

# The Fourth Wall Omnes vocem habent

Spring 2006

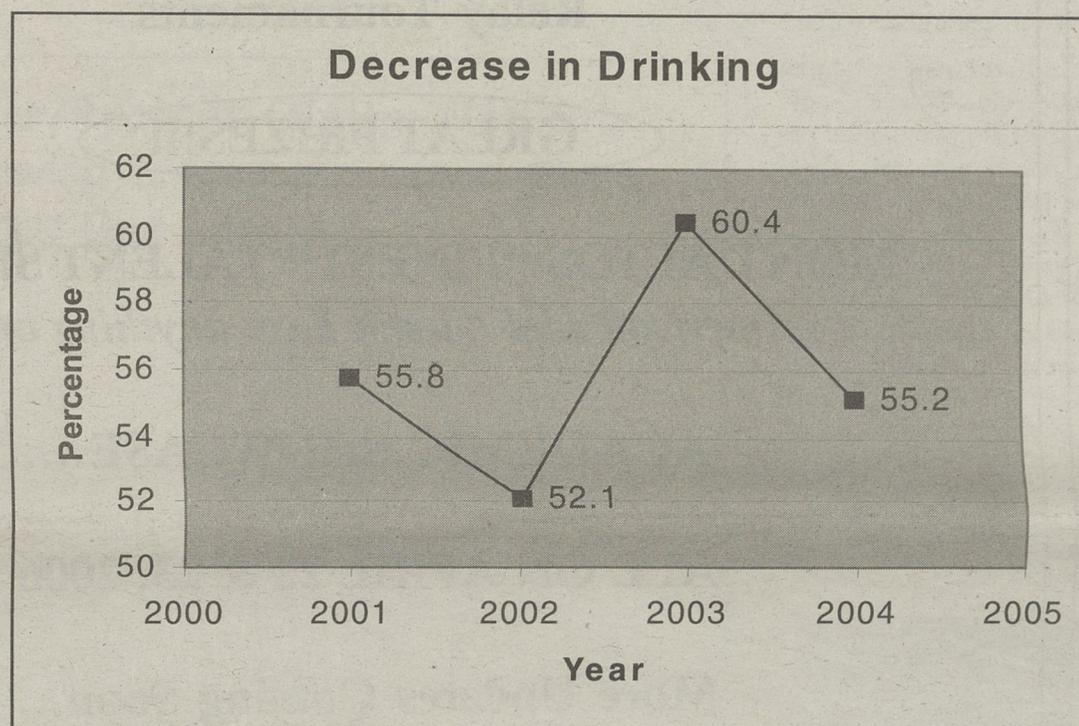
A Penn State Mont Alto Student Publication Vol. 2 Issue 5

## High Risk Drinking Decrease Among Penn State University Undergraduates

Bobby Casiano

A Penn State 2004 Survey reports a decrease in high risk drinking of undergraduate students. The high-risk drinking rate in 2004 was 55.2%, a decline from 60.4% in 2003. The percentage of "frequent high-risk drinkers, or students who reported having binged 3 or more times during a two week period, decreased slightly since 2003 but was still higher than what was reported in 2001 and 2002."

Mont Alto Freshman Melanie Prempeh says "it sounds really good to hear that there is a decrease in drinking but there is still a lot of peer pressure from people to drink." According to the survey, when asked about their perceptions of others drinking, students "overestimate the overall drinking at Penn State with



73.3% believing that most Penn State students typically consume 5 or more drinks

when partying" and "in comparison, 49.7% report that they consume 5 or more drinks when they party." Non-minority student, off campus residents, students of legal

drinking age, upper class students, and members of fraternities and sororities were more likely to be high-risk drinkers. Non-minority students (57.5%) were more likely than minority students (38.1%). Off campus residents (65.5%) were more likely than on campus student residents (44.4%). Students of legal drinking age (61.8%) were more likely than students under 21 (50.1%). Members of fraternities and sororities (76.8%) were more likely than non-members (52.0%).

The average numbers of drinks consumed when partying varied among these groups. For the non-Greek there was an average of 4.81, Greek, 6.24, 21 and older, 5.88, under 21, 4.34. Among off campus students 6.14 and on see *Drinking* page 3



SPRING IS HERE!

## Tuition & Fees: Where Does the Money Go?

Erica Panico

An anonymous Mont Alto Sophomore states "I am paying parking tickets, tuition continues to go up each year, and it's sad that Penn State threatens students to leave the university for \$50.00. I would like to see where my money is going."

Like the anonymous sophomore most students are worried and curious where their tuition is being allocated

to. In fact, all Penn State Mont Alto Students have to make a contribution each semester. Mont Alto's Director of Finance, Kenneth Gill states that "about 80% of the tuition bill is put towards the staff's salaries and wages" and "20% or less of the remaining money is put towards the utilities bills." A straight forward Gill stated that "the Mont Alto campus has a 40 year mortgage

with each dorm that is built." Mont Alto "borrows the money to build the dorms and sell their bonds on the stock market."

A portion of our money of that 20% goes toward paying off the interest of the bonds being sold. Non-Pennsylvania state residents must pay more, because Pennsylvania students

see *Tuition* page 3