is Taken from Intercom

Raytheon Co. has committed $100,000 to create new scholarships in the School of Information Sciences and Technology (IST).

The funds will be used to help women and students from underrepresented groups pursuing an education in the information sciences. The gift will be distributed annually over a three-year period. Raytheon recently presented a first installment of $35,000 to Penn State.

Raytheon's State College operation employs nearly 400 people and has been providing engineering and technical services for federal government and commercial customers for more than 50 years.

The company, based in Lexington, Mass., is a global technology leader that provides products and services in the areas of commercial and defense electronics and business and special mission aircraft.

Raytheon has operations throughout the United States and serves customers in more than 70 countries around the world.

Tuition Increase for 2001-2002

By: Cynthia Levy,
Collegian staff reporter

A planned tuition increase for the 2001-2002 academic year appears to surprise many at the Penn State McKeesport campus, mainly because the Board of Trustees approved an increase of 4.95 percent last year.

The unexpected increase in tuition has caused a variety of reactions on campus. Student Government Association President Kevin Homan (sophomore-division of undergraduate studies) says the Board of Trustees approved the tuition increase in order to insure Penn State's reputation as a competitive school and the money would be accessible for research and other important needs of the university.

"About 4.75 of the money is needed due to inflation, 1 percent for faculty and staff wages and 1 percent for capital improvements," Mr. Homan said. He also said the tuition hike would bring improvements and repairs to some campus facilities. Homan is not sure how it will affect students financially and advises students to continue applying for scholarships and grants.

Mr. Glenn Beech, Assistant Director of Student Affairs, also has an opinion on the tuition increase. Although Mr. Beech knew no specific reasons for the tuition increase, he said that it was a result of the rising demands of the economy.

"Looking at things globally," he said, "electricity, telephone, gasoline and heating prices are rising, thus resulting in the higher demand of funding needed." He said that because the commonwealth of Pennsylvania has not been supportive of Penn State's

Still, Noora Rodrigquez (sophomore-division of undergraduate studies) said she is neutral about the tuition increase. She said that although the tuition increase will add to her financial hardships, the Board of Trustees has already approved the increase so there is little she can do about it.

When these students were asked what they thought should be done with the increase, they gave answers such as: improvement of the Residence Hall; more adequate funding for organizations and clubs; better janitorial services; and additional dining locations.

Herman Pushes to Approve Fifth Year PHEAA Grants

By: Anna Oziraner

Under current regulations, Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) distributes the grant for four years of post-secondary education to eligible students. Those who do not complete their degree after four years do not receive any state funds. Rep. Lynn B. Herman (R-Centre) is working on a bill to change that.

Only 30 percent of Penn State students graduate in four years. This is due to losing credits through transferring schools, changing majors, or studying abroad. Regardless of the reason, most students are now graduating in five years, rather than traditional four.

Rep. Elinor Z. Taylor (R-West Chester) supports Herman's efforts on helping students pay for higher education. "Lynn Herman is a proven advocate of improving the quality of higher education and making certain everything is being accomplished to ensure that the students of our Commonwealth are getting an affordable college education," said Taylor.

Rep. Herman's commitment to improve higher education, has resulted in the amendment of the House Bill 2211, which called for an appropriation of $13 million to PHEAA to pay for the fifth year grants..

"A vast majority of students today do not graduate in four years," Herman said. "PHEAA was designed to use legislation in an effort to help students receive their diplomas on time."

In April, the House approved Herman's resolution that would extend eligibility for state scholarships to a fifth year. The House Bill 2211 passed by a vote of 195-0.

Herman amended the bill in the House of Education Committee to appropriate $13 million to PHEAA to pay for the grants. The Bill was approved by the House Appropriations Committee and received a unanimous support in the House of Representatives earlier this year. It is now going to the State Senate for further consideration.

Representative Herman Meets with Student Leaders of CCSG Central Staff

State Representative Lynn Herman (State College), was the featured speaker at Council of Commonwealth Student Governments (CCSG) Central Staff meeting on Oct. 27.

At the meeting, Herman discussed legislation he has sponsored in the State House of Representatives that would extend eligibility for state financial aid to financially eligible students from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA)to a fifth year.

The bill was unanimously approved by the House Education Committee and the state House of Representatives, Herman said.

He added his work on the House Education Committee allows him to better access the needs of students and Penn State University.

"I've worked to establish a strong working relationship with Penn State student leaders and organizations to help advance higher education legislation," he said.

T.J. Kokolis (junior-political science) said he has chosen to endorse Representative Herman's campaign because of his on-campus involvement.

As the Founderand Co-chair of the Penn State Forum in the State Capitol,Herman said he believes his work for students at Penn State has shown over the years.

"The Forum was created to advance the interests of higher education, Penn State University and university students," he said.

Halloween Hootenanny at Penn State DuBois

By: Steve Bearfield

On the night of October 26, Penn State DuBois hosted a Haunted Evening on campus for both students as well as the general community. The evening kicked off at 7 p.m. with Parapsychologist Lloyd Auerbach who lectured on the existence on Ghosts and other paranormal

Business Society's 6th Annual Haunted House. This annual event is always a successful and innovative charity fundraiser with all proceeds going to the local chapter of the United Way. This year's theme for the Haunted House was "The House of Fear," and the actual house was moved from the Gym stage area onto the actual gymnasium floor, the

the Student Government Association (SGA), Bacchus, and the Health Club. The dance, which was opened to all Penn State DuBois students, was an opportunity to get dressed up, dance, and have a lot of fun. Fun was exactly what happened. The evening saw not only one of the largest turn outs of DuBois students in recent years, but DuBois was visited by

Penn State Shenango Central Staff, who were with open arms…literally! e given out for best hich were won by Sheri ny Pruzinski, and other awarded for a variety of so, several of the SGA

senators and a couple friends performed a mock dance routine to Nsync's "Bye Bye Bye." Two of the biggest highlights were the appearance of SGA senators Mark Russell, who showed up in drag, and Sheri Putt, who was in the role of a dominatrix complete with DuBois President, Steve Bearfield, restrained and on a leash. To see some pictures from the dance, visit www.godubois.com.

The night was a huge success for Penn State DuBois, its students, and the overall community. Thanks to everyone involved and everyone who visited the campus for our version of…Fright Night!



DuBois Students Show Off Their Costumes Before the Dance

Local Band, The Badlees, Perform In the Familiar Central PA

By: Julia Danner

Although it is expected to have a musical guest in the Lion's Den each Wednesday, it came as a surprise to many students on Oct. 4, when the Badlees performed in Penn State York's cafeteria.

The Badlees are quite a familiar group to most Central Pennsylvanians having songs such as "Angeline Is Coming Home," "up there down here," "Don't Let Me Hide," and various others that most would recognize. The band consists of five members: Bret Alexander (guitars, mandolin, banjo, lap steel, dulcimer, zither, vocals), Jeff Feltenberger (guitars, vocals), Pete Palladino (vocals, harmonica, accordion), Rob Simasek (drums, percussion, vibes) and Paul Smith (basses, cello and vocals). Out of the quintet, 2 of the members were at York. Jeff Feltenberger and Pete Palladino (both pictured) performed as a duo and displayed the musical strength equivalent to a complete band with triple the members.

Not only have the locals taken a special liking to this talented group, but, according to the Badlees website,www.badlees.com, radio had also embraced the band, with "Angeline Is Coming Home" and "Fear Of Falling" becoming national Top 10 singles. "River Songs" is one of the first albums with "up there down here" being a national follow-up.

"We set out to make a record that had a real sense of place to it," says Alexander. "We wanted it to have enough layers and enough levels of craft to it that you could keep coming back for years to come and still find something new."

If you want to check out some of the Badlees' albums, between 1990 and 1999, here are the titles you would look for: "It Ain't For You," "Diamonds In the Coal", "The Unfortunate Result of Spare Time," "River Songs," and "up there down here." And if you still aren't convinced, lyrics taken from "Running Up That Hill" follow:
So you drive a while… past streets and neighborhoods and ghosts…. of incidents that now define you.



Jeff Feltenberger and Pete Palladino of Badlees

Civility a Major Issue at Faculty Senate Meeting

By Alan Janesch
Public Information

Civility issues were a major topic of discussion at the Oct. 24 University Faculty Senate meeting — ranging from hate mail directed at Penn State students and a University trustee to booing opposing teams at Beaver Stadium home football games.

In remarks to the Senate, President Graham B. Spanier spoke out against recent incidents rooted in hatred, violence, prejudice and discrimination — including sexual assaults, hate mail and the harassment of African American students and gay and lesbian students.

"These are intolerable acts," Spanier said. "We condemn such behavior."
Spanier characterized the concentration of recent incidents as "an important University-wide issue that all of us, including the Faculty Senate, have to be sensitive to. We all have to be part of the solution."

Saying he has been spending a great deal of his time worrying and expressing his concern about the recent incidents, Spanier urged the Senate audience to visit a University Web site at *http://www.psu.edu/ur/civility/*, which includes several strong statements against acts of incivility and lists resources available

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Differing Opinions on the Common Period

By: Kelli L. Buksar,
Collegian Staff Reporter

Penn State McKeesport has changed its common period to a lunchtime schedule to resolve a few problems as well as to join together with the rest of the Commonwealth College locations.

In past semesters, McKeesport campus has offered common period from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, but common period has switched to 12:10 to 1:35 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

According to Registrar Mary Ellen Bayuk, "The common period was not only changed in order to become part of the majority, but also to help resolve a commuter problem."

Often, commuter students felt almost as if they were being punished during common period because of a long wait for either meetings or classes, Dr. Bayuk said. Therefore, participation in activities has seemingly risen since last year.

Many students don't even realize what common period consists of or why it's even in existence. For example, students Rob Rothey (sophomore-information sciences and technology), Edward Haberjak (junior-business) and Chris Droznek (sophomore-mechanical engineering) seem to use the common period as a study hall or simply as a social period. They didn't seem to be aware of the activities available during common period, such as flag football, intramural basketball, meetings or even a hypnotist session.

"The common period is a time to congregate and just relax until the end of the day, sort of like a time to unwind before returning to classes," said Ian Piper (sophomore-division of undergraduate studies).

Commissions join together to denounce incivility

The following is a statement by the chairs of the three commissions, to promote civility at the University:

Our commissions are deeply disturbed by the recent expressions of hate. We consider these expressions of hate to be acts of violence directed both at individuals and at the communities they represent. We do not condone such behavior, and we are committed to creating a climate that respects and celebrates diversity.
To discourage future hate acts, we strongly urge coalition-building — not only among the groups targeted, but also with those who want to be allies.
Our commissions are here for support. To learn more about our work and for contact information, check the Web at *http://www.lions.psu.edu/equity/*.

COLLEGIATE PRESSWIRE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

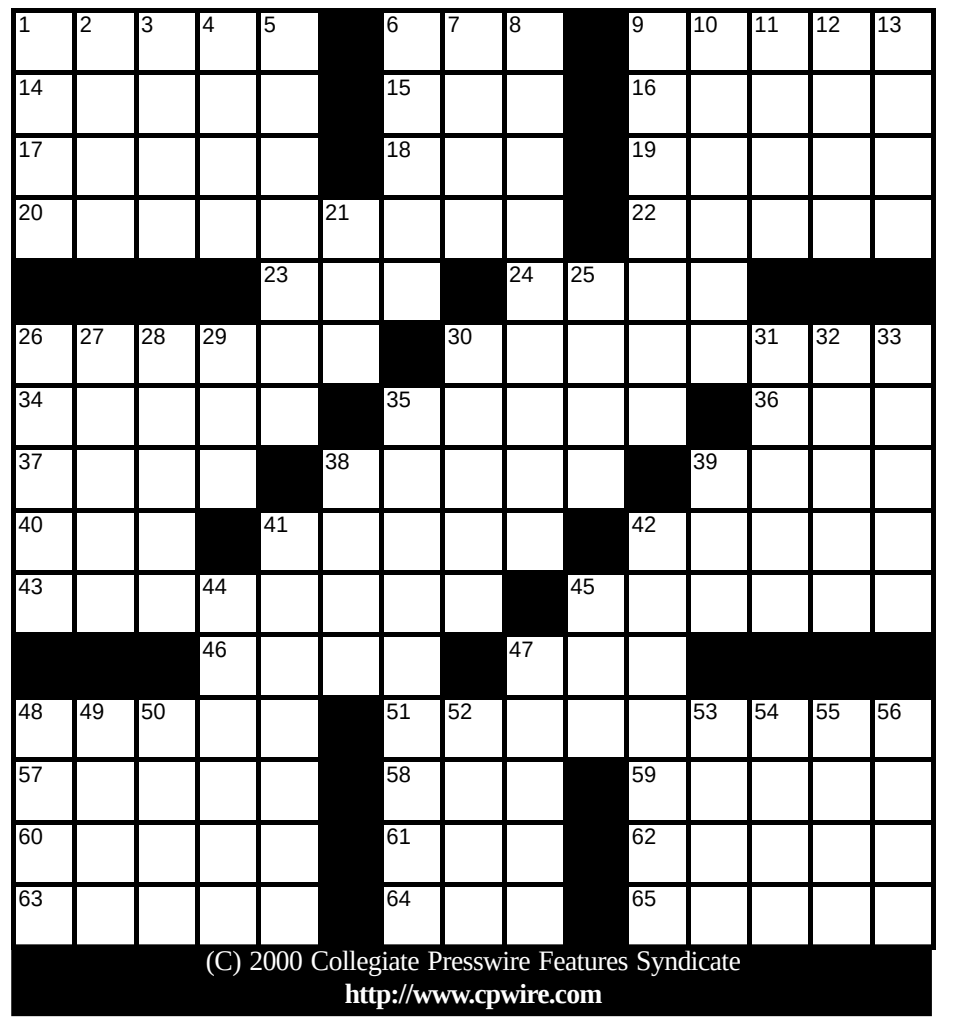
November 2, 2000

ACROSS

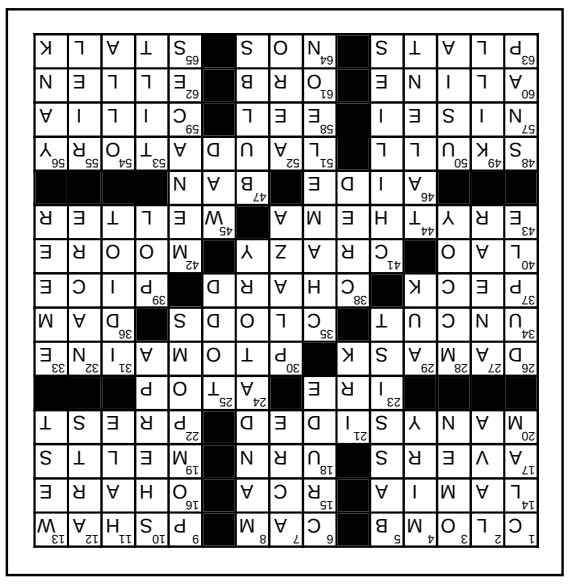
1. Early var. of "climb," past-tense
6. Irregular
9. Old-time expression of disgust
14. Female demon
15. Master of "His master's voice"
16. US's busiest airport
17. Affirms
18. Place for ashes
19. Hot tuna sandwiches
20. Versatile
22. A loan
23. Anger
24. Upon
26. Embossed fabric
30. Food poisoning
34. Non-edited film version
35. Pieces of dirt
36. Sire's mate
37. Actor Gregory
38. It may be Swiss
39. Former British Indian coin
40. ____ Tse
41. Horse's first name
42. Author of "Night Before Christmas"
43. Redness of the skin
45. One of boxing weight classifications
46. Assistant
47. Deodorant brand
48. Halloween decoration
51. Very flattering
57. Person of Japanese descent
58. Lamprey
59. Minute hairlike organisms
60. '60s-style dress
61. The eyeball
62. Female name
63. Map
64. Those who vote against
65. Follow obsessively

DOWN

1. Happy as a_____
2. 1960s _____ lamp
3. A prognostic
4. Swampy
5. Viola player
6. OPEC's unrefined output
7. "God's Little _____"
8. Obligatory
9. What cheerleaders carry
10. Everest Porter
11. Revolutionary spy
12. College major
13. Batman portrayor Adam
21. Irritate
25. Lincoln's favorite son
26. Having multiple beats (music)
27. Not afar
28. One of feuding families
29. Diving bird
30. A public square
31. Foolish one
32. Mother of pearl
33. Arab ruler (var.)
35. Fickle one
38. Off. furn.
39. Cambodian ____ Pot
41. Types of peppers
42. Dangers
44. Kind of contest
45. Chewing gum amount
47. Un-bloomed tulips
48. Fastener
49. Road_____
50. Dispenses info for gov.
52. Precedes "nautical"
53. Fight the windmill
54. Kettle
55. Cambodian money
56. Pull on sharply



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McKeesposrt SGA Organizes Fund Raiser for Drake Memorial Fund

By Lindsay Olcott,
Collegian Staff Reporter

The tragic murder of Scott Drake, an 11-year-old boy from Pittsburgh's North Side, prompted Penn State McKeesport students to take part in a collection on Sept. 28 and 29 for his memorial fund.

According to The McKeesport Daily News, Joseph Cornelius, a 47-year-old homeless man, confessed to killing and sexually mutilating Scott. His body was found on Sept. 26 in a grassy area near a busy intersection close to the boy's home. Cornelius was charged with homicide, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, aggravated assault, abuse of a corpse and kidnapping.

Members of the Student Government Association initiated the collection on campus during the student activities fair on Sept. 28. After getting permission from campus administrators, the organizers connected with PNC Bank to find out the account number of the memorial fund.

"I feel really proud of SGA and the students' involved in taking the lead for a collection for the fund. I see it as a nice indication of how our students want to get involved in the community," said Dr. J. Patrick Boyle, Director of Student Affairs.

Students, faculty and staff contributed money to the memorial fund. The two-day collection totaled $400 thanks to all the donations made.

SGA organizer Jenn Spano (sophomore-communications) said, "I think that it was great to see how Penn State faculty and students raised the money for the fund in such a short amount of time. To think that someone could be so cruel to an innocent child, that did absolutely nothing to him, I mean, how inhumane do you get. I feel horrible about the whole incident. I know that I have a 12-year-old sister, and I couldn't imagine not having her."

In the midst of all of the speculation and controversy that this case has brought about, Cornelius still awaits a pending trial date.

Volleyball Tournament to Raise Money For the Four Diamonds Fund

The Penn State McKeesport Campus will be hosting the 2000 Regional Volleyball Marathon on Sunday, 9am – 5pm Nov 19, at Wunderly Gymnasium. All Proceeds from the Marathon will benefit the Four Diamonds Fund, Penn State's Cancer Fund for Children, at the Hershey Medical Center.

Each participating team must have a team name. The maximum number of players per team will be 8, but only 6 players will be permitted on the volleyball court at one given time (allows for the rotation of 2 substitutes). Teams may be co-ed, all men, all women, and can be comprised of students, faculty and staff. The Marathon entrance fee is a minimum of $15 per person (minimum $90 per team). Remember, the more the better! Make your checks payable to Penn State McKeesport SGA, and submit them by Saturday November 11, 2000. These donations will be directly donated to the Four Diamonds Fund in the names of those participating campuses in the 2000 Regional Volleyball Marathon.

The teams will be arranged into divisions where they will play each team in that division. The top teams from each division will move on to the playoffs. The awards ceremony will be held at the end of the day. Please pick up a registration form on the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments website www.clubs.psu.edu/ccsg.

Penn State to Sponsor Housing Fair

By: Amy Prusinski and Jean Welling

The sixteenth annual Housing Fair is scheduled for Jan 26 and 27, 2001. Sponsored by Off Campus Living, with some help from CCSG, DOTA, USG, and ARHS, this event in the Hetzel Union Building/Robeson Center is the only housing fair sponsored by Penn State.

Saturday is Commonwealth Campus Day at the Fair; students changing assignment to University Park can talk to local realtors about what is available off campus for the 2001-2002 school year. Some will have courtesy busses or vans to take you for a tour of their buildings if you wish. Or you'll be able to make appointments to see them later. Members of Association of Residence Hall Students will be on-hand part of the day to show you through a residence hall. Lion Ambassadors may also be available to five tours of the campus that day as well.

Off Campus Living will have informational pamphlets available, plus the opportunity for anyone who needs a roommate to fill out a form to advertise on the website. And you'll have the opportunity to check to see if your chosen realtor is in the complaint file before you sign a lease.

There will be door prizes from local merchants, information from municipal offices and services, and opportunities to ask questions. No applications may be signed at the Fair, nor deposits made. This is a no-pressure-to-sign information event designed to give incoming students the information they need to make informed choices. Ask your campus Director of Student Affairs about transportation to University Park on Sat, Jan 27, 2001. Visit the Off Campus Living website at www.sa.psu.edu/ocl for University Park housing off campus

Asbury Award

Article Taken from the Daily Collegian

Melissa Suzanne Willis has been chosen the William W. Asbury Award winner for November.

Vice President of Student Affairs William Asbury will personally present this award at noon today during the NoonTime Concert Series, performed by Savoir Faire, in the HUB-Robeson Center.

The award is for students who are not graduating this year who have excelled in one or more of the following: dedication to community service, educational programs, promotion of diversity, responsible citizenship and creative programming.

Melissa's accomplishments include double majors in human development and family studies and speech communication.

She is a member of the dance team and Golden Key membership.

Willis also is a member of the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Fraternity.

She is a Schreyer Honor's College scholar, a scholarship recipient, a Big 33 scholarship recipient, Miss Penn State 1999, and a member of Kappa Omicron Nu.

She worked as a mentor/tutor for Operation Pride, an after-school program for youth living in low-income neighborhoods.

Willis was nominated for dedication to community service and volunteerism, responsible citizenship and creative and innovative programming.

Applications for this award will be accepted each month until March. 16, 2001 and are available at 207 HUB-Robeson Center.



Rededication of the Lehigh Velley Campus

By: Julie Wilson

On Oct. 10, the Lehigh Valley campus, with its newly renovated classrooms and offices, was rededicated to the Lehigh Valley community. The ceremony took place in the main hallway at the entrance to the new library. The renovations cost $700,000 and were completed over the three-month-long summer break.

During the remodeling, twenty seven staff members and their offices were moved into the cafeteria. The remodeling consisted of three labs (a biology, physics, and engineering), two new classrooms, a new pic-tel room, three computer labs, a learning center, a new library, two conference rooms, fourteen new administration offices and a large word processing center.

Along with the new facilities, each room was equipped with Internet access and television and VCR set up.

The rededication speeches were presented by Fred Gaige, the Dean of the Berks-Lehigh Valley college, Ann Williams, the CEO of the Lehigh Valley campus, and Chad Bushell, the student senator of the Berks-Lehigh Valley college. The ribbon was cut by five representatives of the Berks-Lehigh Valley College. Once the ribbon was cut, student Lion Ambassadors led tours to the invited community members throughout the school. The evening ended with drinks and a small buffet, along with many smiles and congratulations.

Civility Cont'd

continued fm pg 8

to victims of hate and hate-related crimes.

On the topic of uncivil behavior at home football games, the Senate voted after lengthy debate to attach its name to announcements made at certain athletic events, such as home football games, that urge spectators to refrain from booing opposing teams. The vote was 124-59. Of the more than a dozen Senate members who addressed the issue, many spoke against it, some arguing that the resolution would restrict free speech, others that it would be ineffective.

"It is not an attempt to squelch free speech," said David P. Christy, chair of the Senate Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics. "It's an attempt to encourage civil behavior."

In other business, the Senate revised its standing rules to make the president of the Undergraduate Student Government Senate the third undergraduate student member of the Faculty Senate's Student Life Committee. It also heard informational reports on upcoming changes to employee health insurance benefits (*Intercom*, Oct. 19), resources at University Libraries and the University's proposed 2001-2002 budget (*Intercom*, Sept. 14).

The Senate's next meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 5 in 112 Kern Building, University Park.

New Kensington's Tales from the Crypt

By: Karla R. Seyler

Halloween raises the scariest of ghouls and the spookiest of ghosts here at Penn State New Kensington. Legends surrounding the mysterious sightings of cloaks and roaming eyes are only the beginning of the stories this campus has to tell.

The Lion Ambassadors at New Ken are responsible for explaining the building layout, the importance of the rooms, as well as the upcoming events at New Ken. What most orientation leaders fail to tell the incoming freshman is that there is more to those rooms than meets the eye.

One specific room is that titled The Honorable L. Alexander Sculco Memorial Room. In appreciation for a relationship with Penn State University for more than 60 years, once a student and a Penn State Advisory Board Member, a room was set aside within the Engineering Building specifically for him. The room was designed to resemble Sculco's Judges Chambers complete with favorite books of the Judge and flags of the U.S., PA, and Westmoreland County. A desk created to look just as his, sits in the far left corner. On it are scrapbooks complete with articles and novelty sentiments. On the walls surrounding his desk are plaques of merit and achievement. Directly beside his desk hangs a black Judges cloak. On his book case sits a silver and gold gavel, engraved with the date 1958.

On the walls hang photographs of his colleagues, his family, and one particular newspaper clipping, dated February 6, 1977. The clipping describes the search for a "Phantom Turnpike Killer," a man responsible for the murders of two truck drivers traveling the Pennsylvania Turnpike. As District Attorney of Westmoreland County, Sculco oversaw the investigation and sentencing of John Wable. A court later found Wable to be guilty of first degree murder and sentenced to death, the last man to die of the death penalty in Westmoreland County.

This Phantom theme running through Sculco's Memorial Room strengthens the legend surrounding him. Legend has it that a black cloak, resembling that hanging in Sculco's room has been seen floating down the hallways of the engineering wing. At times, students have heard a gavel banging from a darkened Sculco room and feet walking through a silent, empty hallway. Farther down the hallway within the technology wing of the New Kensington campus is a stair well painted white, with green steps. In that stair well hangs a portrait of Donald A. Miller, painted by the campus art instructor.

Miller once a capital campaign chairperson donated the funds needed to build the Science and Technology Center on the New Kensington Campus.

Ironically the very structure he enabled to be built, killed him. Walking down the stairs, Miller suddenly tripped, and fell to his death. The portrait serves as a reminder for not only his donation to the campus but also as a reminder of the charitable man he was.

The eyes of this portrait create the second legend surrounding the New Kensington campus. Students have told tales depicting that the eyes of the portrait are controlled by the spirit lingering within the stairwell, the spirit of Miller himself.

These eyes follow students as they travel up and down the eerie green staircase, sending shivers down their spines and belief in the supernatural through their minds. Also, if stared at long enough, Miller seems to smile a discrete smirk at travelers through the stairwell.

Perhaps the Lion Ambassadors have been right to keep such legends from incoming freshman. Maybe these legends are more fiction than truth. Maybe Halloween brings out the imagination in students and journalists. Maybe though, Halloween brings out the frightening truth in such phantom legends. I'll let you decide.



Gabriel Bryant, the President of the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments 2000-2001

President's Message

Hello Commonwealth! Once again we find ourselves near the end of a great semester at Penn State! It's amazing how quickly these months seem to go, especially since we are all so busy with academics and extra-curricular activities.

First of all, I want to say on behalf of CCSG, that we have had excellent meetings, which set us up well for the challenges of next semester. New ideas, more activities, and ultimately the fostering of stronger relationships will be built as we roll into 2001!

The reality of fighting for the student issues is beginning to set in as well, as I have received a number of emails from you asking for different procedures to speak with administration. I have also heard of a few success stories: the students receiving more student representation on committees, and using student support to improve food services, a goal that earlier in the semester was viewed as impossible to achieve. Perhaps I can give you some advice that my father once gave me, which can help you in your daily mission to serve your student body. He told me this quote: "I'd rather die on my feet, then live on my knees."

I believe this quote can be attributed to a number of things, but specifically the idea of improving your campus community. As a leader, being vocal, and standing up for what you believe in, is very important. We must all take into account that we have many students depending on us, and trusting us to share their perspective with administration, and other student groups as well. We have an obligation then to do whatever it takes to make this happen, and not to become a tool lost in the midst of a bureaucratic hierarchy. Even if our ideas are shot down, what we can do then is learn from the experience, do a little fine-tuning, and come back harder. We are students first, and we must remember this when we develop strategies to better our locations. Yet these are only words, it takes all of you to take these words to heart and make a change.

I would also like to touch upon All-University-Day. Last weekend was a blast, especially seeing your representatives jog across the football field with flags waving, displaying your particular campus' names. The pride I felt was amazing, as each location was named and different sections of the stadium erupted in applause. Yet this day also made me recognize the civility issues we have had at Penn State in the past month, which caused certain students to perhaps not feel as part of the University as other students. We should all realize that all of us are guaranteed an excellent education once we arrive at any campus, and that a social atmosphere of hate and ignorance can not and will not be tolerated. Let's all unify as One University to denounce these actions by few, which harm many. Let's all embrace each other's differences, and see how we can positively utilize these to create, rather than to break down.

Remember, each individual's actions are important in the greater scheme of things, in this road we call life. Actions have reactions, so let us all work towards playing our part on this stage called Earth. **P**ositive **E**nergy **Al**ways **C**orrects **E**rrors! Good luck with all finals, and I'll see you all next semester!

"Listen here - millennium's next year,"

Gabriel Bryant
CCSG 2000-2001
"Leadership is participation, not position"

OUR MISSION IS TO SERVE ALUMNI. BUT WE DON'T LET THAT STOP US.



While it is true that we are the *Alumni* Association, we've always felt it is our duty to help students get the most out of their Penn State experience.

We don't necessarily like to brag, but we thought it was important to let you know what we do for students.

Of course, we have mentoring and networking programs like FastStart and LionLink. And there's the Lion Ambassadors, Penn State's award-winning student alumni corps.

But besides that, we offer undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships, helping hundreds of students and totaling nearly $50,000 annually. We also encourage our more than 200 affiliate groups to endow scholarships to help deserving students.

We've contributed millions of dollars to projects that are essential to all students—the University Libraries expansion and the new Career Services building, for example.

Then there are the dozens of student organizations that we sponsor or help with special projects—this issue of *Councillor*, to name a good one.

What do we get out of it? We like to consider students as a worthwhile investment ... besides, we were once students ourselves.

Penn State Alumni Association

www.alumni.psu.edu/