

## Editor's Comments

By Kathryn Herr  
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My first order of business is to give a big THANK YOU to Stacks Market for humoring me in my need for grilled cheese and chicken fingers. I've noticed many students munching on crispy strips of chicken dunked in BBQ sauce, so I know other students are grateful as well for the new change to the menu.

I also want to thank all of the students, faculty and staff members, and citizens who made a contribution to THON. It was great to see the campus members rally around the dancers and the kids. Canning on the street, scrounging in the bottom of pockets and purses for loose change and donating sometimes the only dollar left For the Kids is well worth the effort.

I am hoping that we will soon have some karaoke in the cafeteria because I would like to see some of the professors singing Like A Virgin on the stage. Who's with me? I also know a surprisingly large amount of people who say they would take advantage of open mike night. The Capital Times would like to conduct a survey on this issue to see how many people would benefit from activities such as these. If you are a 'yes' or a 'no' send an answer to the Cap Times email at [captimes@psu.edu](mailto:captimes@psu.edu). Feel free to offer other suggestions as well for uses of the stage, and I would be glad to pass those along to the proper connections.

For those graduating this semester, beware of the senioritis that has seemingly become air borne. It seems

that at the very mention of the opportunity to skip class, the ring-leader will have a full following on the road to McDonald's. So please, kids, go to class. It's almost over.

It's almost time to break out the flip-flops. I have decided that on March 7, 2005 I will be sporting the flip-flops regardless of weather predictions on that day. Those willing to brave the elements and show their support for the rubber thong should show their dedication by wearing their most valued flip-flops on this day. Flip-flop wearers will unite to bring about the beginning of flip-flop season, and of course Spring.

### Submissions

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**Next Issue:**  
**March 21, 2005**

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By Maruja Rosario  
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It was business as usual for the Student Government Association on Feb. 10. SGA welcomed back President Rodney Horton as chair of the Senate after the dismissal of Paul Fogle, and he thanked them by holding the shortest meeting in this Senate's history, 32 minutes. During this quick meeting, the Senate approved the allocation of funds for XGI's upcoming blood drive because the Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank, though providing food, does not provide a wide variety

of food or, to be perfectly frank, the most delicious, either.

Horton brought up the upcoming event "Rally at the Rotunda," and asked everyone in attendance to participate. He also mentioned that at the upcoming C.C.S.G meeting, Penn State University President Graham Spanier would be attending and would address issues and concerns about the event.

A major topic at this meeting was Senate apathy. While Vice President JoVan Hill thanked the senators who attended the Sister Souljah lecture, Nichole Duffy, SGA advisor, reprimanded the Senate for signing up to participate

in events and then not showing up. Marquita Giles, senator-at-large, and Kristin Hicks, former senator of behavioral sciences, also stressed that SGA funds the events, so it would be in their best interest to attend them.

At the Feb. 16 meeting, the constitution of the Fencing Club was ratified, much to the excitement of Supat Kanchanasakul, one of the founding members of the Fencing Club.

THON was a big topic, and Stephan O'Holla, junior senator of the humanities, volunteered information to anyone who wanted to come up to support

the two THON dancers, Maruja Rosario and Molly Harmes.

With SGA elections coming up, Horton asked the Senate to fund his continuing ad campaign in The Capital Times telling students about the elections. He was funded to continue running his ads, so look for them on the back of the newspaper.

For more information on how to get involved with PSH's Student Government Association, contact Rodney Horton at [thyork2@yahoo.com](mailto:thyork2@yahoo.com).

## Letters to the Editor

Hi Kate:

...I just read your "Editor's Comments" from Jan. 24, 2005. I visited the Stacks Market Thursday, and I wanted a hamburger on wheat. (I've read many articles on how bad white bread is for you.)

They have burgers at the grill and wheat bread at the sandwich station. You know it REALLY would have killed the Stacks people to give me a hamburger on a "WHEAT Kaiser roll" (served at the sandwich station).

The manager had told me "because I've worked in this business long enough to know that if I do it this time, you'll want me to do it again. I used to order wheat hamburger buns, but I threw them out by the truck load."

To add to this, the blond and permed hamburger lady (just a descriptor so you know who I'm referring to-ha) said, "Yea, and we'd have to come down here to get it." I really have to use this expression to describe this: "I COULD SPIT FARTHER THAN SHE'D HAVE TO WALK TO GET MY FRICKIN WHEAT BREAD." (Which is literally 10 feet.)

Well if no one eats the wheat hamburger buns, there shouldn't be many people requesting the wheat Kaiser rolls, right?!

Just had to share! Haha - and I never picked up on the cheese thing til I read your column! They probably wouldn't want to walk ALL THE WAY to the pizza area to get the cheese - or you might ask for cheese AGAIN!

Anyhow, now that I've written you a book about my Wheat Hamburger Bun...

Cheers,  
*Tricia, PSH student*

An open letter to the students of Penn State Harrisburg,

There are a few things I have noticed about some students, which does not directly apply to everyone, but enough to warrant this letter. This is college, people; its higher education intended to prepare you for your career and success in the working world. This is not thirteenth grade or any other higher grade of "high school." There is a certain responsibility students have to handle in order to do well. First, as stated above, this is college. If

you are sick, caught in traffic, or whatever excuses you MAY have, call or e-mail your professor. Do not interrupt the class halfway through and expect to pick up from where the class ended the last time. It disrupts the learning process and distracts the students and professor when you rush in, slam your coat and book bag down, and then unpack it, rushing to take notes.

Secondly, if you have a problem with a professor or instructor ten out of ten times your problem can be solved if you speak to them. If you send a e-mail to department heads complaining about your problem with the instructor, it does not help. In fact it may worsen the problem if the department head forwards the e-mail to the specific professor.

The faculty on this campus and at colleges and universities across the globe are here to teach students how to function in a career after graduation. They have office hours for a reason. They can meet with you, work with you and engage in communication with you to solve any problems you may be having; in essence to make you a better student.

Thirdly, and this is the biggest

one, accept responsibility for yourself and your work. Do not give professors excuses because they will not solve your current problem, and will not help you succeed in the real world. Also, do not bring your parents into the problem. This is not grade school where parents work with teachers and the administration about their children. If you are in college, take responsibility for yourself.

What goes with this is act like professors are your bosses and supervisors. The work they give you is the work you have to do; you cannot pick and choose. In the real world, if you pick and choose and do the work you want to do instead of what you have to do, you are fired. The same goes for college; you wonder why grades are below satisfactory? Well, try doing the work and if you are still having problems, meet with your professor.

Take this into consideration and you will enjoy the college experience and get more satisfaction out of the work you do. Take care, and welcome to college.

Sincerely,  
*Michael Loratz, PSH Student*

# Teaching on the docket for local judge

PROF cont'd from 1

being at the courthouse this day.

There is a group of ladies smoking cigarettes huddled near the entrance. They all tap their toes and wiggle their legs to try to keep their blood circulating on this blustery winter afternoon. It's funny - they seem to be in deep conversation. However, it seems that even before their last drags are exhaled, they abruptly end their talks and rush back inside. I locate my destination on the directory and head up on the elevator.

The office was calm, the type of calm that had an element of mysticism to it. All four walls were filled with legal references that were stacked to the ceiling. The bookcases and the furniture in the spacious room were a light mahogany. It gave the room a calming effect that was somewhat reassuring; or at least it was intended to be.

There were stacks of documents that were methodically positioned throughout the office. If only the walls in this room could talk. Currently, the office belongs to the next President Judge of the

Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas, The Honorable Richard A. Lewis. Lewis, who is a native of the nearby borough of Steelton, is a graduate of Archbishop McDevitt High School in Harrisburg, also attended Rutgers University, and graduated from The Dickinson School of Law in nearby Carlisle.

In discussing his years of commitment to the public, one source described his legal interpretations of the law as well as his brand of justice as "unparalleled" in the county's court system.

Lewis then served as the Dauphin County district attorney for fourteen years. During his tenure as district attorney, he was elected president of the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Association and served on the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing for seven years. He prosecuted more than 100 jury trials, including fifteen homicide trials, seven of which were capital

cases. Currently, Lewis is a member of the bench of the 12<sup>th</sup> judicial district in Dauphin County. Lewis' concentration is currently Juvenile Justice. He has also been elected to be the next President Judge of the Dauphin County Court. When asked about his early years,

Judge Lewis proudly stated that besides odd jobs in college, as well as teaching endeavors, serving the Dauphin County Court has been "the only job that I have ever had."

At Penn State Harrisburg, Lewis teaches The Pennsylvania Court System, and the graduate level course entitled Courts and The Criminal Justice System. He also is a professor at The Dickinson

School of Law, where he teaches Pennsylvania Criminal Practice.

Admiration for Lewis seems to be the consensus shared by local legal professionals. In discussing his years of commitment to the public, one source described his legal interpretations of the law as well as his brand of justice as "unparalleled" in the county's court system.

I also sensed in Lewis that he is just as comfortable in being the object of humor as he is in discussing his many accomplishments. He is comfortable in his own skin. When asked about his hobbies, he attributed his reluctance to play [golf] to his "not so good" handicap. "If I were better, I would probably play more," he said with a broad grin and a laugh.

A judge with a sense of humor sounds sort of oxymoronic. But, he has one nonetheless. Don't believe this guy walks to the beat of a different drummer? His favorite food is pasta....I rest my case.

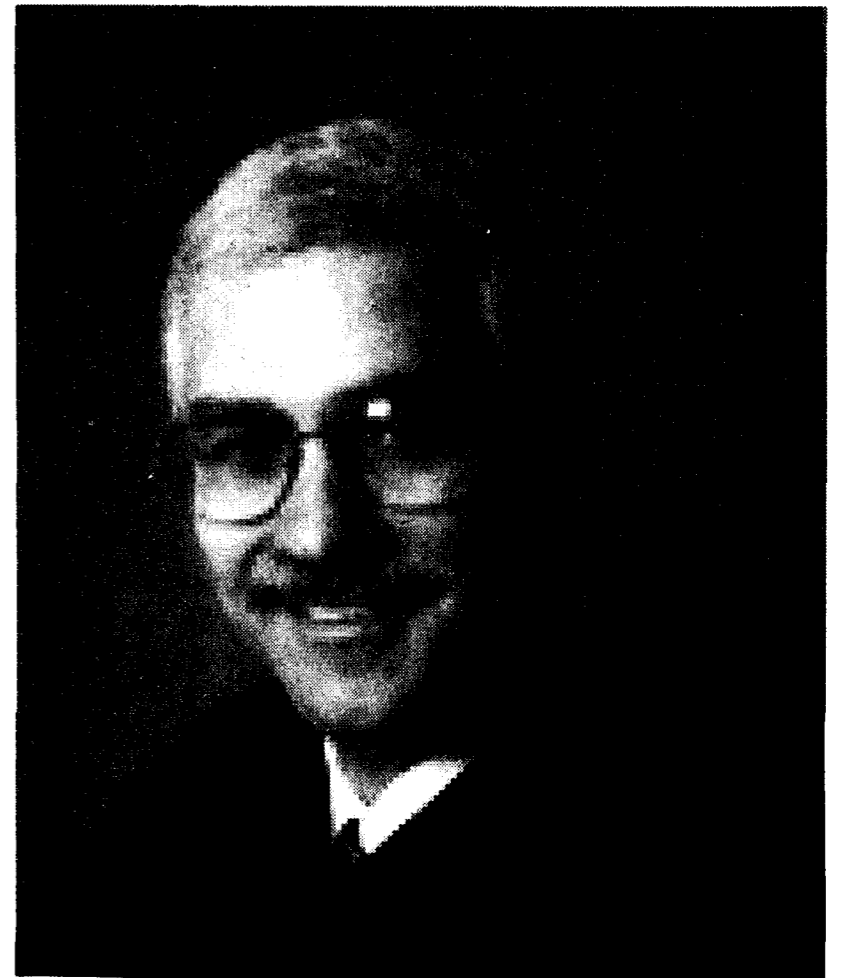


Photo courtesy of [www.dsf.pacounties.org](http://www.dsf.pacounties.org)

Judge Richard A. Lewis is a judge in the 12th judicial district in Dauphin County, where his concentration is in juvenile justice.

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