

# The Capital Times

## NEWS

EDITOR IN CHIEF Diana Le  
 ASSISTANT EDITOR Marin Alice  
 LAYOUT EDITORS Benjamin Branstetter  
 Kelsie White  
 COPY EDITOR Marty Santalucia

STAFF WRITERS Rabyia Ahmed  
 Josseline Carbonare  
 James Couche  
 Jenna Denoyelles  
 Morgan Dysinger  
 Jade Herbst  
 Janelle Howell  
 Wills King  
 Allison Mills  
 Phil Narsh  
 James Speed  
 Chris Varmecky

CARTOONISTS Phil Narsh  
 Mike Pierce

## BUSINESS

BUSINESS MANAGER Ashaka Patel

The Capital Times is published biweekly by the students of Penn State Harrisburg and is funded with Student Activity Fee money. Viewpoints are solely those of the authors and are not representative of the college administration, faculty or student body.

## Join Us

The Capital Times is always looking for students to fill writing and photography positions. Necessary training is provided and opportunities for advancement are available.

Interested students should stop by The Capital Times office at E-126, call 717-948-6440 or e-mail [captimes@psu.edu](mailto:captimes@psu.edu).

## Buy Ad Space

To buy advertisement space in The Capital Times, please contact Business manager Ashaka Patel at [AXP5014@PSU.EDU](mailto:AXP5014@PSU.EDU).

Available advertisement sizes, prices and printing dates will be provided. Penn State Harrisburg clubs, organizations and services are eligible for discounts.

## editor's comments

Student newspapers are a different breed of media.

The students working on the paper are only beginning their journalism careers and lack the knowledge and experience gained through real world experience. Our network and resources are comparably smaller, but with the ambition from having little to lose and a lot to gain achieving the big story is far from impossible.

Unlike professional media outlets, student newspapers are not protected so much by laws and constitutional rights such as the First Amendment. Though some may be completely independent, many are still subject to university policies.

Another area in which student newspapers differ from other media is the camaraderie – which can be a hard find in the competitive journalism industry.

Really, the paper wouldn't be what it is without the contribution of each of its writers and photographers, and the team of self-starting editors that get the final product to the printer. But it's not all work in the newspaper office. We work hard and we play hard. We don't really have office hours. We spend long days, and nights on occasion, trying to make our next issue better. Having a great team to work with makes all the difference.

I officially accepted the promotion to Editor in Chief upon returning from winter break. Marin, then Editor in Chief, trained me throughout the semester in everything I would become responsible for. By the end of the year, I had my team of editors lined up and hired an amazing business manager.

Marin, unofficially The Capital Times's guru, was stepping down to become my assistant editor. We couldn't be more different when it came to running and handling the paper, but that's why we make a great team. Her strengths as a leader are my weaknesses, and my strengths are her weaknesses. Combined with a passion for journalism and the sense to consult each other on major decisions, our

complimentary skills made us the perfect partners in crime.

Ben wrote one article and then maybe another, but found his niche as a layout editor. He stayed and somehow grew to tolerate the staff, demands of a layout editor as well as a new nickname he'd rather not have published. Whereas I can be too serious at times and Marin can be too careless, Ben strikes that perfect balance, often with a hint of sarcasm. Sometimes even getting into arguments with Marin when she was Editor, he isn't afraid to speak up and tell it like it is.

Kelsie is the newest. She wrote an article or two in the Fall 2007 semester, but became too busy to continue writing. I later ran into her in the spring semester in a journalism class and that's when I decided I really wanted her to come back as one of our editors. She had the traits I wanted in my editors: smart, eager, dependable, responsible, capable of doing the job well and like the Army brat she described she was in our philosophy class, able to take directions as well as give them.

Marty used to be our political commentary writer. Once a copy editor, I loved that I hardly had to make corrections to his articles. Though I've done well, I envied his writing skills, so it was no surprise how ecstatic I was when he came into the office and asked about a promotion to copy editor. It was the case where the best man for the job just happened to be under our noses.

Ashaka is an incredible business manager. The accounting and finance double major responded to a Capital Times e-mail sent out to students in the School of Business Administration. She was hired in Spring 2008 to start working in the Fall 2008 semester. Instead, she immediately started selling ads and has been doing great work. I cannot ask for more from her.

There also are the staffers who hang out in The Capital Times office. With them and the editors around, the long days aren't so bad.

We actually have tons of fun "working" on the paper. Some of our best college memories are with the newspaper staff and some of our hardest laughs were in the office.

If we've been cooped up in the office working too long and too hard, we go on adventures. Often they're to Tropical Smoothie.

Once it was to a random house with a free couch on the lawn. (We thought it would make a nice addition to the office furniture.) Marin, Ben and I had a heck of a time. A rusty metal rod in what apparently was a sofa bed fell apart as we tried pulling, pushing and shoving the couch into the trunk of Marin's GMC Envoy with no plan as to how it would fit. Poor Ben was left holding up half of the couch while Marin and I were yelling at each other, trying to get the back seats to go down further.

The couch didn't fit. We quickly hauled it back to the lawn, left it facing backwards, hopped into Marin's car and took off laughing at our crazy idea.

I could go on about all of our adventures, but the point is they aren't just writers, photographers and editors, but they're some of the best friends you'll ever have. Between the friendships developed among the staff and the traditions passed on from editor to editor throughout the years of publication is passion and dedication to the paper so cherished, each of us would defend it and make sure it keeps printing.

-Diana

## Corrections and Comments

Correction: The photo published with the article "Tom Brady out for season" in Issue No. 1 on Sept. 10 was not of New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady. The photo was of New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees.

The Capital Times seeks to provide complete, correct and fair reporting. Any necessary corrections or comments are welcome and appreciated. Please call 717-948-6440 or e-mail [captimes@psu.edu](mailto:captimes@psu.edu).