The Nittany Lion
By Dru Hensley
Staff writer
Rah5094@psu.edu

Is a Nittany Lion just the mascot for Penn State? I dare you to ask the person sitting next to you if he or she knows what a Nittany Lion is. If you are met with a blank stare and crickets chirping, do not be so quick to judge. Let’s be honest; would you be reading this article if you already knew yourself? Do not sweat it. You are still a loyal Penn Stater even if you do not know. Here is a little history on the Nittany Lion just in case it becomes a question on the game show “Jeopardy!” someday.

Believe it or not, a Nittany Lion is actually your typical mountain lion. The word “Nittany” is derived from the Native American term for “single mountain.” So, what does a mountain lion have to do with our mascot? The word Nittany was used by settlers in the 1700’s to describe the mountain that separated two valleys, one of which today holds Penn State’s University Park campus.

By now, most of you are probably thinking that is when Penn State was established and the Nittany Lion was inducted as the mascot. But that is not exactly how it happened. In fact, the term Nittany Lion wasn’t even a real term until about nine years after Penn State was established and the Nittany Lion wasn’t even a real term until about nine years after Penn State was established.

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RUBIK’S CUBE
By Dru Hensley
Staff writer
Rah5094@psu.edu

At some point in your life, you have probably picked up a Rubik’s Cube and tried to solve it or at the very least, played with one. Whatever the case may be, you know what a Rubik’s Cube is and you know it’s not a walk in the park trying to solve it. But let’s talk about what you don’t know about the Rubik’s Cube. Did you know that the cube was invented in 1974? Erno Rubik, a Hungarian sculptor and professor of architecture, invented the Rubik’s Cube. He originally named it the “Magic Cube,” but it was later renamed “Rubik’s Cube” by Ideal Toys in 1980. The cube won a special award that year for “Best Puzzle” in Germany.

Now that you have its history, what about solving it? That question isn’t as easy to answer as you think. There are 43,252,003,274,489,856 different possibilities for how the cube can be arranged. Don’t let that number discourage you; there are several methods that can be used to solve the Rubik’s Cube. The most common method used includes a series of algorithms. An algorithm, by definition, is a set of rules for solving a problem. Don’t worry if you’re not a math buff; the beginner methods for solving the cube require zero math skills. All you need to know is left from right and top from bottom. From that knowledge, you can memorize the patterns involved in solving the cube. The beginner methods will get the cube solved, but what about those people who can solve it really fast?

Have you ever wondered if you knew anyone who could solve the Rubik’s Cube in under a minute? Believe it or not, there are students here at Penn State Worthington Scranton who can! Amo- ria Tremko, a freshman at PSWS, answered some questions about her experience with the Rubik’s Cube.

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The Cub’s Roar

OBAMA WINS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

By Jai Morgan
2nd editor
Mbro5143@psu.edu

Only needing 270 electoral votes to be elected, Barack Obama secured 349 to be elected the forty-fourth president of the United States of America. Obama also defeated Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.) 52%-46% in the popular vote.

Obama is the first African-American to be elected president in the history of the United States, and he reclaimed the presidency for the Democratic Party after eight consecutive years of Republican rule. Obama is the son of an African man from Kenya and a white mother from Kansas. His father never played a prominent role in his life and was rarely present in his childhood. After living briefly in Indonesia with his stepfather, Obama moved to Hawaii to live with his grandparents. He eventually attended Columbia University before graduating from Harvard Law School. He was the first African-American to be named President of the Harvard Law Review. Instead of taking a high paying Wall Street job after college, Obama moved back to Chicago to work as a community organizer. Additionally, he worked as an Illinois State Senator and was in his first term as a United States Senator before announcing his candidacy for president in January of 2007.

Sharply at 11:00 PM Eastern Time on November 4, Obama became the projected President-Elect of the United States. Many supporters waited anxiously in Grant Park, located in Chicago, Illinois, for the new President-Elect. The crowd of nearly 250,000 erupted into applause when Obama stepped onto the stage. A weary Obama delivered a brilliant speech that was laced with the famous creed that summed up his entire campaign, “Yes we can.” Obama began his speech by exclaiming, “It’s been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this day, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America.”

Senator McCain was very gracious in defeat. He called Obama to congratulate him on a well run campaign and winning the presidency. In front of his own crowd in Phoenix, Arizona, McCain said, “The American people have spoken, and they have spoken clearly.” He also took all the blame for the loss saying, “My Friends, the fault is mine, not yours.” Sen. McCain should be congratulated for a tough, hard fought campaign, but in the end, it was a change for the better.

See Obama, page 5
If you have been catching errors in our paper, there may be a reason why. The reason is...we are all human. I do like the suggestions and comments my staff and I receive, but please make sure all comments are constructive. My staff work extremely hard and so do I to deliver the best paper we can. This paper took us a total of 23 days to produce. It is another sixteen page paper and involved a tremendous amount of commitment to complete in such little time. The newspaper business is one that seems to only get criticized. I say this as a generality because we have received much praise from many people including our very own Dr. Mary-Beth Krogh-Jespersen. I used to be someone who would say “how come those idiots missed that?” A while back, a professor showed the class the daily temperature for Scranton at 234 degrees in the Times-Tribune. All students got a kick out of it and wondered how that got through to print.

The newspaper business is an extremely fast paced environment where some things slip through the cracks. Take, for example, the recent debates. If you were so inclined to watch them, you would know that they, on the average, ended around eleven pm. The next morning when you woke up and read the front page at 6:30 am, you were reading what happened only 7 and ½ hours ago. This is a miracle. First, someone had to physically sit there and watch the debate. Then, they wrote an article that might even have some facts that needed to be properly researched in order to publish. Next, an editor sits down and redates the article a few times before they say it’s ready to print. Then, someone from the graphics department finds a photo and inserts the article into the running layout of the newspaper. Then, the papers are sent to be printed where they are then bundled and given to the necessary deliverers. The papers are then driven and hand delivered to your doorstep. As subscribers, we are all lucky the ink has dried before we pick it up to read.

Places like the Times Tribune have many people working for them and cover a range of topics. As a campus paper, we have only 6 people including myself working on our staff. I would consider everyone on my staff to be a magician. You never know what we will have to pull out of our hats to get things done on time. We have all chipped in to get this finished for the end user-you. I challenge anyone who wants to learn about business to join The Cub’s Roar. This club has everything needed to turn anyone into a salesperson, writer, photographer, graphics designer, and even a creative business person. I have fully accepted that we will not have a perfect paper but we will have done our best to deliver the most we can at the best of our ability. The next time you see members of The Cub’s Roar, congratulate them on their hard work. A lot of time goes into every word that we print; my staff deserves recognition and I personally congratulate them on a job well done. By the way, the next time you see an error in the paper, think to yourself about the time you were about to hand in your “all-nighter” research paper, only to notice you misspelled a word in the title—or even better yet, your name. To err is human.

Thank you,
David Malson
Editor-in-Chief

From left to right: Dru Hensley, Biagio Sciacca (advisor), David Malson, Shawn McDonough, Jai Morgan, Mike Verbickas, and Justin Francis

Dru Hensley
My name is Dru Hensley. I’m currently a freshman majoring in Finance. I was born and raised in south Mississippi. The first question I usually get in response to that statement is, “Why in the world did you move here?” The answer is plain and simple. That’s how much I love Penn State!

Jai Morgan
Hi, my name is Jai and I am the second editor for The Cub’s Roar here at Worthington Scranton. I am a freshman and am majoring in Journalism. I can write on any multitude of topics and welcome all comments or criticism you may have of my work. If anyone wants to contact me my email is Mbms543@psu.edu.

Hi, my name is Shawn McDonough, third editor to The Cub’s Roar. As a second semester sophomore, I am involved with the Honor’s Society, strive to keep a high G.P.A. and work at a part time job. I love being active and surrounding myself with my family, friends and boyfriend. I enjoy playing tennis, running, going to the movies, and living life I love being a part of the newspaper and hope everyone enjoys each issue we put out every month!

Mike Verbickas
I am a freshman at Penn State Worthington Scranton and graduated from Dunmore High School. I have held lifelong interests in writing, English and history. However, I only became interested in Journalism last year during the process of completing my senior class project. In addition to academics, I am a diehard New York Giants fan and an avid listener of Classic Rock.

David Malson
Hi, my name is David Malson and I am the editor-in-chief of The Cub’s Roar. I am a senior here at Worthington Scranton and am majoring in Financial Services. I am involved with the Honor’s Society and also work part time. My Dad was in the Air Force when I was younger, which allowed me to live in places like Germany, upstate New York, and New Mexico. I have lived in many different countries and love to travel. My future goals are to move to North Carolina and get a job in the city of Charlotte.

Bill Sciacca
I have been teaching in higher education since 1983. (Man, by now I hope I am good at it!?) I have had a variety of Management, Marketing and business ownership positions for a long time. I feel somewhat uncomfortable writing this because this newspaper is about the students, NOT its advisor. The only thing I would like to add is that both of my children, Salvatore and Biagio Jr., are protecting us in the Middle East. Both of my boys are terribly exposed and, frankly, I am afraid for them. Keep them in your prayers!!!
On Thursday November 6, Penn State Worthington Scranton held its first ever Alumni/Student Leadership dinner in celebration of the campus’ fortieth anniversary. The dinner was in place, by the Penn State Worthington Scranton Alumni Society, to reunite past SGA presidents with the current leaders of SGA and clubs on campus. SGA stands for Student Government Association and these are the individual students who are the voice of the students when it comes to campus activities and student involvement.

For the first fifteen minutes of the activity, student leaders mingled with past SGA presidents and were able to see just what is was like for the students who had previously graduated. Everyone sat down at his or her designated tables and listened as Dr. Mary-Beth Krog-Jespersen welcomed everyone to the dinner. Along with many other facts, Dr. Krog-Jespersen told past SGA presidents and alumni how Worthington Scranton has grown to eight buildings and our newest building, the Business Building, will have used the same architect as the Small College of Business at University Park. Among other things such as new renovations to the SGA office, she also took time to congratulate the women’s and men’s cross country teams on their recent success.

The host for the evening was Louis Ingarola, president of the Penn State Worthington Scranton Alumni Society. He spoke for a few minutes and recognized the various groups and staff in attendance. Everyone then ate a nice meal and got to know each other a little better. Mr. Ingarola then introduced the main speaker of the night, Joseph Kowalski, the first ever SGA president.

Mr. Kowalski began his speech with his thoughts on leadership. He explained leadership to only be important if it is “effective leadership.” According to Mr. Kowalski, leadership qualities are only useful if they are effective and facilitate the actions of other people into following the leader. Mr. Kowalski had many stories that had steps for people to follow in order to become effective leaders. Some of them included “learn, earn and return,” a couple of things he wanted listeners to walk away with, and a SGA slogan of then, now, always.

Mr. Kowalski explained that learn, earn and return, were three simple steps that most people will do throughout their lives. He described the last one to be the most important; returning is when you give back to people who can use it. This returning can be in the form of knowledge, monetary gifts, or friendship. According to Mr. Kowalski, it is most important to return since learning and earning are what many people only accomplish.

The next point Mr. Kowalski made about was a “couple of things” that he wanted all attendees to walk away with remembering. They included inviting people in, remembering that it is the message and not the PowerPoint presentation, and to keep your eyes from wondering. “Inviting people in” meant to learn from the people around you. Gain all that you can from your peers and to keep learning. His comment, “Remember it is the message and not the PowerPoint” was meant to make sure that your message is clear to others and that technology does not decrease the overall delivery of your message or goal. He also stated to “keep your eyes from wondering.” As an effective leader, you must stay focused and keep your eyes on what you desire.

The last part of Mr. Kowalski’s speech was what he derived from the PSU slogan “Then, Now, Always...” He stated that “Then” was his time at Penn State and that “Now” is our time. “Always” is the time that all of us will spend after we have graduated.

After Mr. Kowalski’s speech, all returning SGA presidents spoke of their leadership roles and how important it is to become an effective leader in life. Along with the advice from Mr. Kowalski, past SGA members were there to give their personal experiences to current student leaders. With the event receiving many high reviews from attendees, it is sure to be an annual ceremony for many years to come.

The first ever...
CROSS COUNTRY WINS BIG!!!

By Michael Verbiickas and Elizabeth April Jones
Sports Writer
and contributing writer
Mgv5016@psu.edu

In sports, the key to victory is to push a potential reward out of sight long enough to ensure the best effort. The members of the Women’s Cross-Country team surely had a similar thought in mind at the outset of the Penn State Athletic Conference Championship (PSUAC) meet at Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus on Saturday, October 25. To earn a trip to a National Championship for the first time ever, the women would not only need to defeat their opposition, but also the unfavorable elements plaguing the 3.1 mile course.

The women did so, and in tremendous fashion with whom else but Samantha Snead leading the way. Snead finished first with the time of 17:51 and in the process, set her third consecutive course record. In addition to Snead, teammates Elizabeth Jones, 19:37 and Amanda Klimasiewski, 20:00, placed third and fifth in the race and both earned medals. Other finishers were Rebecca Kinsey, 21:11 (eighth), Nichole Blasi, 23:38 (twentythird), Robin Schafer, 23:40 (twenty-ninth), and Pat Murphy, 45:45 (forty-second).

The Men’s team was not left out of the trip to Virginia. Those who qualified for the USCAA event were Dave Moss, Joe Moss, Frank Spear, Chris Meszler, Matt Cerminaro, Rich Robinson, Chris Burke, Mike Callahan, Chris Joseph, and Treg Davis.

PSU Coach’s Section

Both Articles By Michael Verbiickas
Sports Writer
Mgv5016@psu.edu

Although many know Nanci Purcell as a dedicated member of the Student Activities Department, Nanci Purcell has been the head coach of the Women’s basketball team at Penn State Worthington-Scranton for the past three seasons. A team, which went 5-12 a season ago, is in constant growth and improvement due in part to Ms. Purcell’s guidance and dedication to her players. In the past season, she also added that Ms. Purcell, during an interview, is hoping for an “above .500 record” this year. When asked about the upcoming season, Nanci answered, “It’s always fun to play Heights and at University of Hazelton. We’ve had split wins at Abington along with her coaching experience at Abington look forward to playing all the Heights. Optimistic about the upcoming season, we have some excellent players who love to work at improving their skills and are dedicated to having a winning season.”

Over this past summer, Penn State Worthington Scranton made some key alterations to the coaching roster, one of those was the promotion of first year Assistant Baseball coach, Stephen Plevyak, to Head Coach. A team that finished fourth in the Penn State University Athletic Conference a year ago, made it into the playoffs and went 7-5 in the USCAA National Championship. With 51 runners in the field, Samantha Snead, 25:02, placed second, Amanda Klimasiewski, 27:50 (tenth), Elizabeth Jones, 28:14 (eleventh), Rebecca Kinsey, 31:16 (twenty-eighth), Nichole Blasi, 31:38 (thirtieth), Robin Schafer, 33:32 (thirty-seventh), and Stephanie Emerick, 36:58 (forty-third). Justyna Thomas and Robin Schafer were named to the USCAA National All-Academic Cross Country Team. Additionally, Samantha Snead earned an All-American status by placing second.

The Men’s team took sixth place out of the nine NCAA Division III teams participating in the event. In a field of 73 runners, Frank Spear, 31:24 placed thirty-first, Christopher Meszler, 32:04 (thirty-sixth), David Moss, 33:00 (fourty-fourth), Matthew Cerminaro, 34:19 (fiftieth), Christopher Joseph, 35:05 (fifty-fourth), Rich Robinson, 35:13 (fifty-fifth), Christopher Burke, 36:49 (fifty-seventh), Michelle Callahan, 37:36 (sixty-second), Joseph Moss, 38:55 (sixty-sixth), William Brew, 40:09 (sixty-ninth).

By virtue of the Women’s team winning their second consecutive State Title, the Men and Women’s Cross Country program now possess more titles than any other sport on campus.
Movie Night Sponsored by The Cub’s Roar

By Justin Francis
Staff Writer
jr2288@psu.edu

Another movie night in the books. The movie was “The Reaping” and was sponsored by the Cub’s Roar funded by the Student Activity Fee (SAF).

We were very grateful for the turn out, but we wanted to see more people there. The money that funds our movie night comes from the SAF. SAF is a fund that students pay into and we want these dollars to benefit us, not only in an academic way, but also in a social way. We want everyone to enjoy these events because attending social outings is part of the educational process.

They help create diversity and get students involved in networking for future endeavors. Plus, there’s always free food and a good movie to watch. Why would you not want to do that? These events are usually held every m o n t h and are very fun to attend. Here at the newspaper, we had a very good time watching the movie and socializing with those who did attend. We hope to see more students at the next movie night!

Obama
From page 1

election and he was not the change candidate.

It was a big night for the Democrats. In addition to winning the presidency, they extended their majorities in the House and Senate. However, it seems as if they will come up a little short of the filibuster proof majority of 60. If they reach that number, they will be able to stop all filibusters by invoking cloture.

No matter what political affiliation a person belongs to, it must be admitted that this was a historical election for this country. In a country where we enslaved Africans just 150 years ago, now has an African-American President. However, Obama will face the daunting task of pulling the country out of the current recession. The challenges will be arduous and the climb steep but Obama will always stay upbeat and have an unwavering faith in the American people. “Yes we can.”

Lion
From page 1

was established as a University in 1855. In 1904, Harrison D. “Joe” Mason, a Penn State student, attended a baseball game against Princeton University. He and all the other Penn State fans were shown a statue of Princeton’s mascot, the Bengal tiger, as an indication of the beating they should expect to receive on the field. Mason instantly conceived the term Nittany Lion, stating that was the “fiercest beast of them all.” Penn State went on to beat Princeton that day and the term began to spread very quickly. In order to hype up this term even more, the quick-witted Mason wrote in the Student Publication about how much Penn State needed a mascot. He was determined to make his fictional retort a reality.

Before Mason graduated in 1907, the term had become so widely accepted by students, alumni, and fans, that there was never an official vote on its adoption as the mascot. The Nittany Lion was there to stay. By the 1920s, there were Nittany Lion Statues on the campus along with Nittany Lion merchandise, which people began to buy. About that same time, it was decided to have the Nittany Lion appear at games. Thus, the furry Nittany Lion costume was produced.

So ask your friend again if they know what a Nittany Lion is, and if you get the same response as before, tell them to read this article because you never know when you might be saying, “College Mascots for $1000, Alex.”

Movie Night explained

By Shawn McDonough
Staff writer
sm5037@psu.edu

Movie nights are a fun inexpensive way to give entertainment to the students. Last year, students requested the idea for a movie night, and the school decided to put it in effect by planning the movie nights on the last Thursday of every month.

Clubs and organizations along with the Student Government Association (SGA), who picks the movie, help to sponsor the movie nights. These movie nights are SAF funded. The school holds them in the Sherbine Lounge because it offers comfortable seating. They project the movie on a big screen.

“Transformers” started the first movie night back in September, which proved to be a success with the attendance of 60 people. For October’s movie night, The Cub Roar showed “The Reaping,” which attracted some students due to a scary movie mindset with Halloween around the corner.

According to Nanci Purcell, the movie nights are working out well. “For students,” says Nanci, “it is like dinner and a movie since we order pizzas, drinks, and make popcorn for the students.”

Overall, movie nights are fun and a great way to end a long, hectic school day.

Dru Hensley: How long have you been solving the Rubik’s Cube?

AT: What’s your fastest time when solving it?
DH: About one day.
DH: Do you like to solve it over and over again?
AT: I feel better after solving it. When I am sad or depressed, I just like to be by myself and solve it for a while to help cheer myself up.

After talking with Amoriah, she inspired me to solve the Rubik’s Cube myself. After just one week, my best time was just under three minutes. I was truly amazed at how logical the puzzle actually was once I tried to solve it. The puzzle may not be easy, but I encourage everyone to try and solve it. It’s a great way to get your brain going for those 8 A.M. classes and it’s always a fun way to pass the time.
The Staff’s Voice
By Nanci Purcell
Assistant Director of Programs, Unions, and Student Activities
Nep11@psu.edu

The Leadership Lunch and Learn Program was developed to enhance the leadership development of Penn State Worthington Scranton’s student leaders. There are over 600 students who participate in Clubs and Organizations on campus making the need for effective leadership vital. This year THON is once again successfully active on campus and the Student Government Association has seen the number of clubs increase from 13 to 19.

Development of this program stemmed from my former work experience. Prior to working at Penn State Worthington Scranton, I was a pharmaceutical rep for almost seventeen years. Guided by the adage “If you feed them, they will come”, these Lunch and Learns were an effective method to get my message across. Once I had a captive audience, I was able to present them with my sales pitch. It was fun but effective and I did quite well.

As SGA Advisor, I recognized that we have many student leaders with various strengths and weaknesses. I wanted to establish a plan to get everyone on the same page with the basics. I began by consulting with our Career Services Coordinator and various business faculty members in order to put together a program where the students will be able to apply what they learn in the classroom both on our campus and throughout their career. The program began with an all day retreat on August 19, where we hosted three guest lecturers who focused on teamwork, business planning and community service. That initial meeting is followed by seven monthly workshops which began in October and will continue through April. Fifteen student leaders committed to the program by signing an agreement to participate. These seven workshops are based on the book, “Putting Emotional Intelligence to Work Successful Leadership is More than IQ”, by David Ryback. The topics of these workshops, known as the Seven Core Qualities of Leadership, are Strategic Planning, Communication & Alignment, Team Building, Continuous Learning, Dynamic Accountability, Systemic Results and Actualized Integrity. Once the program is completed, the students will receive a certificate and be known as Leadership Consultants.

This program was designed to train our students while they are here at Penn State Worthington Scranton to lead effectively and dynamically and to prepare them as they continue their academic and professional career. Bill Sciaccia was the first presenter who discussed Strategic Planning and the process of utilizing the SWOT Analysis. It was an excellent workshop where the students learned the importance of a SWOT Analysis and how it applies to strategic planning. Future workshops will have successful Alumni and Community Leaders guest lecturing.

The Lunch and Learn Workshops are a gateway to enhance the strengths of our current student leaders and possibly introduce many other students to think beyond their education, thus assisting them both in preparation for their future.

Motivational Corner
By Bill Sciaccia PhD
Bws2@psu.edu

How many times do we perceive a situation and put some kind of an emotional tag on it? Think about the number of times that you are happy, sad, angry, somber, optimistic, etc. The reason for your emotion is how you interpret the input that arrives at your brain through your five senses. However, the information that arrives at your brain is emotionally natural. We tend to put tags as to how we are going to feel on that information. This raises an interesting question: Do we have the ability to interrupt information in different ways? More so, can we change the outcome of negative emotions, simply by “tagging” that input with a positive tag? The answer is a resounding YES! You have the choice to be happy, or to be sad; you have the choice to be positive or to be negative.

It is how you look at the stuff that you are absorbing (through your senses), and saying, “How does that make me feel?” The trick is to never, ever allow yourself to view that input as being negative. Now, some of you may be reading this and saying to yourself that Sciaccia is out of his mind. How can you think positively about getting a speeding ticket on Interstate 81? Hey, maybe that trooper pulled you off the road just before you were going to get into an accident. Maybe the next time you are driving on that highway, you won’t get into an accident because the reception of that ticket has successfully modified your behavior and you are now driving slower! The point is simple: every perceived negative outcome can have a positive twist to it, if you think it can! The choice is up to you!

Is the class boring? Or is it exciting? It’s your choice!

Is the research interesting? Or is just a pain that you have to go through? It’s your choice.

Does that class start too early? Or does it give you a jump on your day? It’s your choice.

Reality is a tapestry woven with flimsy thread. What is real is really your choice.

NOW GO TO CLASS!!!
I guess when it comes down to it
Being grown up isn't half as fun as growing up
These are the best days of our lives
The only thing that matters is just following your heart
And eventually you'll finally get it right *
-- Ataris

"I've learned one thing, and that's to quit worrying about stupid things. You have four years to be irresponsible here. Relax. Work is for people with jobs. You'll never remember class time, but you'll remember time you wasted hanging out with your friends. So stay out late. Go out on a Tuesday with your friends when you have a paper due Wednesday. Spend money you don't have. Drink 'til sunrise. The work never ends, but college does."
-- Tom Petty

"We are who we pretend to be
- Kurt Vonnegut

"Love the life you live.
Live the life you love.
- Bob Marley.

"I'd rather regret the things I've done, than regret the things I haven't done.
- Lucille Ball

"Live the life you have imagined."
- Thoreau

"It's not about what happened in the past, or what you think might happen in the future. It's about the ride, for Christ's sake. There is no point in going through all this crap, if you are not going to enjoy the ride. And you know what... when you least expect, something great might come along. Something better then you even planned for."
-- Along Came Polly
Dr. Todd Adams becomes November’s Professor of the Month

By Shawn McDonough
Ssm5037@psu.edu

Shawn McDonough: What characteristics of teaching have you taken from your own professors?

Todd Adams: I had two exceptionally good professors, one in college and the other in grad school. A characteristics I have taken from them is to try to get students to look at different viewpoints while at the same time, be able to defend your own viewpoint.

SM: Who was the biggest influence in your life?

TA: One of my biggest influences in my life were my parents who instilled a strong love of God, family, and country. They taught me the idea that character is what most important to stay true in life. Also, my wife is an influence since she makes me better than if I were on my own.

SM: If you could change anything in your life, what would it be and why?

TA: Looking at where I am right now in life, there isn’t much I would change. However, looking back now makes me realize I would have volunteered for some military services. When I was 18 years old, the Vietnam War ended and the draft was stopped so joining the service was the furthest thing on my mind. In retrospect, I feel like it would have been a great way to serve the country since I have great admiration and respect for those in the service.

SM: Why did you choose to become a professor?

TA: I liked going to school ever since I can remember. In high school, I had really great teachers. Additionally, my father was a history professor, which gave me my interest in history. I remember my first day of grad school as a teaching assistant for a logic class and realizing how much I loved teaching students. For the most part, I love my Philosophy to others in hope they learn my lesson in a much easier way.

SM: What is your most memorable experience as a professor?

TA: Several years ago, I had a student become engaged to another student that I had in class. They invited me to their wedding, which I attended at the Himalayan Institute outside of New York. It was a very exciting time for our campus ceremony, which was particularly interesting for me especially since I taught World Religion and Vedic originally came from India. Also I love seeing students from past classes that share their fond memories or lessons from a class that I taught to them. I enjoy seeing the impact the class had on the students.

SM: What was the biggest challenge you’ve faced in life?

TA: Raising my three children with my wife is very challenging. The world is a different place than it was 50 years ago, which is both positive and negative in a way. When raising children, it helps to have a sense of community around you, but it isn’t as evident these days as it was back then; you’re raising your children on your own. Although raising children is a great challenge, it comes with great joy.

Meet the Director of Academic Affairs

By Shawn McDonough
Ssm5037@psu.edu

The position of Director of Academic Affairs holds many responsibilities, and Dr. Michael Mahalik proves in many ways that he is the perfect man for the job. As the Director of Academic Affairs, Dr. Mahalik oversees all of the academic programs on campus to ensure they work the best way possible to achieve his number one goal—“to make sure all the students have everything they need to succeed.” Dr. Mahalik says, “I work closely with the faculty to come up with new ideas so that we’re offering what the students want and need. We’re all here for you and will do everything to give you the opportunity for success; it is up to you to take those opportunities and succeed.”

Before rising to this prestigious position, Dr. Mahalik began his college career like many of us, right here at Penn State. Enrolled at the Hazleton campus for two years, he then transferred to University Park, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree. Then, at Temple University, he completed his Master of Science and Doctor’s degrees in Pharmacology, and conducted research in Teratology, which is the study of birth defects.

Dr. Mahalik was instrumental in starting a medical college, the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, as a founding faculty member, then as Associate Dean of Preclinical Education. For 20 years, he devoted his life and studies to medicine and after reaching the highest point in that field, he realized he wanted a challenge where he could achieve a higher-level administrative position. “It is always exciting to try new things,” he said. In 2001, the position for Director of Academic Affairs opened up at the Fayette campus and he jumped headfirst into the job. After two and a half years, he felt it was a great chance to move his family back home to northeast Pennsylvania when the DAA here at the Worthington Scanton campus was retiring in 2004.

Another amazing achievement that Dr. Mahalik holds to his name is being the very first person in 1980 to discover that cocaine causes birth defects. Many people used cocaine and were very surprised to learn of his research conclusions. In that same year, he wrote an article that gained a large amount of publicity and for which he received calls from Washington D.C. and appeared on 60 Minutes and Good Morning America. With his deep understanding of pharmacology, toxicology and teratology, he began looking into how cocaine would affect an infant, which is how it led to his phenomenal finding. “It just so happened that I was in the right place at the right time when I made my discovery.”

While he was a teaching assistant at Temple, he met his future wife. They recently celebrated 25 years of marriage. He and his wife, Bonnie, have three children together: Matt, who attends Worthington Scanton as a freshman, and Megan and Michael, both at North Pocono High School. He loves hanging out with his wife, children and dogs. Whenever he gets the whole family together, he enjoys going places with them.

Right now, Dr. Mahalik feels it is a very exciting time for our campus with the construction of the new building, the planned addition of 4-year majors in English and Science, and the addition of minors in Psychology and Gerontology.

Back in 1995, Dr. Mahalik was in a very bad car accident. This was a life-altering experience to which he attributes a change in his perspective on life. He loves to pass on his philosophy to others in hope they learn his lesson in a much easier way. “Life is too short; you need to look at the glass as half full, rather than half empty.”
CEAP to Convert Our Concrete Jungle

By Kristi Farinelli
Contributing writer

Gene Grogan, Director of Business Services on campus, presented the Campus Exterior Architectural Plan to students at a recent Student Government Association general meeting. As a guest speaker, Grogan explained a University architect’s sixteen point plan (CEAP) to highlight aesthetic upgrades that can be made on campus to improve its curb appeal to prospective students. These upgrades are meant to be practical as well as attractive.

The first point of CEAP students can expect to see on campus is a change in building signs. This project will cover new signs and letterings to label our building signs. The architect made note in point seven that we lack designated entryways for the Dawson Building. Awnings over the doorways are considered to draw attention to the common access points. Another concern of both the CEAP and students is the lack of side-walk on Ridgeview Drive. Point eight was considered for more visual appeal and student safety.

Points 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 all address landscaping on various parts of campus. CEAP primarily encourages the reduction of concrete walkways and pavement. The patio at the gym and the plaza between the Student Learning Center and Dawson are both under consideration for “more green,” Grogan elaborated. More grassy areas would lead to more site furnishings for students to take advantage of while creating a softer atmosphere on campus. More landscaping is encourages at the Ridgeview Drive entrance and around our Lion Shrine.

Ping Pong Tournament

On November 3, Jake Borer and Paul Tylutke faced off against one another in the ping-pong championship. Ever since Jake Borer was young, he played tennis, which sparked his interest in ping-pong when he came to Penn State. When Paul Tylutke arrived at Penn State last year, he began playing ping-pong during his free time. After two rounds, Paul Tylutke won the championship. The final scores were 21-18 for the first round and 21-18 again for the second round. Both of the players received a trophy.

Pictured from left to right: Jake Borer and Paul Tylutke

Dodge ball Tournament

On November 4, the S.G.A sponsored a dodge ball tournament at Penn State Worthington-Scranton. There were nine teams, and a total of 54 players that registered for the double elimination tournament. Players either signed up in the S.G.A office or in the gym on the night of the event. Of the 9 teams participating, 3 were from Penn State Wilkes-Barre’s campus. The Wilkes-Barre Pirates won the event, defeating the Lushious Ones in the final round. Proceeds raised from the event benefitted THON, Penn State’s largest philanthropic organization, whose aim is to treat childhood cancer.

“J osh Sneed Entertains campus

On November 6, large crowds of students and faculties gathered together in the cafeteria to hear Josh Sneed, a well-known comedian, perform during the noon hour. His comedic performance was a major success; people laughed from the very beginning until the end.

Growing up, Sneed always wanted to make people laugh and perform on Saturday Night Live. As a result, he found stand up comedy as a place to begin. Starting at “open mic nights” helped him improve as he gained more stage time. He jumped at any opportunity to perform for an audience. No matter how a performance went, he always wanted to do it again. “It’s important to have perseverance in this business,” Sneed said, “If I didn’t do that good, I wanted to get back up and do better. If I did great, then I wanted to continue to give them a great show.”

Before Sneed ended his performance, he had three volunteers come up to the stage and tell their favorite joke. A student named Justin won when the cafeteria cheered the loudest for him, earning him victory and a free t-shirt.

Some hailed point fourteen as far-fetched, but with the right donor, it’s possible. An outdoor amphitheater was suggested to take advantage of our enormous grassy hill. If funded, this would not only makeover a campus landmark, but also for bigger events to be held outside in fair weather.

Point fifteen is an upcoming hopeful. Grogan discussed the possibility of an electronic or monument style sign to act as a marker at the Ridgeview Drive entrance. An electronic sign would make great advertisement for open houses, seasonal events, and other campus activities.

Finally, point sixteen of the CEAP suggests a central window posting station in the plaza between the Student Learning Center and the Dawson Building. This station would eliminate clutter and tape residue on windows and doorways and make it easier for students to check for upcoming events.
Chris is a ladies man. Nice job on the party Jen!!

NICE COSTUME TOM!! I NEVER KNEW CHRIS HATED PLUMBERS SO MUCH

Jennifer Coutts of the Business club arranged and organized this well attended Halloween party. Congratulations from The Cub's Roar on a successful turnout.

It's good to be young. A simple orange balloon can make you this excited. Brings me back to the good old days before tests and work.

Sean finally wears the outfit without it being the weekend.
Admissions partnered with Denise Zuvic, Spanish instructor at Penn State Worthington Scranton and Parenting/Hispanic Programming Coordinator at EOTC, to host a Halloween party on Wednesday October 30, for about 25 elementary age students from South Scranton.

With 383 participants of the total 130 being prospective students, the Fall open house was a big success. The majority of attendees found out about the open house through direct mail, website and newspaper. The feedback from the participants was very good. The primary high schools represented at this open house were: Abington Heights, Dunmore, Lackawanna Trail, Western Wayne, Valley View, North Pocono, Old Forge, Scranton, Riverside and Wallenpaupack.
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