

## Educational Vacation . . . At Thames Valley Univ.

By Christina Papa

"I just want to take a vacation," says Dan Abbondi, 4th semester sociology and speech major.

Don't we all. Well, Dan is about to take a vacation, and he'll earn credits as the same time. On February 3, Dan will board a plane to London to spend the semester studying at Thames Valley University. He will live with five other people, having his own room and sharing a living room and kitchen. Studying abroad will only cost him airfare, spending money, and \$82 a week for room and board, in addition to regular tuition. The credits he takes at Thames Valley University are covered under Penn State tuition, and will count as Penn State credits.

When asked why he wanted to go to England, Dan responded jokingly, "I don't like the scones in America, so I'm going to England. And I also want to poke fun at the royal guards — the ones that aren't allowed to move."

Actually, Dan will be doing some

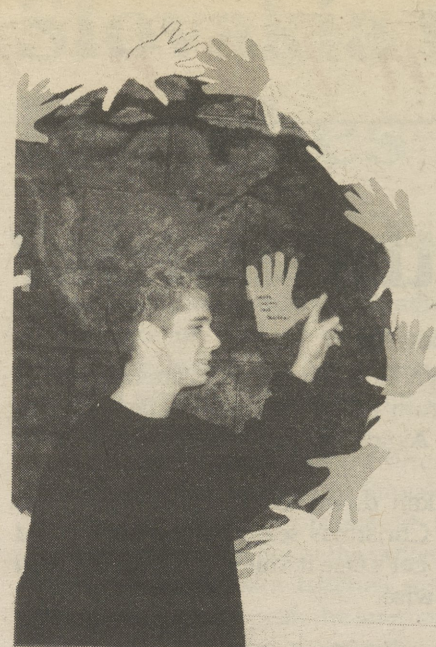
traveling while he's there, visiting Ireland, Amsterdam, and France. "I'm also going to get a cat from the SPCA there, and name it Dingo, you know, like the Australian dog," he said.

One unique class he will be taking at the University will be a wine-tasting class. By the end of the semester, he will be a certified wine-taster.

Dan will be returning to the States in the beginning of June, and plans to attend University Park in the fall.

The other Penn State Delco student who is spending her Spring semester in England is Tamara Truncellito, a fourth semester education major. She left the U.S. for London before Christmas, so she could spend the holidays with her family there. She will also be taking classes at Thames Valley University.

Any student instead in attending Thames Valley University for Spring 1998 should see John Terrell in room 312G, Main building.



Dan Abbondi (4th semester, Sociology) uses the new globe mural in the cafeteria to show where he will be spending his spring '97 semester.

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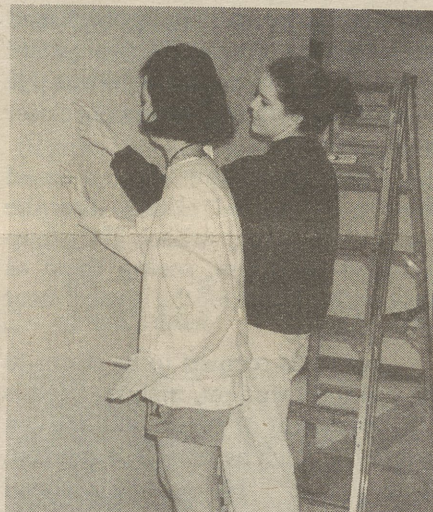
## Improvements Spruce Up Campus

By Teresa Buono and Christina Papa

Delco's physical plant got a new look over semester break as a variety of campus projects were completed.

Delco has been recycling for many years, but students recently used the campus to update and improve its program. Improvements include to incorporate more participation. Thirty newly painted 20 gallon trash bins labeled "glass" or "cans". These can be found in general areas. Additionally all trash bags now are clear, making the trash haulers job easier to distinguish recyclables. "Recycling is good for the environment," Diane Jankowski, Business Director, reminds the campus.

Paper and newspapers now may be recycled together. Receptacles are in classrooms and offices. The only thing non-recyclable is glossy magazines and materials. Delco has an agreement with the trash hauler to



Students Jen Diernbeur and Molly Dermody hard at work on the new graphic on the Main Building first floor wall.

separate recyclables and issue a record of the amount recycled at the end of the year. "We want everyone to actively participate in recycling," Kerry Wareham, Assistant to the Business Director.

Another project was the painting of the doors, frames, and walls in the main building hallways. Graphics were done by two students. Even the bulletin boards spark new interest and look great. Theresa Walls and Student Life helped to make it happen.

In the cafeteria, the kitchen area got a new larger capacity fryer. The cafe service area has also been redesigned to move people through more quickly.

A new gourmet menu has been added and includes: Cajun Blackened Chicken, Grilled Filet of Chicken, Mexican Vegetable Burger, and Turkey Carver. Gourmet salads are the Grilled Chicken Caesar, Pasta Primavera, and Tortellini Salad. Students are urged to head to the cafe and try eating something delicious and different.

Many rumors have been going around about the Technology Building that is supposed to be constructed on campus. Well, it is not just a rumor. The campus has offered an additional \$300,000 for construction, and once it is approved, it will be 6 months until construction begins — give or take a few months — depending on the decisions of the Department of General Services. Obviously, the building will not even be started before the end of the semester, but it may be under construction by the time the fall semester begins.

## Delco Clubs Fill February With a Variety of Programs

By B. Feick

February is a busy month on campus, filled with activities and programs sponsored by student government and student clubs.

In addition to the extensive Black History Month programming sponsored by the Black Student League (see related story on page 1), student clubs have planned the following programs.

**Monday, February 3:** Five students from the Service Corps attended a day-long conference at University Park on "Service Leadership '97", and three students (Otrina Bond, SGA Treasurer; Johanna Licciardello, Director of the Volunteer Service Center; and Sean Worthington, past Director of the Service Center) gave a presentation on "Running a Successful Volunteer Program", using

the summer '96 CLASP program for Chester children as an example.

**Monday, February 10, 12:30-1:20:** Petitions to run for SGA Office for the '97-'98 academic year are due during the regularly scheduled SGA meeting, Room 202 Commons. Campaigning begins the next day and continues until elections on March 3.

**Thursday, February 13, 12:30-1:20:** The Muslim Student Association and the Nittany Christian Fellowship sponsor an Inter-faith Dialogue for the entire campus. Representatives of all faiths are invited to take part, and the entire campus is welcome to the program.

**Saturday, February 22:** The SGA hosts a volleyball tournament at Delco co-sponsored by the Abington-Ogontz SGA. Campus teams are being recruited. See any SGA officer in the Lion's Den.

## Spring Break Panama City, FL Or Vernon, CT?

By Teresa Buono

Spring Break is approaching. Do you know what your plans are? The Communications Club is sponsoring a Spring Break Trip to Panama City Beach, Florida. For only \$249 you get motor coach transportation, 7 days and nights on the Gulf of Mexico, and high quality accommodations at the Best Western in Casa Loma. If you want to drive it's only \$149.

Daily side excursions are planned. The possibilities include Sea World, Disney World and New Orleans. MTV's Spring Break Coverage will be there along with the hottest pool deck parties and activities. A service discount card for food and merchandise will be available to Inter-campus Programs trip participants. "It's something different and fun. Students just sign up and we will do the rest," said Joanne Johnson, Vice President of the Communications Club.

The Club is hosting a Pre-Spring Break Party with food, music and decorations in promotion of the Panama City Beach Trip. Look for signs about a week and a half before Spring Break. A reservation table for the trip currently is set in the Main Building in front of room 101 everyday during common hour.

The excursion takes off on the evening of March 7, arrives in Florida on the 10th and leaves Casa Loma on the 15th. There is no minimum or maximum limit on the number of people going. Students from other schools will be attending and anyone outside of Delco may go. A deposit of \$50 is required, and final payments are due by February 14, after that students must pay in full. Don't miss out on a great opportunity to enjoy an exotic Spring Break.

"Alternative Spring Break Trip" is being sponsored by the Service Corps to Vernon, Connecticut for the Habitat for Humanity project. There is a 10 student limit, so act fast and sign up. The students will choose to assist in building a house or refurbishing homes there.

The campus van will be used for the trip. It departs on Sunday, March 9 and returns on Saturday, March 15. The only cost to students is paying for 2/3 of their meals. Students going will gain a valuable experience by working together to help out the community. Interested students can sign up in the Volunteer Service Center, Room 137 Commons.

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