

Harlem Renaissance Lecture

page 3

Volume 41, No. 7

Campus Police Report

page 4

Campus Calendar

page 10

PSU Slams MSU

page 12

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The Student Voice of Penn State Harrisburg



Military Chops PSH Routine

By Cathie McCormick Musser Capital Times Editor In Chief

Day-to-day life at PSH generally hums along quietly. Not so on Nov. 9. Huge military helicopters shattered the quiet as they landed gently on the PSH lawn to help celebrate Veteran's Day.

A Vietnam-era Hughy filled the space between Olmsted and the library. A double-bladed Chinook dwarfed curious campus visitors on the grass between the bookstore and the CUB. The event provided a welcome distraction from the mundane task of higher education.

The helicopters were part of a Veteran's Day ceremony sponsored by Chi Gamma Iota. The ceremony included the unveiling of a permanent veterans' memorial in the flagpole area of Vartan Plaza.

Following the ceremony, dozens of enthusiastic people interrupted their usual schedule and waited patiently in a cool drizzle to witness the awesome machinery lift off.

The deep-throated staccato increased in intensity as National Guard crewmembers prepared their crafts for take off. Grass and trees bent to the powerful breeze. Seconds after leaving the ground, the helicopters disappeared into the distance.

A collective "whoa" from the witnesses quickly decayed into a return to normal campus activities.

Campus Reacts To National "Indecisive Day"

By Cathie McCormick Musser Capital Times Editor In Chief

The excitement leading to the 2000 presidential election collapsed into an anticlimatic heap on Nov. 8. More than 11 days later, awash in yet another national media event of biblical proportions, the PSH community waits for the legal dust to settle so a commander in chief can emerge.

As of Nov. 8, Vice President Gore had won the popular vote, George W. Bush controlled the majority of electoral college votes, but neither held the required number of electoral college votes: 270. Florida's 25 votes were tied up in a recount required by law due to the slim popular vote margin.

Crowds gathered around campus TV monitors for days. Jessica Schally, a computer science major, watched the coverage. "I don't have a TV, so I watch it here," she said. But, Schalley also felt the coverage shouldn't "supercede all other programs."

By Nov. 17, the campus bulletin board had returned to the TV monitors and the headlines peeking from the newspaper stands had gotten smaller.

Continued on Page 2

Job Market Encouraging For PSH Students

By Cathie McCormick Musser Capital Times Editor In Chief

Timing is everything. By choice or chance, current PSH students are graduating into the strongest job market Career Service Coordinator Karl Martz has seen in 24 years.

"Employers are struggling," Martz reports. "They call me every day." Corporations take recruitment seriously and many recognize the value of recruiting on college campuses. An article from the National Association of Colleges and Employers estimates that college hiring will increase 23.4 percent in 2001.

According to Martz, while the job market for technology-based positions is

strongest, the market overall is good. The most heavily recruited majors are the science, engineering and technology programs.

At PSH, employer recruitment takes many forms. Almost 50 percent of the advertising in the campus newspaper *The Capital Times* during the fall 2000 semester targeted students seeking flexible parttime employment while in school. According to Martz, corporations like KMPG, Northrup/Grumman and Venator Group actively interview and hire graduates directly through PSH career services. More than 100 employers attended the annual Capital Region Internship/Co-op Fair on Nov. 2.

Internships represent an important recruitment strategy for many employers. Milton Hershey School Recruitment and Selection Specialist Leigh C. Farrar sees interns as "possible employees of the future." Farrar distributed internship applications and provided information on paid positions currently available at MHS at the fair. She agrees that the job market is strong. She added that MHS recruitment practices include retention strategies. "This is totally different than 20 years ago," Farrar said. "People don't stay in positions long. Most are expected to have five to seven jobs before they're 30, and 12 to 15 jobs over their careers." According to Farrar, HR departments



CoMotion performers Stephen Spiese and Terri Mastrobuono travel through time in a humorous look at serious college career decisions on Nov. 15.