

Editor's Comments

By Maruja Rosario
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I'm sure you're asking yourself why someone with the title of copy editor is writing the editor's comments. Well, as the name implies, they are the comments of the editor and I am, in fact, an editor. So you get to listen to my rants for a change.

Firstly, I want you all to go look on page 4 for what is probably the best story of my writing career. It is the story of my THON experience and it is a rare treat since I don't usually write for the paper (finish the comments first, though). I figure I'm already reading everyone else's stories, why should I make more work for myself?

I want to now take a moment to welcome spring back. I don't think it could have come at a better time. I think we could all use more sunshine in our lives, especially now that we're heading towards the home stretch of school.

I am excited that sports are returning to this campus. However, my excitement was quickly diminished when I learned that though there would be a men's soccer team, there would be no women's soccer team. I find that completely unfair.

Why are the guys the only ones allowed to play soccer? I'm sure that women's soccer will be added in the future (I can only hope), but that does nothing for me, who will be graduating shortly. So, my joy is gone for sports.

I'm sure that most of you who know me know that I am going to Japan this summer. That being said, I want to thank Susumu for being the best Japanese teacher in the world. He is extremely patient and just awesome.

Also while on that subject, I am currently accepting donations in order to pay for my academic experience. Just stop by the Cap



Times office and bring me your money.

I guess it's time for my final thought. My thought shall be about the upcoming SGA elections. I sincerely hope that you all vote for the candidate that you want in office.

SGA is not just a club; they are here to help the entire student body. So don't be apathetic and ignore the campaigns or your chance to cast your vote. Because in the end, they can only be as active as you. Peace.

Submissions

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SGA's last meeting before spring break attempted to tie up loose ends before embarking on new and exciting projects for the rest of the semester.

SGA president Rodney Horton tied up some of those ends with resolutions that commended clubs for their contributions to the campus. The International Affairs Association was recognized for their continued success in hosting Model United Nations for high school students, while The

SGA update

Capital Times was recognized for donating \$320 from their unrestricted funds and fundraising \$250 all for THON. IAA president Ezra Nugroho and Cap Times editor-in-chief Kathryn Herr were on hand to receive their clubs' awards.

Senior Senator of the Humanities Maruja Rosario was also presented with a proclamation for her quick efforts in raising the entrance fee for Penn State Harrisburg to participate in THON. She raised \$1000 in about fifteen minutes, which led to Horton choosing to publicly thank her for her efforts.

Horton also reminded the senate of the importance of attending Rally at the Rotunda, a peaceful protest gathering with other colleges demanding that the government aid the students with rising tuition costs.

With older business out of the way, SGA then attacked new issues and events for PSH. Marquita Giles, senator-at-large, and Altamese Kelley, secretary of SGA, proposed a trip to King's Dominion for all Penn State students to enjoy at the severely discounted cost of \$12. That cost buys both the bus fare and the ticket to the rather expensive

theme park. Tickets will continue to be on sale until March 25 and once those tickets are gone, they are gone.

Dreomm Smith, sophomore senator of science, engineering, and technology, also approached the senate with his own idea; a carnival. Smith has performed a great deal of research for the event to which he hopes the student body will come and just have a great time. Smith is still in the process of completing his research and asking for the funding from the senate, so look for more about how this pans out in the future.

Pa. anti-war vet speaks out

By John Curran
Associated Press Writer

OCEAN CITY, N.J. (AP) - Speaking out against the war in Iraq doesn't mean you're against the troops fighting it.

It's a small distinction, but an important one - especially to Jim Talib.

The 31-year-old Philadelphia man, a medic in the U.S. Naval Reserve, has been deployed to Iraq once and is scheduled to return in June. In the meantime, he speaks to church groups and clubs, using the voice of experience to stir up opposition.

"I love my country, and I don't think we should rule the world," he said, speaking to a group of 40 people at a meeting of the Ocean City Democratic Club on Wednesday night. "I don't think it's un-American to say that."

A native of New Brunswick and graduate of Rutgers University, Talib is an 11-year Navy veteran.

When he's on duty, he's Petty Officer Third Class James Talib, a medical corpsman. When he's on the anti-war stump, he dresses in casual civilian clothes and urges people who oppose U.S. involvement in Iraq to get involved and to lobby congressmen to withdraw troops.

Talib spent 10 months in Iraq last

year, assigned to a U.S. Marine Corps infantry unit in Fallujah and tending to wounded troops.

After returning last November, he joined up with Iraq Veterans Against the War, a small Philadelphia group formed last year to raise public awareness about opposition among those who have served.

The group sends speakers out to college campuses, community groups and clubs who are interested in hearing the anti-war message.

"Basically, we formed in response to the fact that you've got the Department of Defense and the government and the military putting out these pro-war troops, saying 'This war's good,' but there's no opposing voice," said Michael Hoffman, national coordinator for IVAW. "That's where we came in."

Some of the group's 150 members are active-duty military, some have left the service and some - like Talib - are in the reserves.

Talib, the only IVAW public speaker who's still in the military, has some restrictions on what he can say.

He cannot reveal military secrets, or appear in uniform speaking against the war, according to Hoffman; U.S. Navy officials

did not respond to requests for comment made with the Navy's press office at the Pentagon.

On Wednesday, he drove about an hour from his Philadelphia home to this New Jersey shore town to speak to the Democratic Club, showing up untucked and unshaved, wearing an unbuttoned shirt, blue jeans and sneakers.

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- James Talib, 11-year
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His audience, a sympathetic crowd of teachers, tradesmen, Vietnam veterans, senior citizens and curious teenagers, sat quietly on folding chairs as he talked about the war.

He began his 55-minute presentation with a plug for Iraq Veterans Against the War before telling the group he believes it was oil and American imperialism

that drove the decision to invade, not weapons of mass destruction or links to the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

"We ought to be honest about why we went there, admit we made a mistake and get out," he said. "We have to develop a culture that doesn't encourage rampant wars and militarism."

Many returning GIs are unhappy with U.S. involvement in Iraq, said Talib, who withheld the gory details of his own experience, saying only that he was against the war before he went and saw nothing to change his mind.

It's an occupation, not a war, he told the group.

"It's not a war against a military force. The only reason there's so much bloodshed is that we're making ourselves such a huge target," he said.

After a question-and-answer session, the organizers of the event passed a baseball cap around the room to raise money to cover Talib's expenses, which he pays out of his own pocket, and contribute to the group.

Those who heard Talib were impressed.

"It's powerful," said Vietnam veteran Steve Cole, 65. "He's been there. He's got firsthand knowledge."

Finding sanity in the classroom, prof. finds her niche

PROF cont'd from 1

right and do something good." This is the moment that got her started in the news business.

At PSH, Garris teaches Speech, Journalistic Writing, and Broadcast Journalism while at Shippensburg, she teaches Radio and Television News, Electronic News Gathering and Reporting,



Prof. Garris likes country music, good southern barbeque and making the learning process fun and exciting for her students. She juggles the roles of wife, mother and teacher on a daily basis.

and Media and Culture. "The best part about teaching would be seeing the light bulbs go on in their heads," said Garris. "The worst part about teaching would be giving grades," she also said. Then again, don't we all hate getting grades!

Garris' first job was weekend anchor and reporter; she got all of the packages together to be run

on the air and produced the show. Basically, she did it all. Although the job was fun and exciting, it finally got old. "I wanted to stay home with my family and be with my kids," said Garris.

She has two boys, a five-year-old and a one-and-a-half-year-old boy, named Garris and Colin. "It wasn't fair to them. I was supposed to be home chasing them around the house," said Garris.

According to Garris, teaching is something she always had a desire to do. In addition, teaching at PSH affords her the opportunity for a regular schedule. In her broadcasting career, Garris frequently had to go to bed early and wake around 4:00 a.m. "I'm glad I made the decision to teach. It was something I wanted to do. I feel saner now that I have a set schedule."

When she has spare time,

Garris listens to music. "In my CD player right now is basically contemporary music. I do like country music," Garris said. While listening to tunes, she likes eating

good southern barbeque and drinking a Margarita, "on the rocks, hold the salt!"

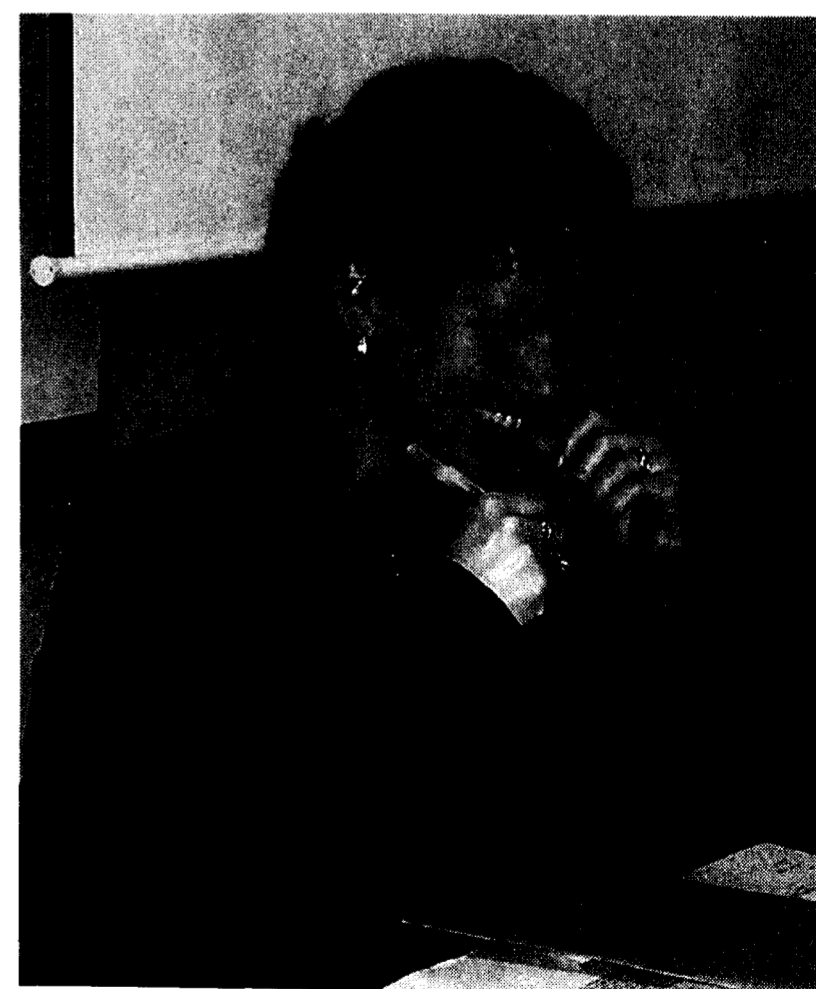
Garris has goals for the future. Her main goal now is to get her doctorate at Penn State Main Campus! There will be no living on campus for her though;

she will gladly commute back and forth from State College to home that way she can still be with her family.

An educator, mother, wife, and even local celebrity, Garris makes the learning process fun and exciting. Though this may only be her second year at PSH, we hope there are many years to come.

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- Prof. Kim Garris



Photos by Supat Kanchanasakul/Capital Times

Prof. Kim Garris teaches Speech, Journalistic Writing, and Broadcast Journalism at PSH and Radio and Television News, Electronic News Gathering and Reporting, and Media and Culture at Shippensburg.

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