Ryan Oliver sits at table waiting for his meeting to start, just as he’s done since the middle of the fall semester. In the radiantly lit café at Hickory Court, Oliver checks the list over and looks past the tables toward the door expectantly. It isn’t long until he’s joined by Paul Nicolini, the energetic Culinary Manager of Food Services for several campuses in the Northeast Region. Ryan hits each topic on the list – a demand for more turkey products, a question of the microwave’s accessibility after business hours, and a suggestion to advertise some of the café’s meal-customization options. Both fervently make notes as they discuss the concerns, and within minutes the Café Committee meeting concludes. No one else shows up.

Since the Penn State Wilkes-Barre’s food services department changed infrastructures nearly three years ago, students have voiced concerns over several issues about the café at Hickory Court. These concerns range from pricing, quality, to the hours of the Cyber Café in the Academic Commons. However, it doesn’t seem sufficient enough to garner real student interest. Nicolini says that, since the change-over the Food Services, staff have tried to address student concerns, which are intermittent at best.

**Under New Management**

Many of the current students might not remember the changes that took place several years ago within the Food Services realm. In order to maintain a balanced budget, the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus, along with several others, were reorganized under the Penn State Food Services system, and Paul Nicolini was given the reins to the northeast campuses. Because of the restructuring, the Wilkes-Barre campus would be pressed to use University Park’s policies and products, giving the campus less freedom in facets like purchasing products and the preparation of food. But this is not all bad. The University negotiates massive contracts in order to keep costs down. Nicolini men-

---

**Thought for Food**

Ryan Oliver sits at table waiting for his meeting to start, just as he’s done since the middle of the fall semester. In the radiantly lit café at Hickory Court, Oliver checks the list over and looks past the tables toward the door expectantly. It isn’t long until he’s joined by Paul Nicolini, the energetic Culinary Manager of Food Services for several campuses in the Northeast Region. Ryan hits each topic on the list – a demand for more turkey products, a question of the microwave’s accessibility after business hours, and a suggestion to advertise some of the café’s meal-customization options. Both fervently make notes as they discuss the concerns, and within minutes the Café Committee meeting concludes. No one else shows up.

Since the Penn State Wilkes-Barre’s food services department changed infrastructures nearly three years ago, students have voiced concerns over several issues about the café at Hickory Court. These concerns range from pricing, quality, to the hours of the Cyber Café in the Academic Commons. However, it doesn’t seem sufficient enough to garner real student interest. Nicolini says that, since the change-over the Food Services, staff have tried to address student concerns, which are intermittent at best.

**Under New Management**

Many of the current students might not remember the changes that took place several years ago within the Food Services realm. In order to maintain a balanced budget, the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus, along with several others, were reorganized under the Penn State Food Services system, and Paul Nicolini was given the reins to the northeast campuses. Because of the restructuring, the Wilkes-Barre campus would be pressed to use University Park’s policies and products, giving the campus less freedom in facets like purchasing products and the preparation of food. But this is not all bad. The University negotiates massive contracts in order to keep costs down. Nicolini men-

---

**SGA Participation: Better, but not good enough.**

“In the two years I’ve been a student, I’ve never interacted with the SGA.” This quote comes from a sophomore student majoring in Business and it doesn’t seem to be an uncommon opinion. Another student said regarding the SGA, “They should ask for my opinion...” adding with somewhat tragic humor, “and they should tell me when and where their meetings are.” Regrettably, many students don’t seem to know or care what goes on in the SGA meetings, which, by the way, are held every Wednesday in TC 14. Even our SGA president Kate Lewis acknowledges that our levels of participation in government aren’t great, telling The Revolt that SGA’s membership is up from last year but that it’s still largely comprised of the same group of people who are already involved in clubs and student government. Oftentimes, club presidents are also Senators, leading these so-called “overlap students” to potentiate their power.

However, it is relatively easy for the uninitiated to take a dip in the SGA. Most meetings are open to the student body as a whole. All regular meetings have an “open forum” section where ‘average’ students are permitted to voice their opinions about the issues presented. If one wishes to become a
Letter from the Editor

As the staff at The Revolt started to write and develop the March issue, one theme began to stand out: student apathy. As you read through some of our articles, you will discover that the root of many issues on campus stem from a lack of interest and concern. Students complain about matters like the SGA, Food Services, and even the content of this newspaper, yet most of these complaints are heard only through the grapevine. A majority of students make jokes and carry on about issues on campus but take no action. Take the December issue of The Revolt for example; certain expletives were used that some people found distasteful. The only person who expressed their concern was Deb Gildea. It wasn’t until later, we found that many people had an opinion on this matter, particularly, the students who sit on the SAF committee. Through the grapevine, we heard that our original SAF proposal was being denied because the people that sit on the committee were less than thrilled by the language used in the December issue. This wasn’t their only reason, but it’s one that was unacceptable because no university policy was violated. The Revolt received no letters of complaint from anyone that sits on the SAF committee. Thus, how were we to know they felt so passionately about it? How can we address a problem and change if we don’t realize there’s a problem in the first place?

Luckily, things have been resolved with the SAF and The Revolt will continue to be funded. This example aside, students need to speak up! If there’s an issue, do something about it. If you’d like express your opinion or concern for The Revolt, please do. Feel free to email me or any member of the staff. If you’d like to remain anonymous, drop a letter in our mailbox in the security office. We want to hear what you think, good or bad. Knowing what our audience thinks will help us develop a better newspaper for the entire campus.

By: Julie Haller
jrh5335@psu.edu

---

SGA

Continued from cover

SGA

member of student government, one simply needs to file a petition to become a Senator of the SGA. Most petitions to become a Senator are approved. Furthermore, the SGA has a suggestion box for students to submit ideas that they feel would benefit the student body. Ms. Lewis likes to be considered an ‘approachable’ person and invites people to talk to her about issues that they have. Unfortunately, regardless of how easy it is to make participate, some students are still apathetic about the benefits of participating in student government.

So what is the driving force for students to participate in student government? Ms. Lewis tells us the answer is cold, hard cash. The only time in recent memory where the gallery for students was near capacity was when the SGA voted to raise the SAF fee by four dollars a semester several weeks ago. (For more info, see SAF on page 5.) The SGA also gets to allocate its own funds to certain clubs. Money aside, other reasons do exist but are largely overlooked. These reasons mainly include the representation of student interests and keeping the administration in check. For instance, the SGA successfully closed down the Nittany Courts buildings a few years ago. Never heard of the Nittany Courts? Well, neither had I. They are the small buildings next to the Science Center. Several years ago, they were being used as classrooms. According to Ms. Lewis, they were unfit for use as such and the SGA shut them down. Success! Also, the SGA’s executive board represents this campus before the CCSG (Coalition of Commonwealth Student Governments) in order to ensure that we as a campus get the funding and attention we deserve on a state-wide scale. In fact, the SGA, in cooperation with the CCSG talked to state legislators in Harrisburg and made a great impact in reducing proposed funding cuts to the Penn State system as a whole. Success!

Obviously, even with all these successes, the SGA is still imperfect. However, just like our United States government, the only way to target problems, perceived or actual in the SGA, is via action, discussion and engagement. As with any governmental structure, the SGA is meant to represent YOU. Make the government work for you. Make your voices heard.

By: Benjamin Picariello
bop5132@psu.edu

---

Don’t be left out in the rain like our buddy James. Buy your Revolt umbrella today!

Umbrellas are $20. Please email or see any member of our staff to purchase your new, awesome umbrella!
**Food**

Continued from cover
tioned a recent situation where a dis- tributor wanted to add a fuel surcharge to an order sent to the Wilkes-Barre campus. He says he made a few phone calls to University Park, and the dis- tributor never mentioned the fee again. Additionally, Nicolini is able to de- mand a higher quality product through the purchasing power of the Univer- sity. When ordering locally, the cam- pus’s metaphorical hands would be tied by whatever the local distributors had to offer, such as burgers whose main ingredient was “textured vegetable protein.” Throughout the University’s sys- tem, the campus can ship in the best products available.

When it comes to an individual prod- uct, let’s say chicken fritters, Paul ex- plained that quality tests are performed often. The University will gather the Food Services officials from campus- es across the Commonwealth and let them test the product before voting on it. In this way, the University supplies about 80% of Wilkes-Barre’s food- stuffs. Perishables, like produce and dairy, are negotiated and selected by the campus locally.

**Numbers Don’t Lie**

The selection of food choices has long been a sticking point for students on campus. An outcry for healthier op- tions, such as burgers whose main ingredient was “textured vegetable protein.” Through the University’s sys- tem, the campus can ship in the best products available. In this way, the University supplies about 80% of Wilkes-Barre’s food- stuffs. Perishables, like produce and dairy, are negotiated and selected by the campus locally.

**Continued from cover**

- **S.A.G.E. (Students Advancing Gender Equality)**

  “How can I help women suffering from gender inequality?”

  Since the beginning of the spring semester, the students of Dr. Goldstein’s Women’s Writers course have been planning a research-based class project with this question in mind. After some time, the class de- signed a project to combat gender inequalities for women locally and globally.

  This whole focus began after the students read Half the Sky: Turn- ing Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Sheryl Wu- Dunn and Nicholas D. Kristoff, both New York Times investigative jour- nalists. The book exposes the diffi- culties faced by women worldwide, along with providing information on how to change the situations of these women. The book truly opens the eyes of the reader to the hardships and physical cruelties that women must live through.

  As a whole, the class made the decision to fundraise money for a global charity, Somaly Mam Foun- dation, and a local charity, Hannah’s Hope. As told by somaly.org, “The Somaly Mam Foundation (SMF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the eradication of sex slavery and the empowerment of its survivors, led by the vision and life’s work of Cambodian survivor Somaly Mam. Hannah’s Hope is a non-profit cor- poration that serves Luzerne, Lacka- wanna, and Wyoming County. The Hannah’s Hope website states their mission is, “To provide a supervised residence for women experiencing crisis pregnancies and to provide educational services to enhance par- enting & life skills and the spiritual well-being of the mothers.” Both or- ganizations aim to empower women that have faced hardships as a result of gender inequality. To raise money for these two charities, S.A.G.E. will hold 5K walk/run.

  **5 K walk/run**

  The 5 K walk/run will be hosted on the Penn State Wilkes- Barre campus on April 13th, 2013 from 8am-1pm. Proceeds from the walk will go to the Somaly Mam Foundation and Hannah’s Hope. For more information, you can refer to upcoming flyers.

  **Any individual is welcome to join the fight against gender inequality. The event will need every helping hand in this worldwide fight for wom- en. It’s imperative that you spread the word to everyone you know because you could be the little difference needed to change a woman’s life.**

  **For any questions concerning the S.A.G.E. 5K walk/run event please contact Christine Tenny (cat5386@ psu.edu) or Julie Haller (jrh5335@ psu.edu).**

  **By: Christine Tenny cat5386@psu.edu**

**On the Cover**

- Assalamu Alaikom, Hassan, Northampton, PA
- Miss, William D. Boyce, Pope-Fan
- From left: Hugh Cameras, Mia Kn-

**Picture by: Inaara Olyvare Liao to right: Tyler Furey, Hannah Eirle, Victoria Ostrick, Karl Capizzi**
Imagine a sea of colors, motions of movement, and thousands of people. That’s what you can find at Penn State’s Dance Marathon. Penn State’s Dance Marathon goes from Friday-Sunday, lasting for 46 hours. THON weekend is probably one of the biggest events Penn State holds. You can expect thousands of people from students to family, people cheering, and tons of dancing. This year’s Dance Marathon consisted of over 700 dancers, 9 bands, and so much more. It’s a unique tradition that separates us from every other institution out there and why the words, “We Are... Penn State” ring true.

How did THON Dance Marathon come about? Forty years ago, 39 couples took to the dance floor in aathon come about? Forty years ago, 39 couples took to the dance floor in...
Dronesia is sweeping the nation. This past summer I found myself venturing off to New York City to watch a Mets game with my dad. What was supposed to be a simple father/son ball game turned into a life changing and somewhat frightening experience that I would never forget. The game was great, the city was gorgeous, and I had a great time. But on the way there, cruising along clustered I-80 in a stuffy, crowded coach bus, my eyes got that best of me and I began scanning the skies. I wasn’t sure what I would see, but then I saw it. A bright, silvery object flying high up in the dark blue, sunny skies of the Tri-State area, speeding along some sort of test flight. There were no flashing lights on it and it wasn’t leaving behind a trail. I was intrigued by the sudden speedying craft and asked my dad what it was. An alien spacecraft? A weather balloon on steroids? No. His response: a sentry drone. Since then, I’ve been researching drones religiously. I’ve even found the time to start writing a novel about drones. What sparked this sudden interest was a simple glimpse in the right place at the right time.

But now that intriguing enigma has opened up a totally new portal to how I view unmanned aircraft, and how I have somberly discovered the dark side to them. UAV’s or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles are becoming very popular in the entertainment media, political, and of course the military. UAV’s can do the same thing as manned aircraft, just without the risk of losing a pilot’s life. But also, they have the tendency to crash easier. Remote controlled from far away, they can scan ground for reconnaissance, shoot missiles at targets, and spy on people. But the truth behind drones is that, like every other weapon of mass destruction, it could soon get into the wrong hands and be used against us. TIME magazine recently published a fascinating article about drones. According to the author Lev Grossman, “the Supreme Court has ruled that the police can, under the Fourth Amendment, fly an airplane over your fenced backyard and check out whether you’re growing pot back there. It’s not a giant leap to imagine them flying a drone instead.” Drones on the home front are starting to become a very popular and controversial concept. If we don’t act quickly and limit the power of drones in our backyard, we may soon become overtaken by them.

Warfare is starting to turn a dark page in its history. Espionage has always been a part of war, but now things are taking a turn for the worse. What happens when war is finally over and there is peace? What happens to all those recon airjackets? And what happens when the police arm them to track down criminals and terrorists on U.S. soil? It’s scary to think about and it’s even scarier that not a lot of people are aware. Earlier this month a Predator Drone was reportedly sighted over New York City. It’s unknown if the accusation was true or if they were just seeing things, but one thing is for sure: the NYPD can’t wait to get their hands on drones and use them on the home front. This isn’t such a bad idea; it would help cut a lot with tracking criminals. But with great power comes abuse, and pretty soon drones will be everywhere, armed, and lurking. Since technology has the tendency to glitch out, a simple passerby could be scanned as a possible target. Prejudice pilots could target anyone and do so under cover. This could also lead to system hackings and drones being used as weapons of mass destruction rather than hobby toys. The FAA, Federal Aviation Administration, is already starting to regulate rules for drones, but if they don’t act fast something horrible could happen.

Anyone can arm a drone; there’s already a video on YouTube of one going for a test run and lighting up targets. Uploaded by user FSPRussia, it shows the power that these machines can attain. Government jobs that offer piloting drones will soon be available, and according to the CBS news articles, “Drones: A big industry waiting to be born”, nearly 100,000 jobs will be created within the next decade via drone engineers, programmers, and pilots. Helping the economy with the risk of public privacy. It’s a double sided knife that will someday heavily affect our children, and their children. Our military is now obsessed with drone warfare, and machine warfare is the future of combat. Lev Grossman compares toy RC drones to predator drones like house cats to tigers. A simple RC hobby has now turned into a giant campaign for warfare.

Penn State has its own drone program. Through Penn Engineering, there is GRASP Laboratory which helps to create and test flight drones, as well as create more efficient ones. Dr. Vijay Kumar, a scavenger at Penn State, states that drones can be very useful on the home front. He says, “They give us the ability to respond immediately to disasters. First responders some day will no longer be human.” I concur with Dr. Kumar and see the potential in drones. The prospect of drones has been negative due to their roles in the military. Drones have potential for serving civilians instead of slaying them, but we must consider the deadly potential that they can bring the lack of privacy that they induce. Universities all over the country have already considered and applied to the

Student Activity Fee Increase

The February 20th SGA meeting was an especially important one. At this meeting students discussed the future of the Student Activity Fee (SAF). Students were given the voting option to raise the SAF $8 per year or keep the fee at its current amount of $82 a year.

What is the SAF and what does it do? According to the Penn State Wilkes-Barre web-site, “There is a modest fee that the University assesses students each semester of enrollment (the amount differs by number of credits scheduled). These fees are directed towards a pool of funds referred to as “Student Activity Fees” (SAF). Students, as part of an organized club or as individuals, are welcome to submit requests to underwrite expenses associated with a special project, a planned trip, etc. A committee comprised of students, as well as one faculty and one staff member, review all proposals and choose which will be of greatest benefit to the student body.”

SGA President, Kate Lewis, prepared a presentation to educate and inform the students that would be voting. In her presentation she estimated the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus has 500 students, giving the SAF a budget $41,000 a year. If the fee was increased by $8 a year, the budget would come to $45,000. That would give the SAF about $4,000 more to work with.

Before voting began, time was allotted for open discussion. Everyone at the meeting was allowed to voice their opinion, which has been recorded in the SGA minutes for 2/20/13. One student in favor of raising the fee stated, “This increase is less than the chicken strips in the cafeteria.” Another argued, “This will benefit everyone on campus, we can have more fun!” A student opposed to the fee increase said, “It’s complete crap that we are raising this. It’s “fun” money, $82 is high enough. If you want more money, fundraise it.”

The vote came in at 16-13 in favor of raising the Student Activity Fee $8. However, the students don’t get the final say. It’s Chancellor Davis who gets to decide. The student vote is only held so the Chancellor can take student thoughts into consideration. Student opinion did, in fact, make an impact; Chancellor Davis sided with students. The Student Activity Fee has officially been raised an extra $4 a semester.

By: Julie Haller
jth3335@psu.edu
**Cut, Clarity, Color… Gone!?**

The Brussels Airport diamond heist may seem like a scene right out of a “Batman” movie. Picture this; an armored truck and its au-
thorized security guards are loading over a million dol-
ars of diamonds from the truck and into a plane. Not to
undermine the intelligence of said guards, but just because
a handful of people in similar outfits approach these “high-
ly trained professionals” and say, “we’ll take it from here.” does not seem to im-
ply anything other than the excitement of getting the day
off, while the heisters make out with loads of “ loot.”

Perhaps it was a bad
day for security guards that were trusted with what most
would call a decent amount of
cold, hard, transparent rocks. On the other hand, classic
villains like “Mr. Freeze” need gratuitous amounts of
diamonds just to survive. It is obviously safe to assume
that the heist was far from this conclusion. Either way,
whether the successful heist
was due to a group of in-
competent guards, who’s
only job was to get the
product from the truck
to the plane, or the successful
heist was pulled of due to a
group of highly intelligent
and organized jewel thieves
who bided their time and
got the drop, in turn making
out with $50,000,000 (fifty-
million dollars) worth of
diamonds.

Antwerp, being the dia-
mond-cutting capital of
the world, is no stranger
to these elaborate plans. In 2003, the Antwerp
Diamond Center was raided by highly-skilled thieves
who disabled an alarm sys-
tem and made off with $100 million worth of diamonds.
Caroline De Wolf, spokes-
woman from the Diamond
Center said the recent dia-
mond heist is “worrying” and
causing “quite some unrest.” Some may say this is
rightly so. The thieves did
their research. The thieves
knew exactly how to stymie
security and un-hinge the
hatch of the plane which the
diamonds were being stored
in. The twenty-nine passen-
gers apparently saw nothing,
so quick did the heist take
place. In fact, the heist took
place so quickly that airport
security didn’t even have
time to initiate a response be-
fore the thieves got away.

In two minutes and
fifty seconds, a group of
heavily armed men stormed
a Fokker 100, a commercial
aircraft immediately
before the plane was due to
take off. The group, who is
considered by Belgian police
to be “so perfect” as to have
acquired secret information
about the plane’s move-
ments, consegured security
exactly where the diamonds
would be and when, made off
with about fifty million dol-
ars of uncut diamonds. They
were wearing police anoraks
and wielding machine guns.
So believable they were that
the guards driving the Brinks
armored car and the Belgian
police have reason to believe
they received military train-
ing.

The current where-
abouts of the jewel thieves
are largely unknown, al-
though they were seen flee-
ing the scene in Audis and
Mercedes. Unfortunately for
the owners of the diamonds,
this will not be much help
to the police. These are some
of the most popular vehicles
in Europe. This incred-
ible feat of jewel thievery is
known today to be the largest
and smoothest diamond heist
in history to date. Although,
as most of you may know,
stealing is wrong, however
a “tip of the hat” may be de-
served in such a case. Keep
up with us here at “The Re-
volt” as future issues may
contain a follow up on the
now rich and successful heis-
ters that got away. As always,
keep reading and feeding us
your thoughts.

By: Kenneth Bond
kbw5171@psu.edu &
Benjamin Piciariello
bp5132@psu.edu

---

**Are Your Dreams Illegal?**

As some of you are
aware of Dimethyltrypt-
amine (DMT) has been
illegal in the United
States for some time
(since 1966 to be exact).
They have recently re-
vised the law to make it
illegal to own, produce or
consume. Previously
it was only illegal to con-
sume, and make into a
consumable form. Well,
this is how we are all fel-
ons: DMT is produced in
the pineal gland of your
brain. It is also found in
almost every living
thing. Hence we are pro-
ducers and cultivators
(DMT is also found in
glасс). The truth is, no
one really knows what the
purpose of DMT is found in
the human body is; although
there are some hypothe-
ses: it is responsible
for dreaming and perceiv-
ing the world, among many
other things. Therefore,
DMT itself is considered a
psychadelic.

It is also the only psy-
chadelic found in the
human body. Because
natural DMT levels
tend to rise while we’re
asleep at night, a role in
dreaming has been sug-
gested. However, this
is pure speculation, and
even if true, it may also
do much more.

Here is an interesting
coincidence that I came
across while doing re-
search for this article:
the consumption of Flu-
oride calcifies the pineal
gland. Fluoride is added
to the water supply by
the government. The Pineal
Gland functions include
secretion of the hormone melato-
nin, regulation of endo-
crine, and conversion of
nervous system signals
to endocrine signals. It
also causes feelings of
sleepiness, and influen-
ces sexual development.
It should be noted that
there are several studies
that high Fluoride con-
sumption leads to earlier
puberty and breast can-
cer in girls, and infertil-
ity in men.

The US government’s
stance on the regulation of
DMT and Fluoride would
be laughable if not for the
health problems associat-
ed with the calcification of
the Pineal Gland. I also
think that making DMT illegal
to this extent is idiotic at
best due to the fact that
it is produced in the hu-
man brain.

By: Alex Brown
ACB5498@psu.edu

---

**Drone**

Continued from Page 5

FAA for using drones to fly
above campus to search for
and monitor students. One of
the schools that applied for
campus drones? Penn State
University. These machines are also be-
coming huge in the enter-
tainment media. The newest
Call of Duty installment,
Black Ops 2 also shows the
power of future drones and
how they will drastically af-
fect the warfront. Drones are
on their way to becoming
the next big thing, almost as big as
the Internet. They’re in-
genious creations, but what
happens if or when they are
used against us, especially by
our own government? When
playing the game of drones,
it’s not whether you win or
lose. The question is if you
survive. It’s time to regulate
the rules for drones and keep
an open eye up to the clouds.
It’s hard to tell, especially
now, when your government
is watching you. Don’t trust
the sky.

By: Ryan Sotelo
rms5734@psu.edu
Students Volley for Control over Funds

This weekend student-members of the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments, the advocacy group that collectively represents about half of Penn State’s student body, shot at University policies that effectively dominate student monies. The unanimously passed resolution, dubbed 2012-2013-007, makes several profound recommendations to the Student Facilities Fee (SFF) and the process by which it is spent.

CCSG Student Affairs Committee directors, Phil Hromnik and Julie Koserowski, with several CSA presidents from the Commonwealth campuses, spearheaded debates about the fee, introduced in 2008 to provide a funding source...to enhance student activities, fitness and recreation, and drafted the resolution, which aims to accomplish several changes at once.

SGA President Kate Lewis, who voted in favor of the changes, said “the Student Facilities Fee process is naturally slow because of the extensive planning most projects require, and this legislation provides critical feedback to administrators by making recommendations to revise the fee’s guidelines.” Perhaps most importantly, the legislation requested that a Facilities Fee committee be created on each respective campus. It would operate similarly to the Student Activity Fee (SAF) committee by discussing and approving proposals as they are submitted. The board would meet twice per year according to the document. Like the SAF committee, the proposed SFF committee would have a diverse student representation, about 4-6 members, with the SGA President as co-chair alongside the campus chancellor. All would be given voting powers. As current policy stands, the campus’ Facilities Fee projects are decided solely by campus chancellors at their discretion.

Other changes were suggested regarding the manner in which the proposals were handled. Current SFF policy maintains that any project exceeding $50,000 dollars will be sent to the Vice President of Student Affairs, Damon Sims, for approval. Sims, who is often seen as an advocate for students, has rarely turned down such a proposal, and typically ensures that students have adequate input in the process.

But due to the number of projects from around the Commonwealth, many proposals see longer approval and completion times when the University gets involved. Often times, the University can mandate that a project be approved beforehand. For instance, a UP official had to be onsite to approve the color of the stone wall in the new Student Commons Plaza before it was constructed. Campuses can wait weeks for such an approval.

The legislation increases this “Sims-threshold” to $100,000 dollars, which gives the campus, particularly the chancellors, more centralized control over such projects. Phil Hromnik relayed that many campus chancellors and Directors of Student Affairs embraced the recommendation.

Because the call for student-voting authority is not a certainty, some campuses expressed concern in amassing the power to one person. A few Commonwealth campus chancellors tend to deny Facilities Fee proposals in lieu of larger, long-term projects. If no funds are spent in a given year, the balance is carried over and the Facilities Fee coffers grow. In the shadow of an uncertain outcome, student leaders also requested that the policy demand one short-term project be funded per academic year.

The Wilkes-Barre campus has been a model for these changes across the University, and already operates with a student-centered committee that contains six students and six faculty/staff members (including the chancellor). The SGA President (Kate Lewis) and Director of Student Affairs (Kathie Flanagan-Herstek) both serve as co-chairs on the committee. All of the members have voting capabilities. If the legislation is enacted by the University Student Affairs office, it would make official and help to streamline the process the Wilkes-Barre campus already uses.

Penn State Wilkes-Barre’s Facilities Fee fund currently holds over $200,000 dollars; each full-time student is charged $56 dollars per semester, or $448 dollars over an average four-year term. In the last year, the campus’ Facilities Fee purchased outdoor furniture for the new Student Commons Plaza ($38,529), new exercise machines for the gym ($4,649), and magnificent pictures featuring the campus taken by photographer Coach (ret.) Monick (Approx. $2,000).

The campus also purchased a new, 8-foot Nittany Lion statue for just over $8,000, which has been stored since last summer. The dormant lion statue is awaiting approval on a newly landscaped position and the purchase of a larger base.

The legislation will be presented to the University’s Student Affairs office by Hromnik and other CCSG members, where they will urge that the changes be made immediately.

For more information on the Student Facilities Fee, visit the Penn State Wilkes-Barre or University website.

By: Michael Calore mrc5320@psu.edu
The Hybrid Advantage

As we move forward into the year 2013 many technologies and electronics have become part of everyone’s day to day life. Cell phones, television and the internet have made communication easier since the turn of the century, but what would communication be without transportation? It’s safe to say that most if not all college students have owned a vehicle, especially if they commute to and from school. Although it may seem like a simple daily reflex to get behind a wheel and operate a motor vehicle, it has become a necessity for commuters much like myself.

Nothing in this world is free, and from the look of things everyone who owns a vehicle will spend well into the thousands a year on gasoline; how often do you put gas in your car, truck, or SUV? A recent study done by AAA (with an average gas price of $3.35) shows that an owner of a mid-size sedan will spend about $8,800 a year with owners of trucks and SUV’s spending over $11,000. Just think of those numbers the next time you decide to fill up the tank.

In the past 10 years, with the rise of gas prices and the push for better fuel economy, many different auto makers have decided to look for solutions to this recurring dilemma, and many have found the answers to point in the direction of alternate energies to gasoline, specifically electric. Although a few fully electric vehicles have been tested and even released to the public such as the Tesla Model S and the Fisker Karma, the idea of plugging a car into an outlet for 6-10 hours to charge the motor hasn’t become popular enough to be considered a way of powering our daily transportation. Until our full jump to electric vehicles, or some other alternate energy, you as a driver can settle for the next best thing, which is known as a hybrid.

A hybrid, by definition, is an automobile which uses two or more major sources of propulsion power. In simple terms, it is a vehicle that operates off of two separate engines simultaneously. Almost all current hybrids on the road today use one or two auxiliary electric motors to power a main gasoline motor. A gas-electric motor is smaller and less powerful than a gasoline motor but has great advantages in efficiency and fuel economy.

The main reason hybrids get better fuel economy is due to the fact that throughout the driving sequence the electric motor takes over as the main power source. A good example of this action is when the car is moving at a steady speed, such as highway driving, in which the electric motor can maintain the speed and power needed to keep the car running at a steady RPM. In contrast, while at a traffic light or a stop sign the electric motor lowers the automobiles idling sequence which is known to be the biggest waste of fuel, meaning less idle and more MPG. Without the gas motor fully operating the vehicle, fuel is saved, and you can keep that $20 in your pocket for an extra day or so.

The use of both gaso-line-electric motors has many other advantages as well. In case you are wondering, the gasoline motor charges the electric motor, meaning you won’t have to plug your hybrid into an outlet to charge. Also, the electric motor powers most of the in-car accessories, including the radio and lighting which also consumes a good amount of power while operating. Compared to a traditional gasoline motor, the hybrid blend of both gasoline and electric keeps the automobile current to daily life. Just like how the motor operates off of two principles, an individual can still put gas in the car, but save money at the same time.

Toyota, Lexus, Ford, Honda and Hyundai are leading the automotive world in the production and sales of hybrids. Toyota Prius is currently the best-selling and most efficient (small sedan) hybrid getting about 51-53 MPG. Lexus (a luxury branch of Toyota) has also recently released a small sedan, CT200h, which vows to get around 43 MPG with other mid-size sedans and even SUVs that are hybrids. Honda, another foreign automaker has released a mid-size Civic hybrid getting over 40 MPG, with Hyundai also following the hybrid trend. This trend has caught on by American automakers as well, such as Ford, which recently released the mid-size Fusion hybrid that gets about 35 MPG.

On average, an individual can expect to pay about $5000-$10000 more for a hybrid, but this initial payment pays the owner back over time by saving fuel costs. Although the majority of automobiles on the road currently are gaso-line powered, it is safe to predict that in a few years when the national average of gasoline breaks the $4.00 or even $5.00 mark, that many more hybrids and/or electric cars will be on the road. It is only a matter of time before gasoline powered vehicles become as extinct as the dinosaurs, fossilized in junkyards around the world.

As of August 2012, the Obama administration finalized a plan to require all automakers to almost double fuel efficiency by 2025. The plan entitled, “Corporate Average Fuel Economy” or (CAFE) will push American automakers to reach a goal and average of 54.5 MPG for every new vehicle sold from 2025 forward. A more current plan set about 3 years ago by the Obama administration has asked automakers to reach an average of 35.5 MPG by 2016, which has already gone into effect, and reached by several different automakers. These regulations don’t necessarily mean that every single vehicle needs to reach these numbers, but as a total average of all cars for that particular make of automobile.

This average can easily be met by the production of more hybrid and fully electric vehicles which produce less emissions and ultimately will save you money. According to J.D. Power and Associates, fuel economy is the biggest factor critics consider when purchasing a vehicle; the most current plan expected for 2016 will save a person (on average) up to $7,400 on fuel over the life of the vehicle. Also, The rules set for 2025 will raise the average cost of all vehicles about $2,800, but the overall savings of fuel will keep the savings at the pump to about $3,500 to $5,000. The administration has predicted that the changes will cost the auto industry about $135 billion from 2017 to 2025.

By: Kevin Shewan KWS5186@psu.edu
The annual NCAA March Madness tournament is back for its 75th year. The flowers may not be blooming, the temperature may not be rising, and the snow may still be falling. However, there is one thing that will always be there to bring in the spring season. Madness is indeed in the air and it’s not spring fever. The NCAA annual Men’s Basketball March Madness championships started on March 19.

Filling out your brackets and entering it into a pool with your friends is alive and well. However, filling out a bracket isn’t as simple as it sounds. Some like to use a mathematical approach analyzing the stats from every team and determining who of the 64 is the best. Others go by who their favorite team is or they go with their “gut” feeling. Some will be even crazy enough to choose a team by its color, mascot, or the flip of a coin.

Here are some tips I have picked up over the years of filling out brackets.

1.) Going by the Numbers.
   For those who like numbers, there are certain statistics that can be helpful. According to kenpom.com the average adjusted offensive and defensive efficiency (how many points a team scores per possession, adjusted for schedule strength) for teams that made the elite-eight were 15.8 and 19.1 respectively. Very few schools will satisfy these numbers.

2.) We’re Number One!
   A number one seed has never lost in the first round to a number 16 (112-0). However, be cautious to pick all high seeds in your final four. Only one time have all four number one seeds made the final four. Finally, the only seeds to win the championship have been 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8.

3.) Go With Your Gut.
   Go with your gut! This works for two reasons. 1. The more time you spend on your bracket pondering over each pick, the angrier you will be as you watch the red x’s add up. 2. Win or lose, if you go with your gut you’ll be pleased with the outcome rather than left saying “I almost picked them!”

4.) Flip a Coin.
   No, literally. What makes March Madness so entertaining is its unpredictability. The Cinderella stories and tragic upsets are what keep fans coming back every year. So whether it is by flipping a coin, picking a mascot, or asking someone who knows nothing about basketball, no one will know who will wear the glass slipper this year. The only thing we can be certain of is that someone will.

These are just a few tips to go with when filling out your brackets this year. You can see all of the games on TBS, CBS, TNT, or TruTV. Good luck to you and may your March be full of Madness.

By: Casey Drake
CWD5303@psu.edu

March Madness

The annual NCAA March Madness tournament is back for its 75th year. The flowers may not be blooming, the temperature may not be rising, and the snow may still be falling. However, there is one thing that will always be there to bring in the spring season. Madness is indeed in the air and it’s not spring fever. The NCAA annual Men’s Basketball March Madness championships started on March 19. The 75 year tradition of filling out your brackets and entering it into a pool with your friends is alive and well. However, filling out a bracket isn’t as simple as it sounds. Some like to use a mathematical approach analyzing the stats from every team and determining who of the 64 is the best. Others go by who their favorite team is or they go with their “gut” feeling. Some will be even crazy enough to choose a team by its color, mascot, or the flip of a coin. Here are some tips I have picked up over the years of filling out brackets. Read tips with caution as I have never won a bracket pool with any of my entries.

1.) Going by the Numbers.
   For those who like numbers, there are certain statistics that can be helpful. According to kenpom.com the average adjusted offensive and defensive efficiency (how many points a team scores per possession, adjusted for schedule strength) for teams that made the elite-eight were 15.8 and 19.1 respectively. Very few schools will satisfy these numbers.

2.) We’re Number One!
   A number one seed has never lost in the first round to a number 16 (112-0). However, be cautious to pick all high seeds in your final four. Only one time have all four number one seeds made the final four. Finally, the only seeds to win the championship have been 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8.

3.) Go With Your Gut.
   Go with your gut! This works for two reasons. 1. The more time you spend on your bracket pondering over each pick, the angrier you will be as you watch the red x’s add up. 2. Win or lose, if you go with your gut you’ll be pleased with the outcome rather than left saying “I almost picked them!”

4.) Flip a Coin.
   No, literally. What makes March Madness so entertaining is its unpredictability. The Cinderella stories and tragic upsets are what keep fans coming back every year. So whether it is by flipping a coin, picking a mascot, or asking someone who knows nothing about basketball, no one will know who will wear the glass slipper this year. The only thing we can be certain of is that someone will.

These are just a few tips to go with when filling out your brackets this year. You can see all of the games on TBS, CBS, TNT, or TruTV. Good luck to you and may your March be full of Madness.

By: Casey Drake
CWD5303@psu.edu

March Madness

The annual NCAA March Madness tournament is back for its 75th year. The flowers may not be blooming, the temperature may not be rising, and the snow may still be falling. However, there is one thing that will always be there to bring in the spring season. Madness is indeed in the air and it’s not spring fever. The NCAA annual Men’s Basketball March Madness championships started on March 19.

The 75 year tradition of filling out your brackets and entering it into a pool with your friends is alive and well. However, filling out a bracket isn’t as simple as it sounds. Some like to use a mathematical approach analyzing the stats from every team and determining who of the 64 is the best. Others go by who their favorite team is or they go with their “gut” feeling. Some will be even crazy enough to choose a team by its color, mascot, or the flip of a coin. Here are some tips I have picked up over the years of filling out brackets.

Read tips with caution as I have never won a bracket pool with any of my entries.

1.) Going by the Numbers.
   For those who like numbers, there are certain statistics that can be helpful. According to kenpom.com the average adjusted offensive and defensive efficiency (how many points a team scores per possession, adjusted for schedule strength) for teams that made the elite-eight were 15.8 and 19.1 respectively. Very few schools will satisfy these numbers.

2.) We’re Number One!
   A number one seed has never lost in the first round to a number 16 (112-0). However, be cautious to pick all high seeds in your final four. Only one time have all four number one seeds made the final four. Finally, the only seeds to win the championship have been 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8.

3.) Go With Your Gut.
   Go with your gut! This works for two reasons. 1. The more time you spend on your bracket pondering over each pick, the angrier you will be as you watch the red x’s add up. 2. Win or lose, if you go with your gut you’ll be pleased with the outcome rather than left saying “I almost picked them!”

4.) Flip a Coin.
   No, literally. What makes March Madness so entertaining is its unpredictability. The Cinderella stories and tragic upsets are what keep fans coming back every year. So whether it is by flipping a coin, picking a mascot, or asking someone who knows nothing about basketball, no one will know who will wear the glass slipper this year. The only thing we can be certain of is that someone will.

These are just a few tips to go with when filling out your brackets this year. You can see all of the games on TBS, CBS, TNT, or TruTV. Good luck to you and may your March be full of Madness.

By: Casey Drake
CWD5303@psu.edu

Penn State Wilkes-Barre 2013 Baseball Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/28/2013 – Thurs</td>
<td>PSU York</td>
<td>York, PA</td>
<td>2:00/4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/2/2013 – Tue</td>
<td>PSU Worthington-Scranton</td>
<td>Dumore, PA</td>
<td>2:00/4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/6/2013 – Sat</td>
<td>PSU Beaver</td>
<td>Monaca, PA</td>
<td>2:00/4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/7/2013 – Sun</td>
<td>PSU Hazleton</td>
<td>Hazleton, PA</td>
<td>12:00/2:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/10/2013 – Wed</td>
<td>PSU Mont Alto</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>12:00/2:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2013 – Fri</td>
<td>PSU Schuylkill</td>
<td>Schuylkill Haven, PA</td>
<td>2:00/4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/14/2013 – Sun</td>
<td>Marywood University</td>
<td>Scranton, PA</td>
<td>12:00/2:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/18/2013 – Thurs</td>
<td>PSU Brandywine</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>2:00/4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/20/2013 – Sat</td>
<td>Penn College</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>2:00/4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>PSUAC Championship</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6-10/13</td>
<td>USCAA Championship</td>
<td>McKeesport, PA</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Would you Rather...

Would you rather stand in the student commons in your underwear for one hour or only be aloud to wear winter attire (winter jacket, snow pants, etc..) for one full year?

Would you rather have fingers as long as your legs or legs as long as your fingers?

Would you rather have your family read your entire internet history (you can’t delete anything) or be secretly filmed at home by people at school/work for one day?

Student Playlist

Kenny- Cicatriz ESP by The Mars Volta
Tanner- Florida Georgia Line by Cruise
James- Wherever I May Roam by Metallica
Johnathon- Truck Yeah by Tim Mcgraw
Shelby- Anything by Lady Antebellum or Sugarland
Otari- Little Black Submarines by The Black Keys

Like The Revolt on Facebook!
The truth is like a lion. You don’t have to defend it. Let it loose. It will defend itself.

-St. Augustine