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Penn State Harrisburg's student voice

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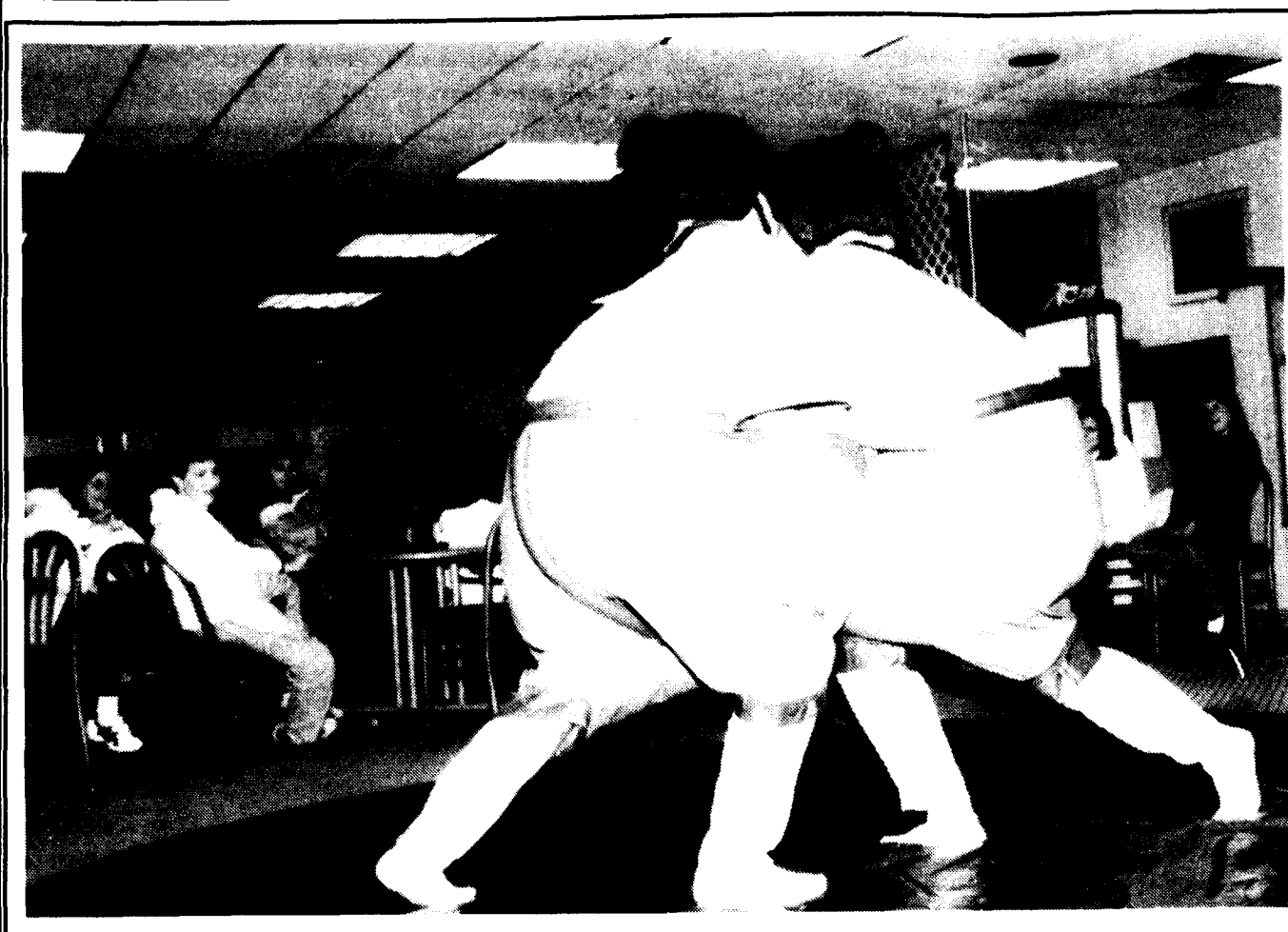


photo by Jeff Warren

Penn State Harrisburg students Heath Hines (left) and Adam Cabbage (right) dressed in Sumo-wrestler attire go at it in a wrestling ring set up in the Dining Commons March 19, while other students look on.

The Wednesday night Sumo Wrestling event was presented by Cabaret '97 and all students that attended had the opportunity to participate.

Events, like this one, are designed to add to the quality of resident life on campus.

Chi Gamma Iota Club devotes time to campus community activities

Ann Mease
Staff Reporter

Chi Gamma Iota (XGI's) is one of the many clubs on campus involved in community service and helping other clubs and organizations with their activities.

According to President Kirk Douglas Jacoby, the club helps build a relationship within the surrounding communities, as well as establishing social contact with the Penn State Harrisburg community.

Jacoby said the XGI's have helped with numerous activities throughout the year and will continue to do so in the future.

They have set up two blood drives this year; one was held on October 29, 1996 in the Gallery Lounge and the next one is set for April 2 during this semester, also in the Gallery Lounge.

"These blood drives are a way of saving peoples lives and not just outside the Penn State community. The blood that was donated was used to help Dr. Mahar recover from a severe accident," said Jacoby.

According to Jacoby Dr. William Mahar, needed thirty units of blood which helped save his life after the head of the Humanities department was severely injured in a fall.

Without this blood he may not have survived a nec-

essary operation, Jacoby said.

The blood donated through the XGI's blood drives, has helped save the lives of four people this year and two of them were people working at Penn State, said Jacoby.

Other activities that the XGI's have coordinated are: toys for tots drive; visits to the children's hospital at the Hershey Medical Center; donating toys to the Children's Miracle Network and helping many other clubs on campus, stated Jacoby.

"We have helped other clubs by acting as bouncers for 2 concert, helped with casino night, and supported Thon dancers Kristen McGkennon, Stacy Wentzel and Stacy Quinn," said Jacoby.

In the future, XGPs plan to help with the Rites of Spring which is April 19 and any other activities that need the organization's support, Jacoby said.

Jacoby stresses that Chi Gamma Iota is open to anyone who would like to participate in community projects and make a difference in someone's life.

For further information you may contact Mark Gordon, Vice President or Don Rich, Secretary at 948-6633.

Penn State Harrisburg and Schuylkill campuses merger update

Melissa Jago
Staff Reporter

As of July 1, the Schuylkill campus will officially become part of Penn State Harrisburg (PSH).

The Schuylkill and Harrisburg merger is one of many results of re-organizing the Penn State Commonwealth campuses.

According to John Bruhn, PSH Provost and Dean, Penn State president, Graham Spanier, proposed to re-vamp the Commonwealth system one year ago.

This suggestion was passed by the Board of Trustees and has since played an important role in enhancing campus academics

throughout Commonwealth campuses.

What does this merger mean for Schuylkill and PSH students?

Schuylkill students will be offered, for the first time, upper-division and graduate classes. For PSH students, the merger will officially make PSH a four-year college with the addition of psychology, criminal justice, and a Masters of Education programs.

The freshman and sophomore level classes offered at PSH will be taught by both PSH and Schuylkill faculty members and the Schuylkill faculty will also instruct upper-division and graduate classes.

"Overall," Bruhn stated, "this merger will have no effect on transferring students." However, Bruhn admits this is mostly due to the fact that the majority of students are location bound.

As far as clubs and committees are concerned, Bruhn stated each organization will remain a separate entity with the exception of the PSH faculty Senate joining that of Schuylkill's.

Specifically, the Student Government Association (SGA), will remain separate, but SGA members from both campuses will meet periodically to plan activities and large projects.

Bruhn stated that overall, "everything is going

smoothly with the merger," however, he admits not all the details will be completely worked out by the July 1 deadline.

According to Bruhn, "although the academic side of things will be integrated by July 1, not all support services, such as the Bursar Office and advising centers, will be completely worked out."

The effects of this merger will benefit both Schuylkill and PSH students, faculty, and staff, Bruhn said. Moreover, the future of PSH, Schuylkill, and other Commonwealth campuses appears bright and prosperous thanks to the re-organized system.



photo by Jeff Warren

Penn State student Terra Leach (right) reads over the Student Government Association election ballot before casting her ballot.

Senior Senator Melissa Smith (left) registered student voters as they cast their ballots to chose new Student Government officers and senators March 3 through March 5.

SGA election votes are in

Students choose new officers and senators

Jody L. Jacobs
Editor

Almost 600 students made their voices heard the week of March 3rd as they cast their ballots for new officers and senators of the Penn State Harrisburg (PSH) Student Government Association (SGA).

"The turn-out of voters was much better than the fall semester," Crystal Woodley - one of the former SGA senators that tallied election results said.

The elections, held March 3, 4 and 5, had the following results:

The new SGA president is Paul Feenstra - a junior business management and finance major - who ran unopposed in his campaign.

Stacie Wentzel was

elected vice president during the early March elections. Wentzel - a junior behavioral science major - ran against Britt Rounds.

Susan Oshman - finance major - narrowly won her position as SGA treasurer. She pulled ahead of Christopher Eichholtz by five votes.

There were no candidates for the office of student government secretary, however, the position was won by Stephanie Wilson. The junior public policy major received 41 write-in votes.

"The one thing that I was personally disappointed in about the elections was that we extended the length of time the candidates had to

See Election pg. 5