

# Opinion & Review

## Editorials:

### 'Penn State' On The Check, But Not In The Heart

By James Foltz

How do you know that you're going to Penn State?

Excluding the sign which directs you off of 352 and the big fat bill which you have to pay every semester, how do you know that you are attending Penn State?

There are so few indicators on this campus which tell people that they are going to school at Penn State. For starters, the school colors are blue and white and they are barely used in the school. Except for the trash cans outside, the colors can rarely be found. Take a look and see for yourself.

The "shrine" of the Nittany Lion in the main student lounge and the mural in the cafeteria, are the only places you'll see the mascot in this school, unless of course, someone is wearing Penn State paraphernalia. That's another problem, I see more T-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, jackets and hats of other colleges than I see of Penn State. In fact, chances are that someone reading this article right now has on a Michigan shirt or hat, or a Notre Dame jacket.

College is supposed to be something different, something special. Going to Penn State should be different than going to another college, like West Chester, or DCCC. What separates this campus from any of the other campuses? What makes Penn State Delco different from going somewhere else?

We aren't Penn State students.

By name, yes. By heart, no.

If the sign on 352 were changed to another name, there would be no real change. It takes more than a sign and a couple of colors to make us true and proud Penn Staters.



Student Advisory Board members gathered in Dr. Tomezsko's office recently to offer input on the future of the campus. Clockwise left to right around the table — Rita Varano, V.P. of SGA; Bob Lewis, Adult Student; Allan McMillan, Keystone Society Pres.; Chuck McCarthy, Adult Student Organ. Pres.; Jodi DelRossi, SGA Pres.; Mike Schaffer, Nancy Murgueytio, Wanda Alvarado-Rodriguez, Zang Duong, Randy Lane.

Photo by: WES TOMLINSON

### A 'Modest Proposal' For Delco

By Martyna Sliwinska

Yes, our "snow men" did a wonderful job of making our campus accessible but in all that work something was forgotten. Specifically, the parking lots.

Because of the great piles of dirty, hardened snow, many of the parking spots are useless. Even the drifts on the grass around the parking lot are potentially dangerous. Pulling out of the parking space itself is risky, considering the limited visibility.

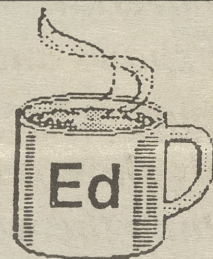
The enormous mountains of snow and ice block the view on the intersection of 352 and Yearsley Mill Road. It is practically impossible to see upcoming cars from either direction. Drivers are forced to guess and take their chances pulling out.

Either way, once you get through the parking lots and pass the snow mountains, you have huge potholes craving for your hubcaps. Especially the ones at the entrance/exit of the Delco campus, which are approximate to the size of the Grand Canyon.

Though the "snow men" cleared most of the snow away, certain spots seemed to be neglected. While the mountains of snow were unavoidable, the size of them could have been controlled. So maybe next time the snow plows are just putting around, the maintenance crew will feel the urge to clear the remaining snow filled parking spots.

## THE FRONT DESK

by Ed Tomezsko  
Campus Executive Officer



John, Tony, Leo, Terry, Jim, Kerry, Bernie - the snow men. We owe these folks a lot of thanks. Snow - the first few canceled classes were probably welcomed as relief from the work of learning. A few times, the snow men worked only to find their work undone by nature and needing to be redone before anyone knew they had done the job once already. They needed relief from the "work of work." Whatever the case, thank you snow men.

Work is an interesting experience. Sometimes I see us make great strides forward as a campus working together. Other times, I am very pleased to know that we didn't lose any ground working and, just so you know your life and my life are fairly similar, there are times when I work and do nothing.

Currently, we are working on generating ideas about the future of learning. What do you want to learn? Do you have any ideas? - about any subject, just an idea. When you get involved in brainstorming, it is possible to get taken to places where you don't want to go. People want to know what is going to happen when they do some work. People are comfortable with predictability. I know that I am, but every once in a while, I want to explore.

Creation comes from the unpredictable. When something happens that isn't supposed to happen, are we smart enough to recognize its value? I spent several days recently at Apple Computer looking at their new products. How about your finger becoming the mouse pointer? Wow! that is neat, no more pushing a ball, just point and touch. I saw an electronic conference demonstration - everyone in different locations, linked by a computer network which knew how to find the participants, schedule the meeting and call everyone involved to form the meeting. And, it hung every conference participant's picture on the screen. Really creative use of work.

At Apple, the engineers and other staff work when they want to work. Only a few work 8 to 5 jobs. Curiously, most work 10 or more hours a day. There are day people and there are night people. Dress code is comfortable and unstructured. And they love talking about their work which might entail writing a million lines of code. Pride showed.

Technology will affect the future of education. These creators and code writers build better ideas by talking about ideas. In all of our meetings, we asked a lot of questions about their products. My favorite question was, "Could I take that piece of technology home with me? BUT, and this is important, THEY ASKED A LOT OF QUESTIONS OF US. Is this product useful to Penn State? what do you want some unknown product to do for you? what do you want invented by us? if you were to build something technical, where would you start? My guess is that someday soon, I'll see some of the gadgets I want built into an Apple machine.

Here's the point. What do you want out of Penn State? Are we doing the job for you? If you could invent Penn State, what would it look like? How would it behave? Do you really need to come to campus to learn, or is there some other way to learn from Penn State? These are questions on creation, an exploration into the future.

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