Vol. 46 No. 11

INSIDE YOUR PRIDE

Sift through the stacks to learn about Stacks

Melvin Blumberg



By RABYIA AHMED Staff Reporter RZA109@PSU.EDU

While working at Ultronic Systems Corporation in New Jersey as the systems engineer, Melvin Blumberg noticed that he spent more time teaching his students in college than at work. That was his turning point.

"I was interested more in teaching college algebra than I was in working at my other job," said Blumberg, professor in management who has been teaching since 1969.

He was the first of his six siblings to attend college at age 30. His parents did not complete high school, so they were proud of their directly middle son. It was through college that he learned his passion of people and teaching.

Teaching, said Blumberg is a life-worthy experience. He said he looks at students sometimes and knows that they will make a difference in the world and "become something."

"It's nice to be able to say that I helped that person after they've become successful," he said. "What a joy!," he said with excitement filling his voice.

Blumberg made it very apparent that he loves and respects his students. He is amazed at how dedicated students are.

"Many have families, two jobs and are in school full-time," he said. "I really don't know how they do it."

He even sympathizes for his students when they do not perform well on exams. He said that he does not like giving bad grades because it upsets them and therefore upsets him, too.

On the other hand, of his colleagues, he said that it is exciting to work with "such smart people" because they motivate him.

"They are constantly looking for ways to improve the world for themselves and others," he said. "They're just on a growth path, striving to improve their potential and I really admire that," he added.

When he worked in the army for three years, it taught him an aspect of the world he had never seen before. His task was to check radars on computers for guided missiles. This taught him not only how missiles behave but also how those guiding the missiles behave. Please see **BLUMBERG** on Page 5

Staff Reporter DMD5145@PSU.EDU

By **DIANA DIETZ**

Before Stacks Market and Biscotti's Coffee Bar opened in the fall of 2004, Penn State Harrisburg students and staff ate meals in The Lions Den, a small dark dining hall with no windows, in the basement of the Olmsted building.

"There was at one time no place for students, commuters, and residents to mingle and congregate," said JoAnn Coleman, Director of Housing and Food Services, Stacks and Biscotti's are located on the first floor of the Olmsted building, formerly the location of the library. "When the library moved out, this was prime property," said Coleman. There were 14 different departments vying for this property, she said. Greg Schiavoni, Assistant Director of Housing and Food Services, said Stacks and Biscotti's were in the planning stages for a long time. Schiavoni formed focus groups to find out what students wanted with the new renovations. He said students really wanted a place to hang out and relax.

Architects designed Stacks and Biscotti's to have exposed ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows, which supply an abundant light

source to the dining hall as well as various views of the campus, including the new library. Stacks, which can seat about 300 people, features lounge areas with couches, two large flat-screened plasma TV's and a "banana" bar, which supplies ports for students to plug-in their computers, if needed. A performance stage

screen TV is also located in Stacks, Coleman said the stage is used for sport and national events as well as presentations.

with a projection

In 2006, an outdoor extension to Stacks was added which features a patio area with tables and chairs for students. Within the next few months, there will be a doorway built leading to the outside patio. Schiavoni said when the weather

about what people discard every

communications major in

there, but it builds."

day," said Dan Honeggar, a senior

Welsh's class. "A couple people

used their class time to collect the

butts from in front of the Olmsted

doors. They wore gloves to pick up

the butts. According to Honeggar,

throw their [cigarette] butts here and

The seven students in Welsh's class

is nicer; they may move a grill

outside and cook for students. Stacks Market features a gas-fired brick pizza oven that's used to fresh pizza make everyday.

"We are the

ones

all of Penn

variety of drink selections are available, including juices, energy drinks, and a fountain-soda station featuring Pepsi products. prepared staff and

and specialties, fresh sandwiches,

desserts and many other grab-and-

go items. Schiavoni said they offer

over 40 new entrees. Low-fat and

vegetarian meals are also served

daily. "We are looking at healthier

eating," said Schiavoni, A

soups, salads, daily specials,

lunch and dinner, Monday through Biscotti's Coffee Bar, located

near the entrance of the Olmsted building, offers a variety of hot and cold beverages, desserts and snacks. Biscotti's serves an assortment of specialty coffees, stash teas, biscotti, cookies, muffins, scones, bagels and many other graband-go items. A feature of Biscotti's is the homemade biscotti. "We have over 14 different flavors," said

Please see FRESH LOOK on Page 4

"What? You mean to tell me you

can't walk 10 feet to the ashtray?"

asked Anspach. "That just shows

By KATIE GOODRICH Staff Reporter All food is KJG116@PSU.EDU daily by a professional Students read books in the library and eat lunch at Stacks, but few is available of them know they are eating their for breakfast, lunch in what used to be the library. "That's where the name Stacks came from," said Dr. Gregory

Learn

about the

big house

of books

Crawford, director of the library. For twenty years, Penn State Harrisburg tried to get a new library. New books couldn't be shelved because there was no room. "We were stuffed," said Crawford. "There were books stacked on windowsills and cabinets.

On Governor Robert Casev's last day in office, he approved the design for the new library, but on Governor Tom Ridge's first day in office the design plan was frozen.

Finally, construction of the library began in August of 1998 and was completed Nov. 29 1999. Books, computers, furniture and library personnel were moved into the new library over Winter Break. The library was ready for students on the first day of Spring Semester

The formal dedication ceremony was March 16, 2000, Penn State President Graham Spanier attended. along with the University Board of Trustees, state government leaders, area librarians, faculty, staff, students and community leaders.

The bright and airy library is considered medium-sized with 275,000 volumes, 1,430 journal subscriptions and 300 databases. There are also 404 "mobile" ports with network and power access for laptop computers. The mobile ports allow students to use print and

electronic resources simultaneously. The first floor of the library is home to the CyberCafe and the Morrison Gallery, a wired art gallery reception hall. The Morrison Gallery has been used for exhibits, receptions, student recruitment events, professional conferences and student poster sessions. The Morrison Gallery has its own entrance, rest room and food facilities, so it can be used even when the library is closed.

The first floor also serves as a communication area with the reference, circulation reserve and interlibrary loan desks all located here. There are 31 workstations, as well as laser printers, copiers and tables with seating for students. The library instruction lab has 41 computers and an advanced projection and sound system, also located on the first floor.

The periodicals and service desk are located on the second floor of the library. This has proven to be a popular area for research with six wired group study rooms and a variety of seating.

On the third floor is the remainder of Please see LIBRARY on Page 4

Graphic class makes colorful statement

By JORDAN WISKEMANN Assistant Editor JLW 1062@PSU_EDU

Penn State Harrisburg students will soon see orange eigarette butts stuck in the ground in front of the Olmsted building starting Tuesday, May 1. Professor Craig Welsh's Advanced Graphic Design class put them there. "The belief is that visual design

alone can really affect behavior, said Welsh. "We want to see if the cigarette butts get interpreted differently by people seeing them differently. Welsh explained that his class painted the butts orange

to make them more obvious. He said that when the eigarettes stand out more visually people have to deal with them because they no longer blend in with the ground. Welsh originally

asked his class to collect trash. One of the

students had a cigarette butt in their trash, which inspired the class to focus on one thing.

"We wanted to create awareness

the cigarettes were wet because it had been raining. The class let the eigarettes dry and spray painted them orange. They cut wires and

Photos by DAN HONEGGAR/ Capital Times

tied them around the butts so they could stick the wires in the ground to elevate them.

State to get one," said Schiavoni.

menu of food choices including

a pizza station, grilled burgers

The food court offers an extensive

"Every exit of Olmsted you walk



laziness."

out of, there are eigarette butts everywhere," said Honeggar. "We picked orange and decided to raise them off the ground to draw people's attention to them."

The class found 365 eigarette butts out front of Olmsted in one day. Honeggar thinks their collection is now over 600. They found the most butts on the sidewalk, under bushes and around the mailboxes. PSH provides ashtrays outside of building exits.

"It's odd," Welsh said. "There are 600 eigarette butts in front of our campus' main building. We want to create communication through visual discussion and commentary."

Bobby Anspach, a junior communications major in the class, stands outside with his friends who smoke and says they just flick their eigarettes when they're finished smoking.

Anspach said the campaign is not an anti-smoking statement. It is a statement to clean up after yourself. The class started picking up the butts on Earth Day. Welsh said the class would like to keep their

orange eigarette butts displayed in front of Olmsted for about a week. "Realistically, it's the end of the semester and I don't think this will change peoples' behavior," Welsh said, "but we want to stimulate

discussion." According to Anspach, the class chose to stick the butts in front of Olmsted because more people are likely to see them. He hopes that the campaign is successful and he sees less eigarette butts lying around.

"I'm excited," Anspach said, "and I really hope that at least while our bright orange eigarettes are out there, people will think twice before flicking their butts on the ground."

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