

Smoking policy forces search for compromise

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ing the policy," he said. "I received a lot of suggestions, letters and e-mails concerning the smoking policy and in support of it both before it was instated."

On a rainy Thursday, a plethora of smokers in the east parking lot vented their frustrations of the smoking policy. Pete Karpew said, "It's ambiguous that we must smoke a distance from the door. How far is a 'distance' anyway? The ashtrays are never cleaned out. It makes me feel like I'm living in ('Seinfeld' character Cosmo) Kramer's apartment."

Although most of the smokers acknowledged the policy inside the building, a common solution among them was to have a shelter.

"Not smoking in the building is one thing, but there should be a covered place for us to smoke," Deanne Beck said. "It's not against the law to smoke."

Scott Nye added, "I understand that they don't want us in front of the nonsmokers, just provide us with a pavilion."

Nonsmokers, such as Rich Burns, held different views. He said, "Maybe they can have an overhead where they can smoke but school funding should not go towards smoking. It's their choice to smoke. Why should a build-

ing have special consideration just for a smoker?"

Smoker Ann-Marie Newman does not agree: "I can understand that people don't want to breathe in secondhand smoke, but I can also understand that smokers have a right to smoke; and they should have a canopy that covers them provided by the school."

Bruhn said the school has considered building a shelter. "But there lies an important question," he explained. "Where would we locate it? I think it's offensive to the smokers because we'd be clustering them in a hut. It's a little expensive to build and we'd likely have to build more than one because of the size of this campus."

"Besides we don't know for sure if smokers would use it. Remember, Penn State Harrisburg isn't a smoke free campus. People are still allowed to smoke at designated areas outside the school. As far as building a shelter, well, we just haven't bit that bullet yet."

No one has criticized the smoking policy to Bruhn in writing. However, he has received numerous letters in support of the new policy.

Smokers have no overhead shelter to light up under. And the school is not building one anytime in the foreseeable future. To top it off, they still have a Pennsylvania winter to look forward to.

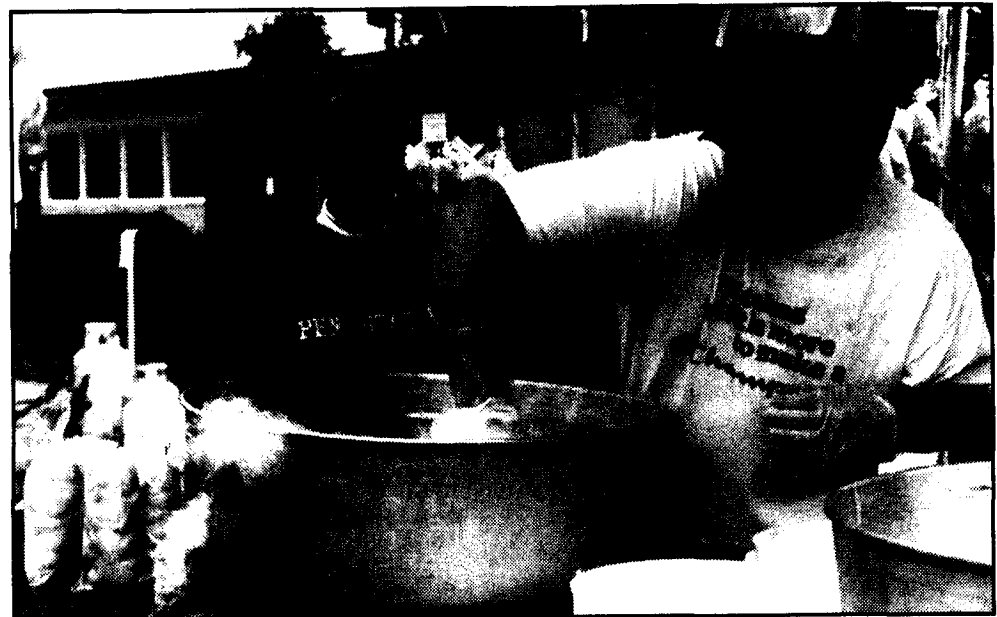


Photo by Kim Glass

Tami Pardue and Brian Weber whip up some cotton candy -- and some money for the Resident Community Council -- at the Arts and Crafts Festival.

Festival draws about 10,000 arts and crafts enthusiasts

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festival's returning vendors.

"This look gives it a street fair setting, focuses the patrons attention on vendors and allows the event some room to grow," said PSH spokesman Steve Hevner. "It lets people know that there is something really good happening here."

The festival also included youth soccer and karate tournaments in addition to 12 student booths and a performance by the Middletown High School marching band.

Planning for next year's event is already underway, Hevner said.

Malm said, "As long as the vendors are satisfied and the word spreads we will continue to witness the growth of this event."

Going once...going twice...sold RCC will host a bachelor/bachelorette auction to raise money for the Four Diamonds Fund

By Terra Leach
For The CapTimes

Looking for love in all the wrong places? Resident Community Council has the solution to your problem.

They are hosting a Bachelor/Bachelorette fund-raiser on Tuesday November 17 at 9:00 P.M. in the auditorium. RCC is hosting the fund-raiser as an entertaining way of raising money for the Four Diamonds Fund at Hershey Medical Center, an organization that provides money and assistance to children with cancer.

The idea is for participants to go up on stage one at a time while audience members bid on them for dates. Several participants will receive gift certificates to local restaurants and entertainment facilities. Does all of this sound crazy to you?

The event was held last year and raised more money than any other fund-raiser at Penn State Harrisburg. Held last year by the Thon Committee, the organization that works directly with main campus to raise money for the Four Diamonds Fund, the event raised over \$900.

Tami Pardue, a senior who participated in

the event last year stated, "It was one of the best feelings I've ever experienced. When we discovered how much money we raised I couldn't help getting emotional. Knowing that I took part in such a good cause made me feel good."

This year RCC has decided to host the activity. RCC is an organization that hosts events and activities for members of the Meade Heights community.

According to Valerie Noel, Interim Coordinator of Residence Life, "Resident Community Council works in connection with the Community Resource Aids to plan events and educate students on issues such as alcohol awareness, smoking, rape and things of that nature. RCC tries to serve Meade Heights as well as the surrounding communities by incorporating events for both."

Anyone who is interested in participating in the event should pick up an application in room 212, the Student Activities office in the Olmsted building. Even those who are not interested in participating are still encouraged to be a member of the audience.

There will be a social held directly after in room 216 with free snacks and beverages and perhaps even a date or two.

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