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Happy Monday all! I hope you had a great past two weeks, as for me, I can't complain about them.

I've taken on a new attitude toward life in the recent weeks, one of tranquility and apathy. I used to be the kind of person who would freak out about small things, ask any of my writers who received numerous e-mails from me during the week regarding their articles. But as of late, either I've given up or just found a place of peace. I haven't given up all together on things, I'm still responsible and driven as ever, but if there's something out of my control, I rather not worry about it until the time comes.

Take for example the drama that is occurring with the SGA. It's no secret that our offices interact, and even though many students are expressing their opinions around the office, I usually just shrug and continue searching facebook. With all the stresses of college, work and just basic life, it's easy to lose sight of what is really important. It is easy to forget about the things that we used to enjoy. I'm not saying to give up on classes, but try to enjoy the little

things. You'll appreciate your free time more if you put it to good use. And it's easy to find free time though out the day. Take those 10 minutes between your classes to buy a snack, sit and people watch. Or even when you're walking down the hallway, sing an upbeat song in your head (may I recommend anything by Regina Spektor).

The coming winter months means that we'll be stuck in our places of residence a little more than in the spring and summer. Don't complain! Sit on your couch with a cup of coco or coffee and watch out the window. Turn off the tv, put an away message up turn your phone on vibrate in the other room; and just RELAX.

Speaking of winter, I would like to take up space by complaining about the recent weather. Yes, I am aware that there are four seasons in a year and winter means cold. But where did this come from?! Halloween was pretty warm still, and then BAM, it's about to snow. I like the snow, and I like the cold, but I don't deal well with a sudden change like this.

I've heard some students saying that it's not so cold and this is exepcted. People are talking about how when they were little, the snow would be up to their waists by now, well here's what I say to that: you were 3 feet tall!

But seriously, I should take some of my own advice and relax a little about the weather, it's something we can't change so just accept it, and be thankful for the fact that you know what snow looks like!

Although I'm a republican, I'm not a big fan of wars, as many believe. I'm fairly certain that I'm about to say something extremely idealistic, but if during a heated moment, we all took five minutes to breathe and think about the situation, history may turn out different. There's a song by country artist, Terri Clark called "I Think the World Needs a Drink", of which the chorus states, "Tear up the contracts and save the ink, I think the world needs a drink." I do not in any form condone drinking to release stress or find a calm place, the purpose of these lyrics are to show how a little break can change the course of history.

It's easy to let little things get the best of our patience. A long line at the grocery store, or that person who doesn't realize that the light has in fact turned green may ruin our day, but you shouldn't let that happen. Take a deep breath and enjoy those few minutes or seconds of not doing anything. Read the magazine headlines, actually look around at the scenery during a traffic jam, or just watch the people around you.

If you don't want to stare at a wall and have a mild case of ADD like I do, play some video games, may I recommend the nintendo Wii? A relaxing game of Wii tennis can be just the trick. Come and stop by the Capital Times office, (E-126) and play ours if you don't have your own! (note: you may wind up not leaving like most of the people here)

Relaxing and finding peace in your life doesn't mean that you have to go to a spa or become a Buddhist. It doesn't mean that you have to give up totally or grow lax on your responsibility. It can mean listening to your favorite band while writing a paper and taking a two minute dance break to relieve tension. It can mean talking a solo walk right after a heated conversation to clear your head so you don't act on pure emotion.

Marin Alice

# From the barstool

By MARUJA ROSARIO Assistant Editor MXR300@PSU.EDU

I take my perch on my favorite stool in the bar, the one right by the bartender's corner, where they smoke their cigarettes; drink their waters and bullshit about life with the person on that particular stool. Listening and watching my two favorite bartenders, I learned a lot this particular night. One bartender lived in North Carolina forever and owned his own bar, something he was proud of for a long time. A former Marine, he moved back to Pennsylvania to take care of his sick family. He loves the Dallas Cowboys with every fiber in his body, though his knowledge of sports in general is surpassed by no

one I know. He is quick with a dirty joke, and quick to notice if someone is not feeling like him or herself. As soon as I walk in, he knows what I want to drink, and if I ask for a shot, I don't need to specify which one; a shot of Jager magically appears before me. He's friendly and caring and generally that bartender that you feel you can share your life story with and not be judged about it.

The other bartender is the direct opposite. Whereas he likes to listen and remain mellow, she has the heart of a spitfire. She has absolutely no problem telling an unruly guest where to go or kicking someone out of her bar for life. She is an absolute sarcastic bitch whom, if someone does not know how to take her, can really piss them off.

My most recent incident with her involved her forcing a friend to make a decision between his beer and our pizza. He chose the beer, so she danced around merrily because she did not have to make the pizza. The average customer would have been angry had they not known how she works, but I just waited patiently for her to come around again and ask me what I want on my pizza.

But for all the rumors that she is probably Satan reincarnate, she is one of the nicest people I have ever met. She has a son she adores to death, and the most recent story I heard involved her making two crock pots of chili on trick or treat night and spending the night with her son, her boyfriend, and loads of old friends. She listens to people as much as she talks to them, and she always knows how to make her friends laugh until they can barely breathe.

As I listen to these bartenders recount stories of both times gone by and the pretty recent present, I cannot help but recognize that it is the bartender that makes the bar. It is not the drinks, for you can get them anywhere. It may or may not be the crowd, depends on the night. But the reason people call a bar their home is because of the bartender. The bartender is the one that is going to keep you coming back, because you like their jokes or their stories or just the way they handle people.

So do me a favor. Get to know your bartender. Tip your bartender well because a happy bartender is a happy bar. Listen to their stories and share some of your own. You might find that your kindness may be returned to you in the form of well given advice that just might save the day.

Drive safe, be safe. See ya later.



10/24/07: Alarm activation: PSS responded for active fire alarm. Alarm was accidentally set off by vibration from drums. Alarm reset.

10/26/07: Community education: pso re-arranged chairs from front of "empty table" set-up for better viewing.

10/26/07: Parking: pso ticketed vehicle parked in wheelchair only parking.

10/26/07: Warrant service: pso's served warrant on student for failure to pay traffic fines.

10/26/07: Assist outside agency: middletown pd requested assistance with locating man with gun. Unfounded. suspect vehicle.

10/27/07: Assist outside agency: Lower Swatara PD requested assistance with EMS for combative diabetic. Assisted holding patient while EMS administered treatment.

10/28/07: Disorderly conduct: PSO observed vehicle covered in plastic wrap with sign that read "wrap it before you tap it".

10/28/07: Key service: PSO opened sga office for members

10/28/07: Key service: locked SGA office after members were finished working

10/31/07: Disabled vehicle: PSS transported student to gas station to get gas for vehicle that ran out of gas

11/01/07: Assist: PSO retrieved 11 traffic cones for use on o street.

11/01/07: Act 64: caller reported finding small bag of marijuana in room E330. PSO confiscated it and completed property report

11/02/07: Suspicious incident: report taken, damage to wall in stacks market

11/03/07: Underage drinking: three (3) students possible alcohol

## **Kav** people.

#### 36-Hour Forecast

Details	Video	Text	Averages
<u>Today</u>	Tor	night	Tomorrow
Watch for Wet Turf	:		Watch for Wet Turf
Showers 43° F	Rain / Snow	<sup>Low</sup> 36° F	Showers High
Precip: 50%	Precip:	70%	Precip: 60%
Considerable cloudiness with occasional rain showers. High 43F. Winds SE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 50%.	of rain an	pitation a mixture d snow . Low 36F. E at 5 to Chance of	Showers early becoming less numerous later in the day. High 43F. Winds N at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 60%.

### We're cold.

The Capital Times seeks	CORRECTIONS:	THE CAPITAL TIMES
to provide complete, cor- rect information. Any neces- sary corrections, comments or critiques are wanted and	In the smoking follow-up article: Students speak	We are currently looking to fill the following positions:
welcome. Please stop by The Capi- tal Times office (E126), e- mail captimes@psu.edu,	out against ban, the Chancellor was incor- rectly credited to stating that there would be no cessation programs.	Advertising Manager Photographers
drop a suggestion in the box outside the office or call the office at 948-6440.		Reporters
Any corrections should be reported no later than a week after the paper is printed.		If interested, please contact us at 948-6440 or captimes@psu.edu

10/26/07: Security detail: pso provided security for dance.

10/27/07: Key service: pso opened radio station and sga office for students to return equipment used for dance.

10/27/07: Assist outside agency: Lower Swatara requested assistance for check of campus for bank robbery 10/30/07: Key service: report of handicapped door not opening. PSO unlocked doors.

10/30/07: Suspicious vehicle: caller reported vehicle driving in circles in lot. PSO located vehicle/all okay local person teaching friend to drive stick shift.

10/31/07: Personal escort: provided escort from building to parking lot for faculty member.

overdose in capital village building 6000.

Transported by ems to hospital.

11/03/07: Health and Safety: Sherwin checked on unattended 9-yr old child in vehicle

11/04/07: Driving complaint: careless driver located

11/04/07: Suspicious person: older male w/dog questioned

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