

Intramurals tip off fall semester

By Eric Thomas
Assistant Editor
ewt112@psu.edu

The fall semester means a full slate of intramural sports goes into effect. The events are coed, and Recreations Coordinator Bud Smitley has been busy piecing together a softball schedule, as well as a racquet ball tournament and a table tennis league.

One of the interesting notes this semester is the alumni softball team that is competing.

"We usually have get good participation, and it is predominately students who are on campus," Smitley said.

Another sport that will begin in a few weeks is touch foot-

ball. Smitley expects between six and eight teams competing in that event.

There is no fee to participate, and teams are allowed an unlimited amount of students on their roster, but generally team keep around 15.

All equipment is provided by the University.

Participation is open to all students, staff, faculty, and alumni.

Anyone interested in starting an intarmurals sport at PSH should get information from Bud Smitley. Smitley said the campus will welcome any new intarmural sports as long as there is field space and time for the events to take place.

FALL INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Softball

Underway

Touch Football

Coming soon

Racquet Ball Tournament

October 27

Table Tennis Tournament

November 9

*For information or a complete schedule of sports, contact Bud Smitley at the CUB.

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a clash between Central Dauphin and Gettysburg. Seeing old teachers, friends, many who came home from college for the same exact reason.

To heal, to think, to be surrounded by people they felt comfortable with, who they wouldn't mind crying around, cracking a joke with, even be over patriotic if just for a few seconds.

Some people have always questioned my love for sports, why I enjoy it so much, how come I know so much about it, and why I want to write about it.

I always tell them its because there is always something more than just a game there. There is always a story of triumph and failure, but its in that struggle between the two sides we find something much more powerful to scribe about.

Listening to stories from teachers about what they did with their students, or how friends found out about it on a different campus was far more entertaining and meaningful than a 41-7 football game.

It's the only time I can remember a football game just being background noise. No one cared, people still cheered, but there were bigger issues to deal with.

People who usually never talked in the halls of high school bonded, it was the perfect remedy for the worst time in our nation's history.

Whoever doubts the power or healing ability of sports just doesn't understand them. It goes back to father and sons sharing some of their most cherished moments over a Baltimore Colts game. It extended right up to sharing moments during our darkest hour.

The only reason I even remember the score is because I looked it up.

The bigger issue is that we had the chance to be around people we wanted and needed to be with. We all healed a little, we all got a little closer.

We all found some common ground. Whoever says sports have no value never sees the big picture, and just doesn't understand how powerful they are.

Are Community colleges keeping up with trends in Pennsylvania?

Colleges look to government to rethink funding, governance of system

By MARTHA RAFFALE
AP Education Writer

HARRISBURG, Pa. - Pennsylvania's community colleges have long prided themselves on their ability to educate anyone at a minimal cost, within a relatively short time. But as the state's first community college marks its 40th anniversary this year, the colleges stand at a crossroads. They face enormous pressures brought on by the failure of state aid increases to keep pace with enrollment growth, an unreliable stream of funding for construction projects, increasing requests for new courses in emerging fields and an overload of applicants in the high-demand field of nursing.

notice," said Stephen Curtis, president of both the Community College of Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges. "Our issues are much more on the table now. The difficulty is that those issues are on the table at a time when the state is experiencing a true economic crunch ... and that has made the conversation a complex one."

The colleges stress that while money is important, it's not the only problem. The locally grown and governed schools have complained for years that they lack a voice within state government on both funding and policy decisions, and they are supporting legislation that would create a statewide governing board as a remedy. State Sen. Robert C. Wonderling, a Montgomery County Republican whose district is served by five of the state's 14 community colleges, is among lawmakers who favor the idea of an independent governing board.

universities with K-12 education, and making that system more responsive to the needs of business and industry.

While creating an independent board might have served community colleges' political needs under previous administrations, it works against the governor's broader "K-16" education agenda and its focus on making some form of higher education the next step for all high school graduates, said Donna Cooper, Rendell's policy director.

"We're trying to bring things closer together," Cooper said. "We don't see (the community colleges) as a stepchild." The Department of Education has hired David R. Pierce, a former president of the American Association of Community Colleges, to study the funding system and r". "We'll be working very, very hard to try to position community colleges better to make the contribution that they're capable of making," Larkin said. In some states, such as



Photo courtesy of Reading Area Community College

cates money for both general operating costs and vocational education programs, Jones said. Without a statewide system of its own in place, it might be difficult for Pennsylvania to emulate that approach, he added. "Pennsylvania is one of those states in which the whole

training and retraining programs are available throughout Pennsylvania. Between main campuses, branch campuses, and programs offered at other sites, the community colleges have a physical presence in 48 of the state's 67 counties. One way to attack that problem is to encourage the com-

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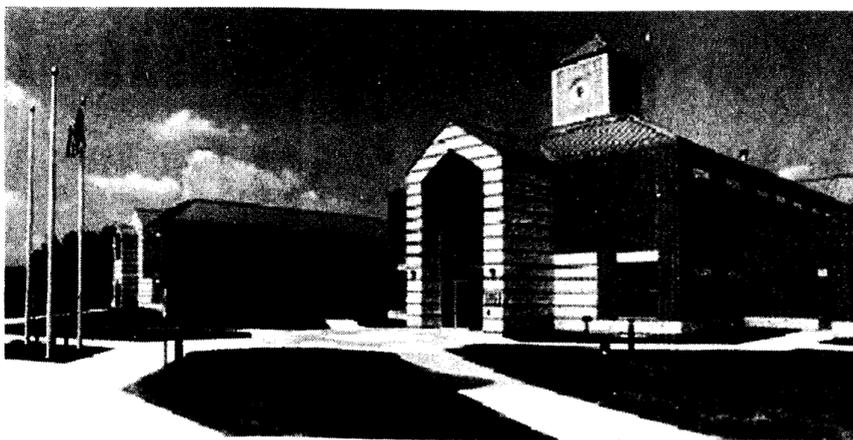


Photo courtesy of Harrisburg Area Community College

College leaders fear their limited resources will eventually be stretched to the breaking point, jeopardizing their mission of providing open access to everyone. They hope Gov. Ed Rendell and state lawmakers will work with them in the coming months to tackle two major challenges to their long-term health: funding and governance. "I think the governor is taking

"In many respects, they are governed through the state in what I like to call old-school thinking," Wonderling said. "We're trying to create a 21st-century model for higher education. But the Rendell administration is concentrating on how to provide community colleges with a more reliable funding system that maximizes the state's investment, integrating all colleges and

Nevada and Indiana, the government's share of funding comes from the state exclusively, without any local taxes being levied, said Dennis Jones, president of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems in Denver. Florida, which operates a statewide community college system, has one of the best approaches because it allo-

state is not covered by a community-college district," he said. At the same time, the state Labor and Industry Department is examining the colleges' role in workforce development. Among other things, there is strong evidence that more worker retraining programs are critically needed - the state has lost 160,300 manufacturing jobs since January 2001, which account for about one-third of all jobs lost in the United States during that period, said Sandi Vito, deputy secretary for workforce development. What remains to be seen is how to ensure that worker

munity colleges to form partnerships with other institutions, such as vocational schools and Penn State University's two-year branch campuses, Vito said. "We're trying to promote collaboration," she said.