

Editors' Comments

Since Kate's last editor's comments were "sub-par," Assistant Editors Sharon and Kelly decided to offer their assistance for this go-round.

Sharon: I have heard various comments from fellow students about the spelling errors in the previous issues. When I tell them they are more than welcome to help out with the paper to help correct this problem, they just shrug it off.

Kelly: As an editor who is new to the paper this semester, I think we're doing a pretty good job so far. I definitely think there are areas to improve, but we're getting there. To the people who have approached us with complaints, I would like to say this - feel free to join us at three in the morning when we are editing in half-awake stupors. I think we're getting better in each issue that we do.

Sharon: It certainly is a learning process. It can get pretty stressful in here. One minute we'll be laughing about something and the next we'll be jumping down each other's throats.

Kelly: Yes, sometimes I want to throw the "office ball" at your head.

Sharon: The feeling's mutual. But seriously, working on a paper like this, I have developed some great friendships...

Kate: I hope you're not talking about me, because I don't really like any of you. Just kidding. I agree with Sharon and Kelly when they say that working on the paper is a great learning tool for students who are interested in the journalism field.

Kelly: When I first started college, I intended to just go to class, do the work, and spend as little time on campus as possible. When I decided to help out with Cap Times, I thought I would contribute here and there. Somehow, I practically ended up moving into the Cap Times office with the amount of work we do here. I think they will probably want my first born child. But my point is that I'm really glad I got involved and it adds a lot of value to my education.

Kate: And to your resume.

Sharon: It is one thing to stare at the board while your professor explains how to write and edit, but it is a completely different experience to actually do the work in a real-world setting.

Kate: I'd like to commend the



(Top to bottom) Kelly Nagurny, Sharon Furfaro, Kathryn Herr

student activities and other organizations on campus for enhancing the experience here at PSH.

Sharon: I really love how Rodney Horton came into the office talking smack about the pie-eating contest, only to fail miserably, as the Cap Times representative, Thomas Le Clair came in at a close second.

Kelly: It's OK Rodney, we still love you. Don't take away our funding. We really do enjoy all the festivities on campus. It gives us great content for the paper. It's great to see all of the campus groups working together here too. There isn't a day that goes by that a representative from another student organization stops into the Cap Times office to make a suggestion, ask a question, or hang out.

Sharon: We really appreciate feedback from anyone - students, staff, faculty. It makes all of our work worthwhile.

Submissions:

You may reach The Capital Times at Penn State Harrisburg Campus, E126, Olmsted Building, 777 W. Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057. Phone us at: (717) 948-6440. or email: captimes@psu.edu

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Rendell stays down to earth in Harrisburg

GOV cont. from 1

cited that Al Gore's plans for the military in the 2000 election would have dramatically increased funding over what Bush has done subsequently. He also points out that it was Clinton's military that went into Iraq in 2003.

Rendell talked about the pivotal role that voter turnout among the lower class will play in the presidential election.

"I think the Democrats get the majority of the lower class votes," said Rendell. "The question there is turnout. They're traditionally not good turnout voters, but I think that they'll turnout in droves for this presidential election."

The passage of the use of slot machines in the commonwealth has been one of most passionately debated issues concerning Rendell's administration. I asked Rendell if he would like to see gambling expanded in the state beyond slot machines.

"Not at this time," said Rendell. "We have to see how the expansion of the slot machines goes. We have to gauge what harm, if any, is created, the economic benefits, and gauge the impact of the money the slots produce towards property tax relief. We have to look at all these things first."

Pennsylvania has historically been characterized and remains a very conservative state. With initiatives such as the institution of slot machines, Rendell admits that he may be one of the more progressive governors in recent history.

"I think I campaigned very clearly and honestly," said Rendell. "I said that we needed to change the way we do things in Pennsylvania. We needed significant change. I think, to a great degree, we have effectuated that change."

It is extremely important that a governor has good relations with the citizens indigenous to the locale of his or her residence. Rendell talked about his relationship with the people and elected officials of Dauphin County.

"In terms of the local citizens, I have a great relationship," said Rendell. "I think because I'm the

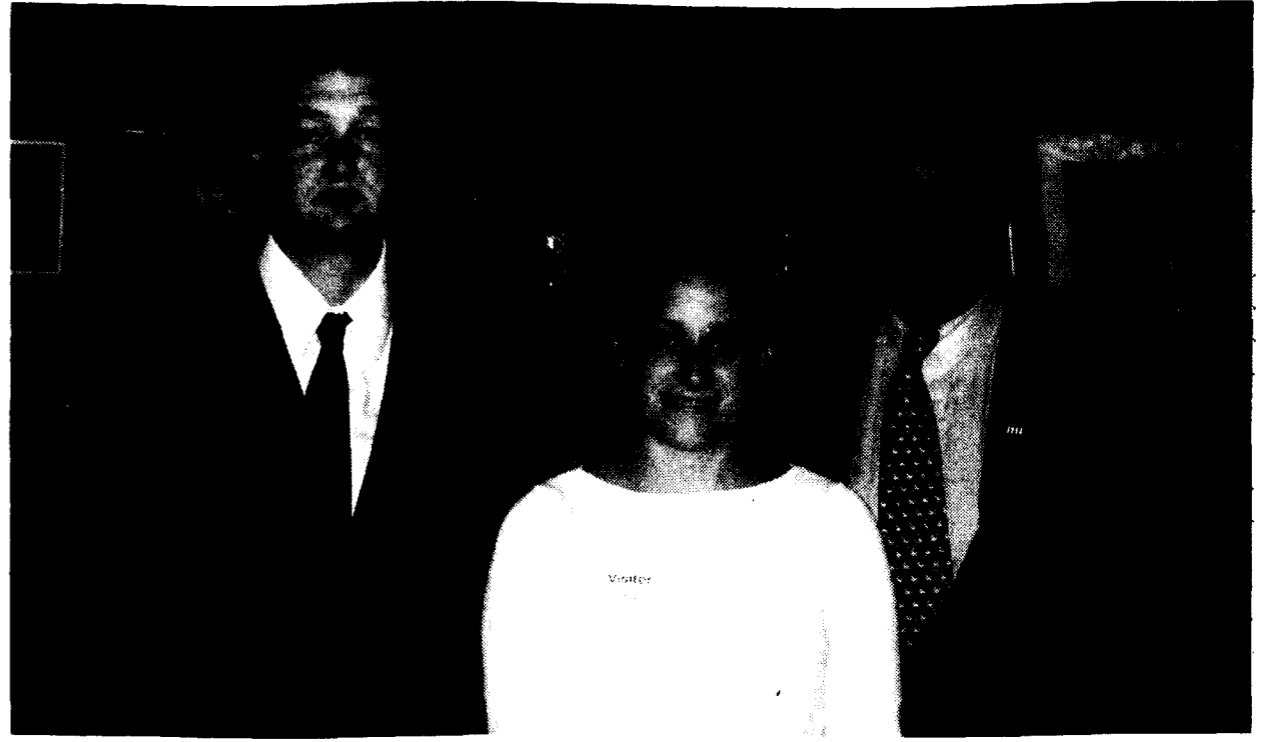


Photo courtesy of Jennifer Kauffman

John Fox and Jennifer Kauffman stand with Governor Rendell for a picture in the governor's office at the state capitol. Fox and Kauffman visited the governor to talk about the upcoming election, among other issues.

first governor in a long time to get out. I try not to stay within the governor's mansion." Rendell said. "Both my wife and I have had a great time here. We go to movies. We go to restaurants. We've tried to be pretty good citizens in the area." Rendell continued to mention that they don't stay simply in the Harrisburg area but travel to Mechanicsburg, Camp Hill, and the Union Deposit area and that he tries to do a lot of events locally when he can. "Politically, I did better in Dauphin County than other democrats in a long time. Once the election was over, I left partisanship behind. If you would ask the Republican Dauphin County Commissioners if we work well together I think they would say yes. I also have a great working relationship with Harrisburg's mayor," he said.

Rendell is proud to say that he has already accomplished five of his major campaign promises. He increased the 190,000 people covered under Pa's PACE program to 315,000. He provided an additional \$300 million for early childhood education and tutoring. He put together a \$2.3 million economic stimulus program which he characterizes as

the most aggressive in the nation. He expanded gaming for the purposes of reducing property tax and he reduced the cost of the operational end of government by almost \$400 million. Certainly, any governor would be proud to achieve these goals in the 20 months it took Rendell.

After considering his accomplishments, Rendell explained that his three biggest challenges as governor are the environment, higher education, and healthcare. Rendell said that the Growing Greener Bond program that he put before the legislature is very important for the future and would like to see it enacted. He said that Pennsylvania ranks 48th out of 50 states in the level of subsidies given to community colleges, state colleges, and state-related colleges. He said that he hopes by next year to be able to increase his commitment to state universities and hold down the rising cost of tuition.

Healthcare, the third and perhaps most important of Rendell's outlined challenges, would be an area that thousands in the commonwealth would welcome positive change with open arms.

"Assuming that there is no change in Washington," said Rendell, "we have 250,000 chil-

dren in Pa. still left uncovered. There are too many people working one or two jobs that don't have healthcare coverage. We've got to find a way to get some safety net healthcare coverage to those people."

On the lighter side of the governor, Rendell talked about his interests in film, books, and music. He says that he is a fan of action movies and lists The Manchurian Candidate and The Bourne Supremacy as movies recently seen. When questioned as to if he has seen Michael Moore's hugely controversial documentary, Fahrenheit 9/11, he said, "I haven't seen it. I didn't need to see it to convince me that the president has not done a satisfactory job."

Rendell mentioned his favorite books are J.R.R. Tolkien's Lord of the Rings trilogy and was ecstatic when the characters came to life on the silver screen. Music-wise, Rendell lists The Beatles and The Beach Boys as favorite musical artists. He also says that he has grown to like country music since moving to Harrisburg.

You can check out Governor Rendell on the web at www.governor.state.pa.us.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Many Americans share a realistic sense of betrayal by Dan Rather and CBS News, but do not have any idea what to do about it. To be the pawns of shallow, inept, deliberate "yellow" journalism deservedly allows us to label Dan Rather the most callow of all journalists. Let's give him and CBS News and all of their TV stations a reprieve by boycotting (refuse to watch and listen) not just their news programs, but all of their programs. If one wants to invest in a 37 cent stamp, write to them and tell them that you refuse to watch CBS "period."

Next, one might remind them that the boycott need

not be permanent. In order to get viewers again, CBS must change to a 24-hour per day "Alternative Energy" channel. And what, you may ask, would an alternative energy channel do? Let's find out. How many untapped Thomas Edison's in the field of alternative energy remain out there that have ideas that need reinforcement? We're in for a big surprise if we think that the answers are going to come from government. Truly, we need a breakthrough so realistically someday soon we will be able to honestly tell the oil producing Arab countries that their grandchildren will have to "shove" their oil someplace else and that there will be eventually no exchange of

oil for food programs benefiting starving Arab countries.

Was it not from the Eagles song, "Already Gone," that we heard: "so often time it happens, we all live our life in chains, and we never even know, we have the key"? Let's force CBS to reincarnate into an alternative energy network and let's not wait until tomorrow, let's get on with this transition now by refusing to deal with CBS, thereby allowing them to realize that no one of any major importance is watching any of their programs.

Sincerely,
John Longanecker,
Aspers, Pa.

To the Cap Times staff:

I have to congratulate all of you on the great newspaper you're providing this year! I find myself reading it from beginning to end, and enjoy the mix of articles. I think my favorite column has been the Professor Spotlight as a way to see a faculty member in a more personal light...

Carol A. McQuiggan
Instructional Designer
and
e-Learning Support
Specialist



Photo by Kathryn Herr

The Capital Times office is located in room E 126 in the East wing of the first floor. Stop in and check us out! If you read the newspaper think about joining our staff and enrich your education.

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Writers and Contributors:

Osman Abdalla, John Fox, Sharon Furfaro, Michael Green, Patricia Grick, Kathryn Herr, Bill Howe, Molly E. Kane, Thomas LeClair, Nat Melnicove, Beth

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