

The sweetest town on Earth

By Allyson Davis
Staff Reporter
amd367@psu.edu

As the end of summer draws near, we are reminded of how busy Hershey was in the very beginning of May. People from all over came to ride the rides at HersheyPark, get tours of the factory (which they don't do), and relax in the town we are proud to say is the "Sweetest Place on Earth!"

People traveled from all over to visit, with guests from New York, New Jersey, Vermont, Connecticut, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Guests came all the way from Utah, California, Washington, and Oregon. What, you ask, brings them to Hershey? Wondering the same thing, I've come to terms with the fact that this town is worth the travel, being both a nice getaway to relax, but also

have some fun on the side.

Hershey's main attraction is HersheyPark. The park holds over 65 rides and attractions for all ages, young and old. This is what the guests come to see. The park has roller coasters, children's rides, and water rides, and for the non-riding types, they have dance shows, singing productions, and games. The park also has numerous places to eat, so no need to bring food in with you (It's not allowed anyway).

Another attraction is Hershey's Chocolate World, the visitor center to the town. Here guests can ride the Tour Ride and see how they make the chocolate at the factory. Do not be mistaken; this is NOT a tour of the actual factory, although some guests think it is. Guests will also find the Really Big 3-D show. The Hershey Product characters take a wild adventure and tell a

story that is appropriate for both children and adults. Trolleyworks is based in Chocolate World, a 45-minute trolley ride around the town of Hershey telling the story of Milton and his Chocolate Empire. Finally, the merchandise stores are one-of-a-kind, selling anything from t-shirts, pants, shorts, and hats to cookbooks, cookie sheets, plates, glasses, and of course, chocolate!

There are other attractions and activities that bring guests from far and near. Another one is ZooAmerica. This zoo covers 11 acres and has over 200 animals that represent the five different regions of North America. This walk-through zoo is a nice way to spend a couple of hours during the day. If you are visiting HersheyPark and would like to go to the zoo the same day, you are in luck! There is an entrance to the zoo inside the Park, so utilize this entrance and don't be charged an additional fee.

Do not forget the Hershey Museum or the Hershey Gardens. The Museum tells the history of the town of Hershey, Pennsylvania Dutch, and the Native Americans that once inhabited the area. This museum gives the opportunity to learn more about the heritage of Hershey After all, for most of you it is your own. My suggestion is to get there quickly for as of January 2006, the Hershey Museum will be closed for renovations to make it bigger and better for residents of Hershey and guests. The Hershey Gardens is also a unique attraction. It's a 23-acre botanical garden. What makes these roses so special is that they have been in bloom since the 1930's. Roses were always Milton's wife Catherine Hershey's favorite, and this garden that Milton Hershey built for his wife symbolizes her

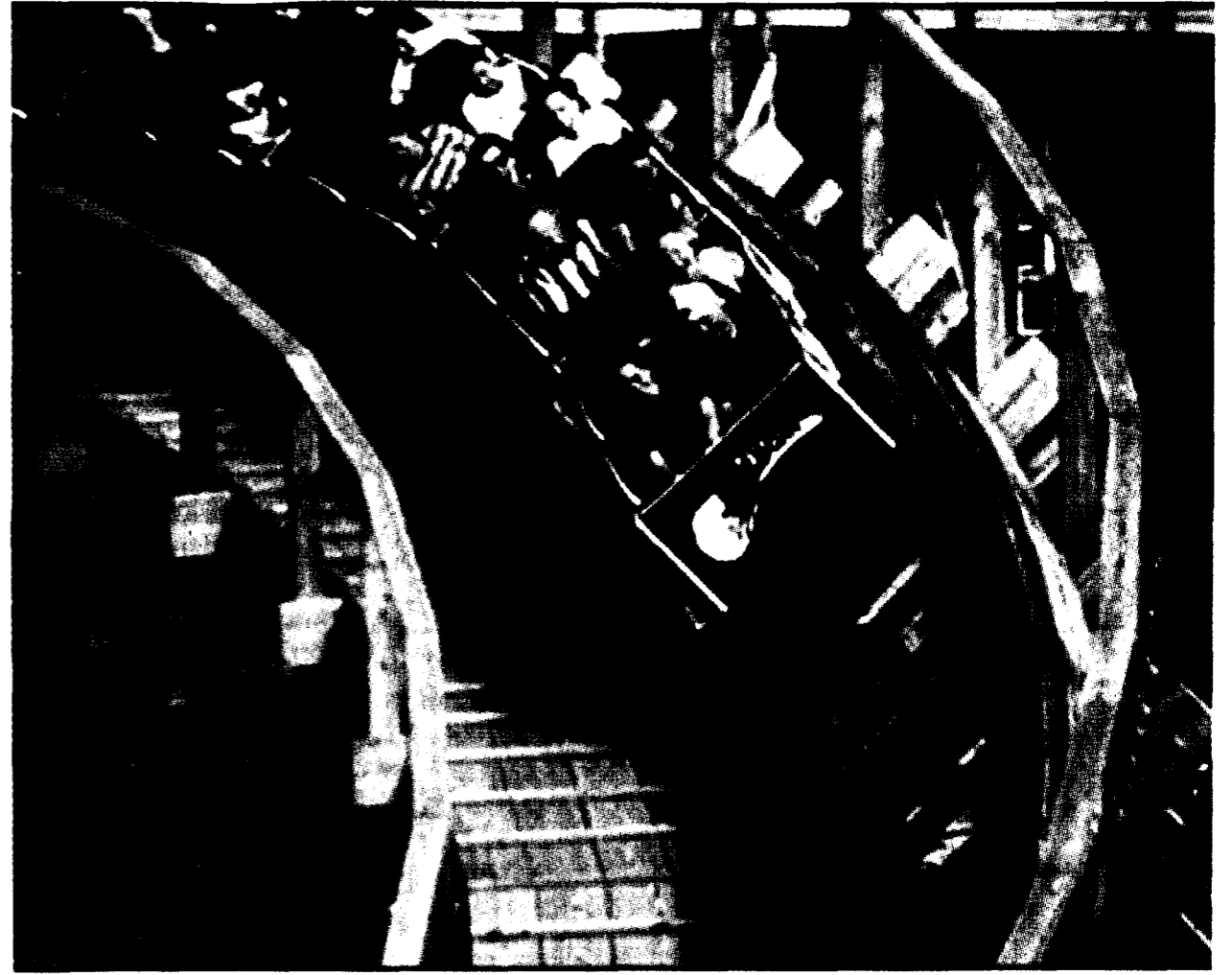


Photo courtesy of Hersheypa.com

The Wildcat rollercoaster at Hershey Park sends riders over hills and bumps at 45 miles per hour. It's first drop shown above is 85 feet high.

love of the bloom.

Guests also come to Hershey for, of course, the Summer Concert Series. This year, Hershey brought in the greatest of performers to show their talents. Some groups included Destiny's Child, Toby Keith, Alan Jackson, The Backstreet Boys, Chicago, Kelly Clarkson, and many more. Now, Hershey awaits the arrival of a very big-named group that is coming on October 1, The Rolling Stones. This concert, I can definitely say, has put Hershey more on the map than before.

If you travel from afar, it may be wise to make reservations and

stay overnight. Hershey has two main resorts, The Hotel Hershey and The Hershey Lodge. There is also the Highmeadow Campground for those who enjoy the outdoors more than the comforts of a hotel. The Hotel Hershey is the more luxurious of the resorts. It houses the Spa at the Hotel Hershey, where guests can indulge in massages, facials, hydrotherapy baths, and practically any other treatment you could think of, of course, with a chocolate base. The Hershey Lodge is more of a family resort. There you will find an 18-hole miniature golf course, three

swimming pools, and activities galore. The Hershey Lodge is also known for its convention facilities. Major business conventions are held in its halls year round, allowing ample space for the businesses to enjoy.

Whether you are a guest from out of town or a Hershey native, there is plenty to see and do. If you are looking for a weekend getaway or have a few hours to spend, check out any one of the attractions. I can guarantee you'll learn something, not to mention have fun doing it.

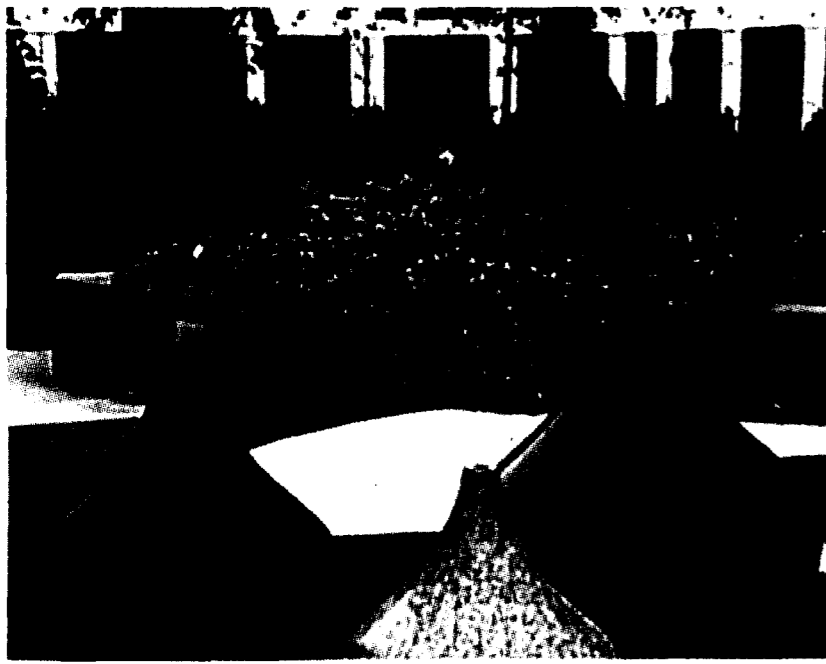


Photo courtesy of hersheygardens.org

The Children's Garden, the newest addition to Hershey Gardens, provides a playful learning environment for children.

LIVE cont'd from 9

Who, Velvet Revolver, REM, and Snoop Dog. Paris saw the likes of Sheryl Crow, Dido, Shakira, and The Cure. Berlin had Crosby Stills & Nash, Audioslave, and Green Day. Barrie was host to the likes of Deep Purple, Motley Crue, Our Lady Peace, and Bryan Adams. Other lesser known

names took the stages in Tokyo, Johannesburg, Moscow, and Eden Project. For the world to come together with one purpose is amazing.

Overall the chance to attend such an event is amazing in its own right. Supporting a just cause and seeing bands that one may never get to see again is awe-inspiring. Being able to say that you attended a concert

that will be remembered for years to come is was worth the trip alone.

If you missed Live 8, a four disc DVD will be released on November 8. A "generous" royalty from sales of the DVD set will go to the Band Aid Trust for the relief of hunger and poverty in Africa.

For more information on Live 8 visit <http://www.live8live.com>.



Shown on a video screen above the stage, lead singer Dave Matthews of the Dave Matthews Band performs during the Live 8 concert in Philadelphia.

REVIEW cont'd from 9

claims that it was inspired by Charlie Chaplain's song 'Smile.' 'A Certain Softness' provides a Latin feel, which has previously been unheard on any McCartney release. This song is an interesting addition to the album. 'Riding to Vanity Fair' is a song about trying to befriend

somebody who seems self absorbed. It is in my opinion one of the finer tracks on the album.

This album presents a more mature Paul McCartney who is looking back on his life while also looking forward to the future. While providing traditional sounding McCartney tunes that are coated with a modern production style,

this album is sure to please listeners both old and young alike. *Chaos and Creation in the Backyard* has all of the necessary elements in place to help reinforce Paul McCartney's place as one of the greatest songwriters of our generation.

For more information, check out <http://www.paulmccartney.com>

CHI GAMMA IOTA

Adhere to a higher standard...

Become a part of XGI



Chi Gamma Iota Fraternity is a co-ed fraternal organization comprised of former, current, and reserve members of the Armed Forces.