

Opinion

An editorial

Keep that hike in perspective

It's the second semester at Penn State Delco after the tuition hike of about \$1,000 per year, and students have just paid their semester bills. Last fall, the Lion's Eye interviewed students to find out what they had to sacrifice in order to meet the increased tuition, and several said they needed to work more and shop less.

So exactly what have we gotten out of this raise in tuition? Well... just about nothing.

Everyone knows that change takes time, but there have been no noticeable improvements on campus this year. The Penn State Delco campus still lacks a sense of community. There have been no significant changes in regards to the courses offered here. With our luck, there may be no improvements until after the students here have graduated or transferred to University Park.

Director of Student Life Doreen Hettich-Atkins is in the process of hiring new staff for the Student Life Center. Members of the temporary staff from last semester had expressed a sense of determination in making this campus more of a community. Hopefully they will be successful and our tuition will go to support something worthwhile.

Although it seems like the extra \$1,000 we each spent is going toward nothing, it is important to realize that the state budget is to blame, not Penn State's.

Unfortunately, the tuition goes to the entire university before it reaches each of the campuses, and much of it goes to University Park. This all seems very unfair to us down here, but the Delaware County campus is not at fault.

Students also should realize that regardless of the increase, our tuition is still not as high as that of the other twelve campuses outside of the Commonwealth system. And not only is it less than other Penn State campuses, it is considerably lower than private universities of similar ranking; more specifically, it about one-third the cost. By going to a commuter campus of a state university such as this one, the tuition is lower and students who graduate from here still get a Penn State degree.

Penn State Delco has other advantages to the main campus. Because the campus is considerably smaller, students get more one-on-one time with their professors. Classes are also much smaller. Instead of being in a lecture hall with a few hundred other students, general education courses here typically have a capacity of 24 or 40 students. There is more full-time faculty, percentage-wise, than most schools. And students at this campus have access to the entire Penn State library.

Basically, we are getting a bargain at Penn State Delco. That is something that is difficult to realize given the increased tuition. However, sometimes one needs to look past the initial negativity in order to see how much he/she benefits.

Try to keep that in mind as you work more and spend less.

Lion's Eye Mission Statement

We are the newspaper of the Penn State Delaware County campus, serving the students, faculty, administration, staff of, and visitors to, our campus. We vow to entertain and inform all of our audiences, and we will strive to make each edition better, so that we remain a vital part of the Penn State Delco experience. We also strive to be professional, and follow the highest standards of good journalism.



The Lion's Eye

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People Poll

Copy Editor Meredith Becker asked:
Do you think that NASA should continue the space program?



"Yes. There are problems but they can continue and fix the problems."

Ryan Immel
Freshman, Engineering



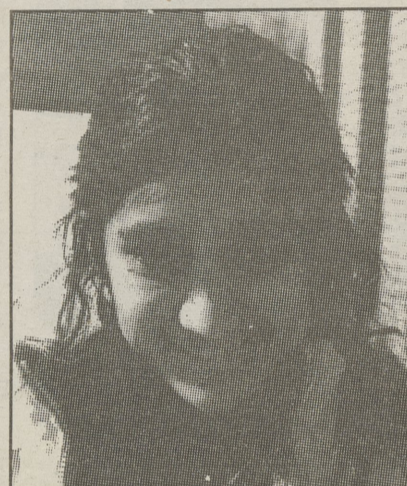
"Yes. You can't stop exploring because of one accident. Airplanes crash but people still travel."

Jay Ford
Junior, Physical Therapy



"No. They waste too much money on space."

Ronald Jones
Junior, Business



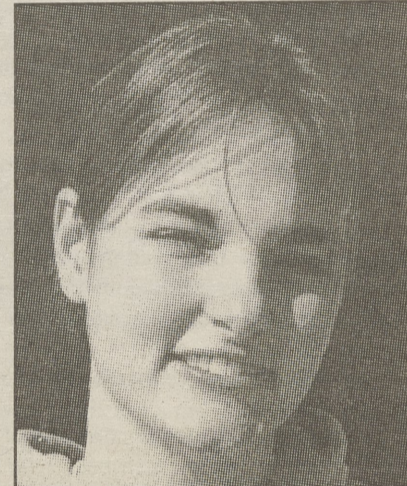
"Yes. I think the program is interesting. I want to go up into space."

Maniari Ganti
Sophomore, Psychology



"Yes, they should continue because it is effective. We get a lot of information from it."

Jamila Bishop
Sophomore, English



"Yes."

Amanda Clayton
Freshman, Undeclared

Anti-war protesters slept right through very loud wakeup call

In these past few months the topic of war has become a very touchy subject in my life. President Bush's popularity ratings have decreased dramatically, and people are marching on Washington in protest of the actions he is taking against Iraq.

So, what's happened to the patriotism and indignation that the country had last fall after 9/11? What happened to standing by our president?

Apparently, all that has gone out the window. Those same celebrities that were singing their hearts out on television to raise money for the 9/11 victims' families are now signing petitions against Bush's actions. Sheryl Crow is on award shows wearing a T-shirt with the words "War is Bad" emblazoned across her chest. No crap, war is bad, what do you expect? It's war!

It is maddening for me to go out in the world and hear people talk about the situation in the Middle East and say, "I hope we don't go to war." We are already at war. Hate to break it to those of you who have been asleep under that rock.

There are those among the populace that think the only reason Bush is choosing to attack Saddam Hussein is because of some petty argument over oil. There are even people who seem to think that Bush is doing this to "get back at them" for attacking us on 9/11. To those people I must point out that Saddam didn't attack us on 9/11; Osama Bin Ladin did. Sept. 11 is not Bush's reason for choosing to attack; that was merely a wake-up call to the nation that there are a lot of people out there that real-

ly do not like our country, or what our country stands for. There are people who detest the idea of a democracy, the idea of religious freedom, the idea of women as equals. All of these things are part of what makes the U.S. such a great nation.

I hate the fact that we are at war. I hate the fact that I know the only way that this problem with Hussein can be solved is by blowing the man up. I hate it because I have so many friends and family out there fighting on the front lines to keep, not only me safe, but to keep those of you who are whining about this war safe.

I watch the news at night and see young people being interviewed about the draft, and there is an overwhelming number of people who complain that they don't want to fight a war that "they don't even understand."

They just don't want to be sent overseas where they will be separated from their cell phones and malls. I realize that I may be extremely hypocritical because, no, I am not running out to go join the armed forces. But at least I am standing by the people who are already out there. I fear that the men and women in the military will return to a country much like the Vietnam vets returned to in the '70s; that they will be ostracized for performing their civic duty.

I implore those students that say they want more information, to get that information. Once you get it, I hope that you realize what must be done, and support the nation in the battle we must now fight.

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