

CLUB NEWS

SGA Update

By **JORDAN WISKEMANN**
Assistant Editor
JW11062@PSU.EDU

The Student Government Association officially swore a new executive board and new senators into office.

During the New Business portion of the SGA agenda, former President Ariel O'Malley and former Vice President Augie Bravo talked about how the new SGA president, Marques Stewart, may have cheated during the election.

Stewart used the Black Student Union list serve on Angel to encourage people to vote and promote his own campaign. The BSU acting advisor, Damaris Snyder, had another list serve embedded in the BSU list serve. Candidates are allowed to campaign over their own club's list serve, but because Snyder's list was embedded in the BSU list serve, Stewart's campaign promotions reached people outside of his own club. O'Malley and Bravo said that it was unfair of Stewart to have access to an advisor's list serve.

O'Malley and Bravo told the senate to vote on whether the election was fair after discussing the new information about Stewart. Every senator voted that the election was fair and Stewart was the rightful president except Senate Leader Drew Selliti.

Along with Stewart, Sahar Safae was inducted as SGA vice president, Stephen Williams was inducted as the new Chief of Staff and Kristine Gillead was inducted as Community Liason. The senators inducted include Bharat Goel, Nathaniel Hezekiah, Joseph Marks, Joseph Richardson, Oliver Eisler, Kervens Dorcely, Acacia Bellamy, Jimmy Brown, Charmaine Edmonds, Dustin Höller, Lee Samuelson, Micha Victoria and Maleek Muray.

Vice President Safae said the new SGA will do wonderful things.

"We have such a diverse executive board and senate," Safae said. "There will be so many different opinions and backgrounds, and everyone will have something to say."

Safae said that a major change she and Stewart have already planned for the SGA involves changing the way clubs have to attend meetings, which will make it much easier for club representatives to participate in the SGA.

The SGA also plans to become more involved with alumni, advisors and professors. Safae said they want more opinions and ideas from everyone on the campus.

Stewart said he plans to make the SGA more welcoming to students.

Also in the meeting, the new senate elected Höller as the new senate leader. The other candidates for the position were Richardson and Dorcely.

Then the SGA allocated money to clean the lion suit. Samuelson motioned for Kappa Sigma to receive \$2,000 for pins, literature and other expenses. President Stewart said that the senate wasn't required to give Kappa Sigma the full amount, and could consider allotting a smaller amount if they wanted.

At the April 25 meeting, two more senators were appointed. The senate inducted both Phoebe West of the Division of Undergraduate Studies and Jacob Farneth of the school of Engineering, Science and Technology. Former senator Arne Stefanon, who resigned from the senate in the Fall semester, was appointed Court Justice.

Rites of Spring makes the campus come alive

Even though inclement weather threatened the events, Rites of Spring 2007 was a hit

By **MARIN BENDORITIS**
Layout Editor
MAB5338@PSU.EDU

It has been said that there is nothing to do at Penn State Harrisburg. So, two years ago, the Student Government Association decided to bring back Rites of Spring to the campus. A week worth of events ranging from a carnival to Earth Day, sponsored by the Student Activities Fund, were brought to campus in order to give students something to do, and time to relax.

Due to inclement weather, the week that was originally scheduled to take place April 16-20, was pushed to the week of April 23. Weeks of planning could not have accounted for a sudden week of rainstorms. But according to Ariel O'Malley, former SGA President, it was not hard to

reschedule all of the events.

Even with the postponement due to the weather, Rites of Spring was a success. Earth Day, which took place on Thursday the 19th, was the most attended, and most anticipated event.

Because of the success and tradition of the bathtub races in the years past, students turned out to watch XGI defend their title as champions, in a thrilling and close finish. Hosted by the office of Alumni, the winning team was promised a spot in history and their name on the bathtub-shaped trophy. Many teams competed,

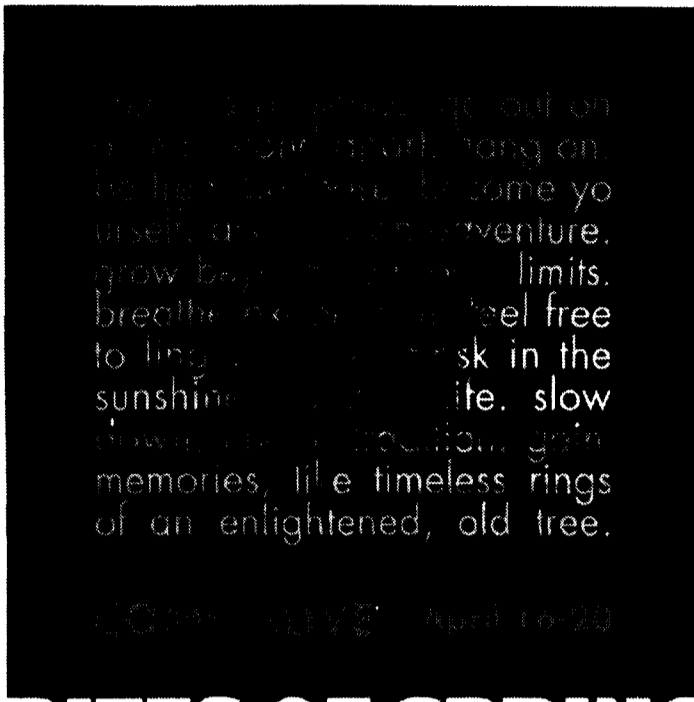


Photo courtesy of **KRISTEN POOLE**



Photo courtesy of **DR. SAMUEL WINCH**

The bathtub races, a tradition at PSH, was won for the fourth year in a row by XGI.

Penn State Firsts

From **Penn State University**

Penn State was the first American institution of higher education to...

Award baccalaureate and graduate degrees in agriculture (in 1861 and 1863, respectively).

Offer correspondence courses in agriculture (1892), which other colleges and universities later used as a model for their instruction-by-mail programs in a wide variety of subjects.

Establish collegiate-level instruction in ice cream manufacture (1892), a program that has helped make the University an internationally recognized center for research in frozen confections. Creamery: First in Ice Cream Manufacture

Initiate a comprehensive, industry-backed mushroom research program (1920s). It developed improved composts and growing practices that were adopted worldwide.

Introduce a baccalaureate degree program in industrial engineering (1909).

Organize permanent, collegiate-level extension programs in engineering (1912), which came to set the standard for this type of technical instruction nationwide.

Establish the nation's first baccalaureate curriculum in fuel science (1932).

Receive a federal license to operate (1955) a nuclear reactor capable of reaching criticality (that is, the point where nuclear fission occurs), thus becoming a pioneer in the research

of peaceful applications for atomic energy.

Offer an interdisciplinary curriculum in solid state technology (1960).

Organize the nation's first interdisciplinary program of studies in science, technology, and society (1969), prompting similar integrative programs at other universities.

Create, in its College of Medicine, a department of family medicine (1967) and a full-fledged residency program in family medicine (1970), initiatives that helped to pave the way for the resurgence of the "family doctor."

Found a graduate program (1970) for Native Americans that focuses on strengthening their administrative and leadership skills so that they may return to their tribal communities as role models.

Establish a bachelor's degree program in turfgrass science, preparing students for management careers with vegetation and lawn care firms, sports facilities, civil engineering consultants, and related businesses.

A team of researchers in the Colleges of Engineering and Medicine in 1976 developed the first surgically implantable, seam-free, pulsatile heart-assist pump to receive widespread clinical use, thus prolonging the lives of cardiovascular patients.

Chemistry professor Russell Marker in 1937 discovered the first practical synthesis of the pregnancy hormone progesterone. His research provided the foundation for such important medical applications as the birth control pill, cortisones, and hormone and steroid therapies.

including the Lion Ambassadors, IAA and the first faculty team brought to you by M&O.

Throughout Vartain Plaza, there were tables that featured environmentally friendly activities, such as flowerpot gardening and beekeeping.

Inside, there were displays of endangered animals, including an eagle.

Water conservation was also stressed, with displays of how to recycle gray water and information on the growing crisis.

Another favorite event was the Carnival which took place on Monday the 23rd. Students were greeted with carnival tents, bull riding, DDR, cotton candy, snow cones and rides as they walked around the plaza. Music filled the night, matched with the scent of funnel cakes, bringing a light hearted air to the campus.

"The coolest part of the carnival was that it was such a trip to the past," said O'Malley.

Students were seen enjoying the spring night while eating cotton candy, going on the rides or just conversing among each other.

The Spring Luau, which was moved inside on Tuesday the 17th, and planned by Student Activities, was a nice break from the cool weather. Although it may have been a little

overcast, the Gallery Lounge and Oliver LaGirone rooms looked nothing of the sort.

Palm trees and beach themes made the rooms seem like a paradise, giving the students a sense of relaxation in the midst of the most stressful time of the year. With sandwiches, picture key chains and festive drinks, students began looking forward to the summer months to come.

Students were seen sporting their lais around the halls, giving PSH the feeling of summer.

The following Tuesday brought the Defender Dome and rock climbing wall. Students were able to explore their adventurous side in a dodgeball-soccer style game in the Dome and challenge their fears and abilities on the rock wall.

The entire week was a relaxing one for Penn State Harrisburg. Festive events and beautiful spring weather inspired hope in the students that summer was right around the corner, after finals are over of course.

Although many students only remember Rites of Spring from the past year, Rites of Spring has been around longer than that. Last year, Ariel O'Malley, Augie Bravo and Mike Edwards worked fervently to bring the event back to campus after its disappearance.

This year, as SGA President and Vice President, Bravo and O'Malley decided to keep tradition alive and plan the week of events.

"People are already asking me what we're going to do next year," said O'Malley.

The Rites of Spring provided a fun and festive atmosphere for students and faculty alike, proving a break from the winter monotony, and some old fashion fun.

"I thought it was important to bring back Rites of Spring for the second year in a row because sometimes people get too caught up in the college part and forget to have fun," said O'Malley.

(((We are podcasting!)))



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AEO5002@PSU.EDU