

Campus Projects To Start Beginning Summer Semester

By Greg Bengston

Look for the start of four important projects on campus towards the end of spring semester and the beginning of the summer semester. All four projects will generate extensive activity on campus. Some temporary inconveniences should result in long-term improvements for students.

After months of delays, construction of the new Technology Classroom Building will begin. "Though there is no definite date set, we are looking towards June or July," said Diane Jankowski, Director, Business Services. "The project is expected to take twelve to sixteen months for completion."

In addition, University Park has approved funding for the summer relocation of the bookstore. The bookstore will relocate from the Commons Building to room 106 in the Main Building. The space in the Commons Building will be used for student activities and clubs. During the next month, planning for the relocation of offices currently in room 106 will be discussed by Delco

administration. "We will try to keep the services as convenient to the students as possible," said Mrs. Jankowski.

Also planned is the upgrading of the main parking lot lighting. The funding received from University Park for the enhancement of lighting in the main parking lot will not cover the cost of replacing already existing poles. However, with the money available, the existing poles will be upgraded in wattage. The request for the addition of new poles has been added to the Delco Major Maintenance List, which includes other projects to improve the campus. The list will be reviewed by University Park, and projects are given approval pending the availability of funds.

Finally, Project Vision, which involves a fibre-optic computer network, will be added to Delco in the near future. The intent is for every office and classroom to have access to the satellite and the Internet. "Right now we are limited because the only access to the satellite is from the library," added Mrs. Jankowski.

Engineering Club Looking For Egg-Dropping Contest Winner

By Bob Lewis

To most people, dropping eggs from a third floor window would be a fraternity house prank, but this is hardly the case on the Delco Campus. In fact, according to Dr. Arya Ebrahimpour, this is the brain-child of Bob Osborne, engineering major, and president of the Engineering Club.

The "egg dropping scenario" is part of an upcoming Engineering Club contest. The objective is to design an egg carrier that will withstand the impact of a three story drop without the egg breaking. The details of the contest can be obtained by contacting Bob Osborne or Dr. Ebrahimpour's office, room 203 main.

The design contest plays an important role in the engineering curriculum. "The first two years of the engineering curriculum are quite arduous and not as exciting as most students expect," explained Dr. Ebrahimpour. "The design phase does not occur until the third or fourth year of the program. This beginning segment is boring to most. Bob's design contests really help to hold the

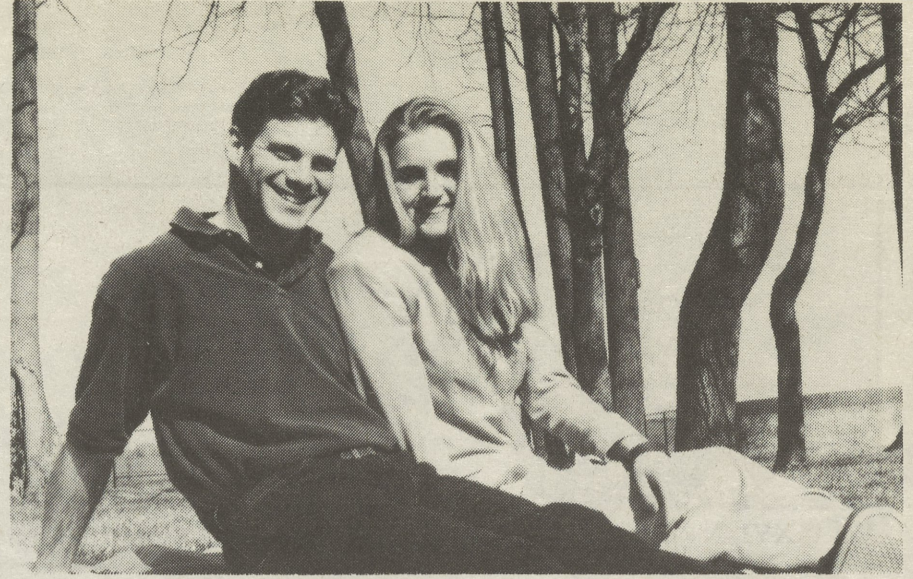
enthusiasm of the beginning engineering student."

The contest also helps to spark creativity. "Engineering, unlike some of the more abstract sciences, needs and requires a lot of creativity" Dr. Ebrahimpour said. The engineering club, the contests, and the projects really help to stimulate and bring out this creativity."

Bob Osborne agrees. "By using creative contests and projects the students themselves will be inspired."

The Engineering Club also has sponsored lectures by visiting engineers from diverse areas. Companies such as Boeing, DuPont, and Bell Labs have sent speakers.

Dr. Ebrahimpour concluded by saying, "Creativity in engineering cannot be taught, but must be stimulated, nudged and nursed to the surface. Contests, such as the egg dropping one go a long way in doing just that. "All members of our Delaware County Campus are encouraged to participate. Maybe there are engineers out there hiding, and we will discover some new talent," Dr. Ebrahimpour suggested.



Chris Murray, student and security officer, and junior Margot Karpathy enjoy a spring day at Delco.

Photo by: WES TOMLINSON

PSU Announces New Payment Plan For College Expenses

By Kia Walker

A new Pre - Payment Tuition Plan for Penn State students was announced on January 31, by Roseann Sieminski, Assistant Controller and Bursar of Penn State University. "Plans have been developed in response to growing interest on the part of students and their parents who seek a monthly payment option as a strategy for paying tuition, and room, and board charges each semester" said Ms. Sieminski, in reference to this new plan.

Penn State's Pre- Payment Tuition Plan is a very convenient way for students to pay for their college expenses. Payments are set up each month for the five months of the semester.

"This plan complements the other options that students and their parents have which are paying tuition in full payment, paying one third tuition and deferring the other two-thirds into the semester, and being eligible for a financial aid package" said Jeff Wirth, Director of Finance at Penn State Delco campus.

You might ask how this plan works. Here's the deal. The Pre-Payment Tuition Plan is the estimated amount owed (estimated tuition/fees and room and board costs, less any anticipated student aid) for the upcoming semester divided into five payments. The fifth payment will be billed separately and is based on actual semester expenses, actual student aid, and payments already made. The first four payments will be due as follows: 1). For the fall semester - March 5, April 5, May 5, and June 5, preceding

the beginning of the semester in August

2). For the spring semester - August 5, September 5, October 5, and November 5.

Any unpaid balance not paid during the Pre - Payment Plan period specified for the up coming semester must be paid by the semester bill due date. Students using the Pre - Payment Plan whose payments fall short of the total amount due for the semester, yet have paid at least one - third of the total, can apply the amount paid toward Penn State's Deferred Payment Plan. The unpaid balance can be

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deferred by two months once the semester has commenced.

All Penn State students are eligible to use the plan. Those interested, should give their name, address, and telephone number to Jeff Wirth room 105 in the main. An application will be sent out to their address. The application and enrollment in the program is free. There are no charges.

In answer to the question came up, "Can students who were at this campus last fall, but for financial reasons were unable to come back this spring semester be able to come back this up coming fall semester on the Pre - Payment Plan?" a "yes" was confirmed. The Bursar's office just needs that student's name, address, and telephone number so that an application can be sent out to the student.

Bookstore Moves, Changes Rules

By Greg Bengston

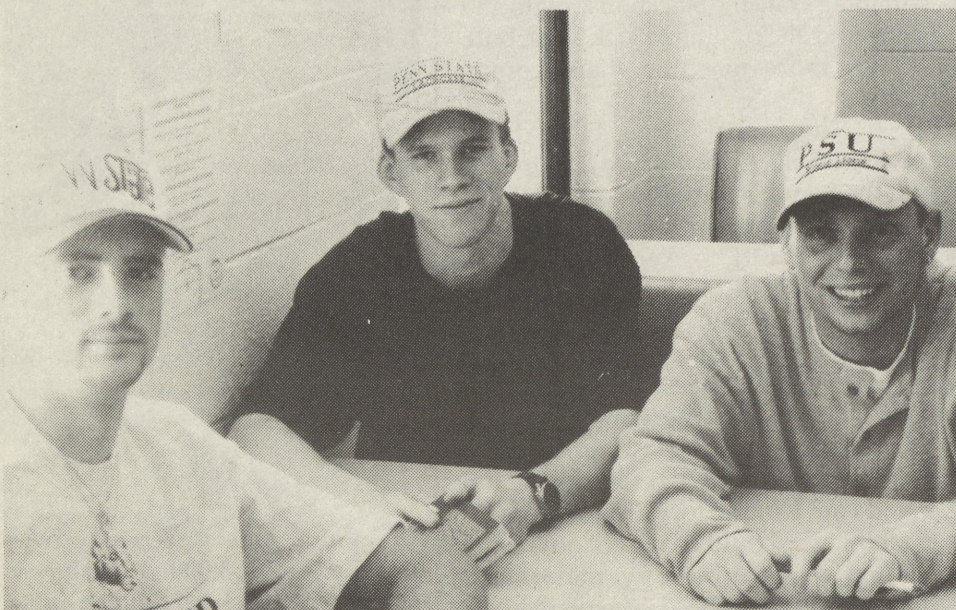
The Penn State Delco student bookstore recently expanded its inventory. "We have extended our line of software and we take special orders on software not in stock," said Marcus Parker, manager of the Delco bookstore.

"We have a new policy for returning books," added Parker, "Any books bought after the first two weeks of the semester can be returned within three days of purchase."

The bookstore has expanded its selection of snack items and added hardback copies of books on the *New York Times* Best-Sellers list.

Buy-back of semester books is scheduled for May 1 through May 6. "Students can sell their books back to the store at any time during the semester, but they will receive more money for their used books during this time," said Parker.

Mr. Parker commented on the rumor of the possible relocation of the store to room 106 Main. "We have not yet seen a proposal, but we do believe that the relocation will take place," he said. "It might not happen as soon as people think, but we are hoping the speculated summer move will take place because it will benefit the students."



Curt Bradley, Andrew Maggio and Shawn Macleod plan for the engineering contest.

Photo by: WES TOMLINSON