



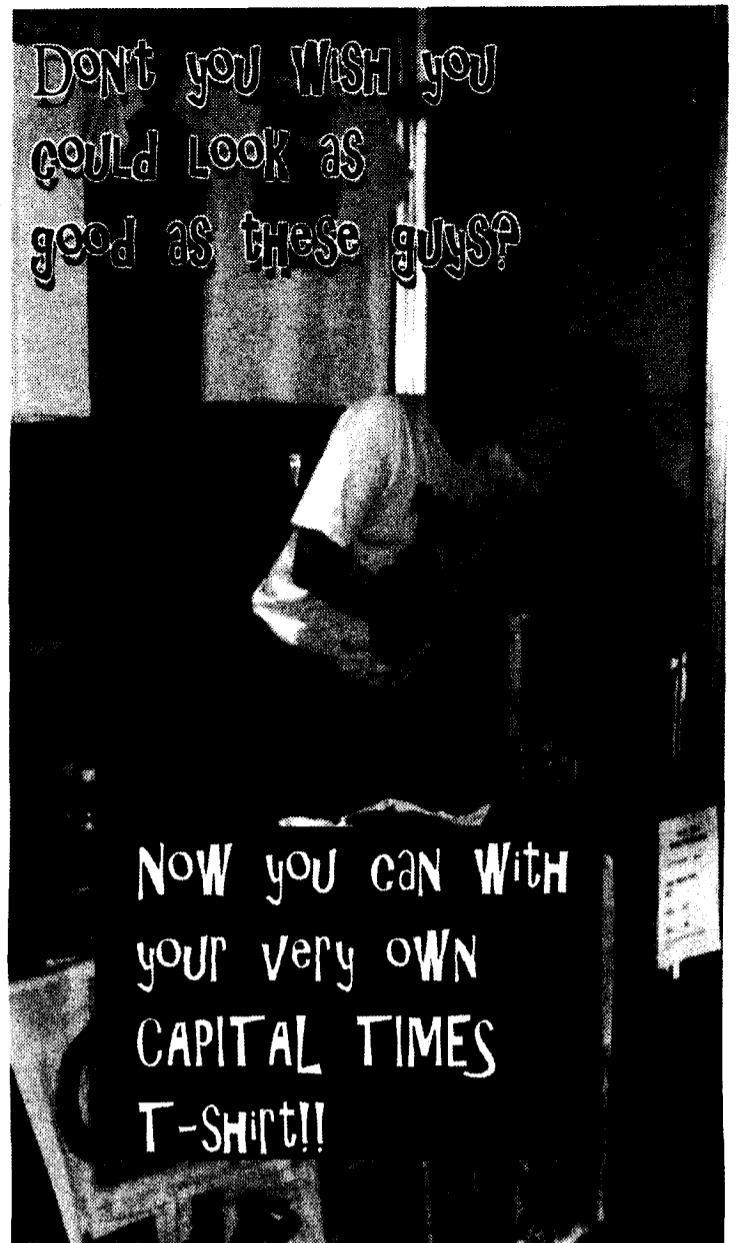
Letters to the Editor

Dear Editors,

Many students here at Capitol College who commute do not have many choices on where to go to the bathroom. Some have classes all throughout the day, and, whether we like it or not, we have to use the bathrooms here. Students who live on campus have the luxury of taking care of business in their dorm bathrooms, if it is not a red alert, and they can't make it to their porcelain thrones on time. They can choose to purchase a higher-grade toilet paper. Students who commute do not have that choice. The same is probably true of many of the professors and employees of this Campus. The sanitation in the bathrooms is exemplary. Unfortunately, the choice of toilet paper is not. The toilet paper in the bathrooms feels like sandpaper on touch, and comes apart like a mobile home in a hurricane upon contact. It is time a quality toilet paper is introduced (Charmin double-ply, for example).

Signed,
Savage Henry

Editor's note: Instead of the name being withheld, this individual wished to us an alias.



The Issue

Penn State tuition is justified, if not low, compared to other state schools. In the constant effort to keep up with technology, Penn State has adjusted its tuition accordingly and modestly, while providing students throughout all degrees with the tools necessary to become industry leaders. Technology is only one aspect that justifies a tuition increase but we rarely hear about salaries associated with a superior teaching staff in respective fields. Should we not also reward and encourage our teachers to expand their expertise?

Here are some responses

In response to the topic, I do agree that technology has a huge impact on the way students are learning and the way they should be taught. However, it appears the new technologies implemented by Penn State are used by all students, yet only certain students with information systems degrees, MIS degrees, and IST degrees get slapped with a \$750 surcharge. Modest? Maybe for those individuals not currently enrolled in a technological major. But for those who are, I'm sure they could put that hefty surcharge pricetag to better use. For \$750 they could certainly buy a fast, efficient, and reliable desktop or notebook computer for themselves and work within the comfort of their own homes.

So in conclusion, I'm pleased that Penn State is upgrading their current technologies, but if everyone is using them, then everyone should dig into their pockets and help with the costs.

Chad Gibson - Information Systems

It is in my opinion that though the tuition increase can be seen as favorable, it is not justified. I agree with what the Devil's Advocate says about the technological advantages, but if we are paying for the use of the labs, shouldn't printing be free to all students and not just those in specific majors? Another thing, this is my 4th semester here and when I arrived over a year ago, I was told that not only would I be living in the new dorms by the next semester (it was a year later when we moved in) and that there would be an indoor/in ground swimming pool, where exactly is that? We are paying for more than technology and not getting it all. Given this is a fine institution and the faculty (most anyway) are superb and I think I am getting a great education, but I chose this place because it was the best financially as well as in reputation. Now, they have raised the tuition and cut my financial aid, costing me almost \$2200 more each semester. Between that, cost of living on campus, and the ridiculous prices for books, I don't think I can even afford most of the books required. I know there are ways like half.com, but lets face it, it will take a week or more to get the book and by then you have had at least 4 homework assignments. I want to see where all that money goes. I want to see a finished food court before I graduate. I want to take a dip in the pool before I reach 80. I want to work out in a gym that doesn't have equipment older than me in it (now or when I'm 80). I want to see results, end of story.

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The next issue

Upon completion of college, students start applying for jobs and many think they deserve a job, based solely on the concept they have acquired a higher education. Is this justification for an employer to award a college graduate a position over an experienced employee? No way! What in the course of four years can enlighten us to think that we are better people having completed such curriculum? The answer may be just a piece of paper. In the future, is it possible that we can make a public service or public curricular activity that will prove that college students have idea or greater concern for others upon exiting college?

Above are the questions and only you have the answers. Show me, the Penn State Administration and the rest of the world what makes us so great, if we truly are.

