



Remembering
Coretta
Scott
King

INSIDE NEWS



Brokeback
Mountain
tops ratings
at box
office

INSIDE
ENTERTAINMENT

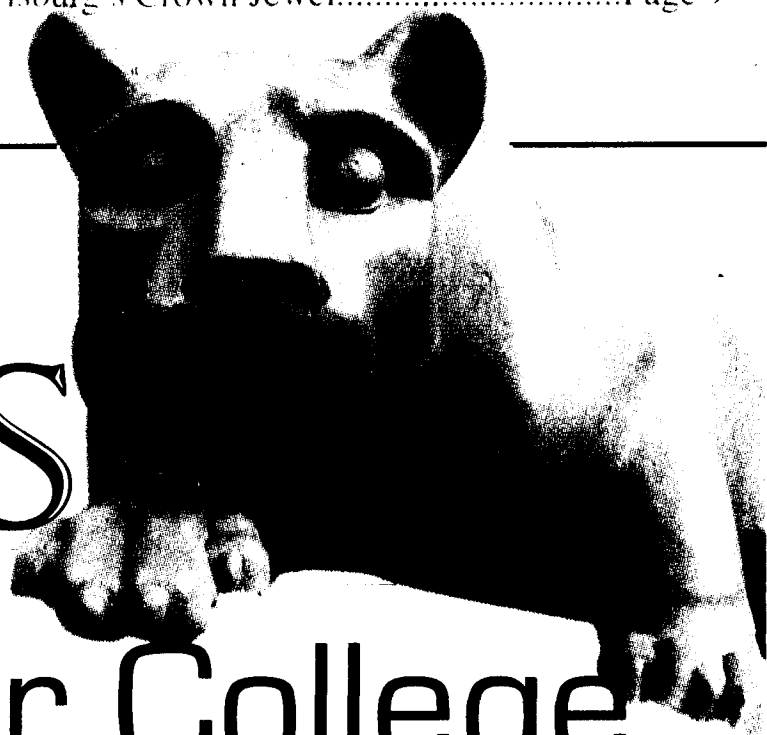


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THE CAPITAL TIMES

Vol. 46 No. 8

February 6, 2006

Professor



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Dr. Beverly A. Cigler, professor of public policy and administration, has taught in five universities so far. She's been teaching at Penn State Harrisburg since 1988.

She and her brother were the first in their entire family history to receive a high school diploma. With no money for college, she was fortunate enough to be able to slide by with "free money" from scholarships and anonymous stipends that she often used for pocket money. "That's what I used to pay for a cup of coffee or the other little things I wanted," she said.

Of the previous four universities she has taught, including Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich., Thiel College in Greenville, Pa., North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C. and The University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, N.C., PSH remains to be her favorite for three reasons.

The first reason was because she was from Monroeville, Pa., making her a native Pennsylvanian. The second reason was because she loved Harrisburg, the state capital. And the third and perhaps the most important reason was because she believes that Pennsylvania's local governments have a lot they can improve on. "We're the most messed up state," she said.

"We have a very complex local government and I jumped on this opportunity to come into the state and do something about it. This was important to me." Cigler said that the government works in a fish bowl. She said that it's not enough in the public eye for the government to just do things properly. It's the part where they have to convince the public that they did things properly, where the difficult part comes in.

Teaching is one of Cigler's passions. "I've known that I wanted to be a teacher since I was in tenth grade," she said. "I remember going to the men's guidance counselor because there wasn't one for women at the time and telling him that I wanted to continue my education."

Being as ambitious as Cigler was, she ended up being valedictorian of her class. But it was President Kennedy's assassination that really triggered her mind into wanting to become a public policy teacher.

The famous lines of his inaugural address really meant something to her. "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country," quoted Cigler.

She said that she really liked this quote and what it meant to her. It was enough for her to use it as an inspiration for what she has been studying. Throughout her three college degrees, including her bachelor's, master's and doctorate, she studied political science.

Please see **CIGLER** on page 6

Your Money, Your College

STAFF REPORT
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In a meeting on Thurs. Feb. 2, the Student Activity Fee (SAF) committee approved \$19,500 to bring in two guest speakers, one of who cost \$15,000 alone. The decision was made with only four of nine committee members present.

The SAF committee on the Harrisburg campus is a student-run committee under the support of the Director of Student Affairs.

The SAF money comes from the \$44 activity fee on each student's tuition bill and funds a multitude of activities on campus such as Yewande, African dancing, and guest speakers.

But with every voting session being behind closed doors, students don't fully realize how the money is being spent.

According to the SAF handbook found online at the Penn State Web site, "the purpose of the fee is to provide funds to improve the co-curricular environment for undergraduate and graduate students," and "The use of this fee should be public knowledge and made available to students."

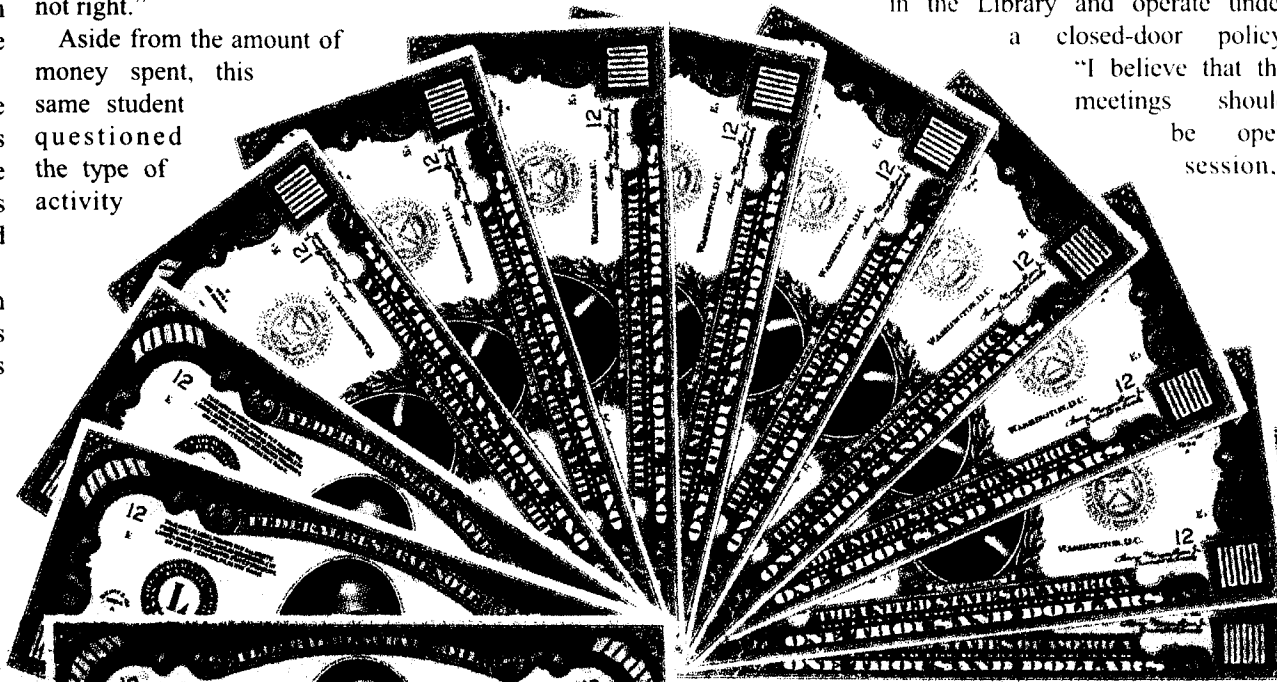
At the time of the vote for these two speakers, the budget for the SAF was \$90,000. The approval of the proposal to fund the events took over 20 percent of the budget for two individuals.

Although this decision comes with some reservations by the student body, select members of the SAF committee are positive that this speaker - whose name has yet to be

released - will draw in a crowd and be worth \$15,000 worth of lecture.

One student opposed to the approval who spoke on the condition of anonymity said, "At some point you have to understand that we're not University Park and we can't afford speakers like that because it takes away from so many other things." The student went on to say that spending over 20 percent of the budget on two events is "definitely not right."

Aside from the amount of money spent, this same student questioned the type of activity



on which the money is being spent. "Students don't come out to lectures because they sit in class all day and don't want to be lectured anymore," the student said.

The truth of this statement is echoed in the size of crowds that make it to lecture style events. It is also seen in the frustration of the faculty planning these events that see

little to no participation.

On Fri. Feb. 3, the SAF had a second meeting to discuss proposals not discussed the day previous. At this second meeting, one event that had been in the workings for quite some time was not approved.

Several cast members from the television show Laguna Beach were scheduled to visit campus for a day and prizes were to be given away. This event

operates in a veil of near secrecy. The order in which requests are handled is supposed to be by the number written at the top of the request, but there is no policy where this is explicitly stated.

According to the SAF handbook cited earlier, "The meetings will be open to the general University community so long as there is seating available. SAF meetings on campus are held in a small conference room in the Library and operate under a closed-door policy. "I believe that the meetings should be open session."

what is happening, and not being able to sit in and listen to the deliberations that are going on. Having closed meetings can sometimes be a necessity when time is taken into consideration, but to take the money of the students and allocate it without even letting them know where it is going scare most students.

A student survey, which was published in the first issue of this semester's The Capital Times newspaper, was designed to ask students what type of events they would like to see.

Bravo took the initiative to create the survey as part of his duties as director of communications on the SGA. The survey was also handed directly to students that participated in the Come in from the Cold event, a chance for students to get free hot and cold food, which was sponsored by the SGA.

The results of these surveys, which are made public outside of the SGA office, indicated that students wanted to see more activities that involved interaction and not as much lecture. With the recent decisions made by the SAF committee it is unknown as to whether or not every member of the committee is listening to the voice of the student.

A campus is always evolving. With the growth of a large freshman class PSH will be undergoing rapid changes over the next few semesters alone.

The student body can lead the direction of this change only if they use their voices and make them heard. It doesn't take an entire club or organization to enact changes. It takes only one strong voice to lead a cause. Make your voice heard.

PSU Idols rock the stage

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The highly anticipated *Penn State Idol*, a spoof on *American Idol*, was featured February 1 in Stacks Market.

The heavily advertised event was one part karaoke, one part karaoke, and two parts entertaining. "It was Penn State Harrisburg's very own karaoke night, minus the bar," said sophomore Jim Dougherty.

Doors opened at 9 p.m., though the singing didn't actually start until 9:30 and continued until 11:45. Co-sponsored by THON Committee and Circle K, *Penn State Idol* was primarily a fundraiser for THON.

All money raised goes up to University Park to assist the Four Diamonds Fund.

The mission of the Four Diamonds is to assist families that have children with cancer by providing them aid in ways that insurance companies do not.

The Four Diamonds have helped nearly 2,000 families since 1972, and PSH has become heavily involved in helping the Four Diamonds help more.

"*Penn State Idol* was a great way to get together, have fun, and raise money for THON," said Sheri



The largest attendance to an on-campus event this semester so far was Feb. 1 where students came to enjoy Penn State's version of American Idol.

Espenshape, sophomore. "After all, it is for the children."

No Penn State Idol could be complete without an amazing panel of judges, and this one was no different.

The judges for this evening were Rodney Horton, former SGA president and current Middletown councilman, as Randy Jackson, Melinda Logan, staff assistant for Student Activities, as Paula Abdul, and Nicole Duffy, coordinator of Student Activities and International

Affairs, as Simon Cowell with Dr. Felicia Brown-Haywood, director of Student Affairs, as a guest judge.

Logan dressed as Lakers' Paula style, complete with pom pom, and Duffy was sporting Uggs and a tiara, because as Duffy once commented, "If Simon was a girl, he would wear a tiara." Matthew Mahoney, Senate Leader for SGA and member of XGI, played host Ryan Seacrest. Samantha Lewis, sophomore, said, "All of the actors did a great job." Decorations of streamers and music

notes hung from the ceiling while blue and white balloons were taped around the room. Karaoke company Mr. "B" Entertainment hosted the karaoke, or actually, videoke, portion of the event.

Each performance was recorded onto a videocassette for students to take home as a free souvenir. Dougherty said, "It was a well-planned, carefully executed event."

Aside from collecting just donations, two raffle drawings took place to help raise money: an iPod Shuffle raffle and a 50/50 raffle that amounted to \$40.

Tickets for the raffles were sold one chance for \$1 or three chances for \$2. Both winning tickets were announced around 11 p.m.

The winner of the iPod Shuffle was Lindsay Fauth and the winner of \$40 was Rachel Mahan. Bottled water, candy and lollipops were also sold. Numerous students showed up to the event emptying out both their hearts

and their pockets raising over \$340.

Throughout the night, over 21 songs were sung from over 30 different students including "I Will Survive," "Hakuna Matata," "Save a Horse, Ride a Cowboy," and "Here for the Party."

On *American Idol* duets are frowned upon by the judges, nonetheless, duets appeared to be a popular choice among *Penn State Idol*'s contestants. "There was times where I almost cried," said Espenshape. "Either from the really good singers or the ones where I wanted to rip my ears off."

Drew Selleti, the first performer of the night, looked a little shocked when his name was announced. Yet after tons of coaxing from the audience he finally took to the stage and sang "My Heart Will Go On." Duffy's remarks at the end of his performance said, "You should have stayed in your seat." Selleti seemed to have agreed.

There were a number of stand out performances. Steve O'Holla who sang "Livin' La Vida Loca," started out wearing a tie and a button-up shirt, however, by the end of the song, the tie was gone and the shirt was flying in the air. Even Mahoney Seacrest sang a few songs, however, one student said, "Matt Mahoney Seacrest did a good job, but should stick to announcing."

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