

PSU-Delco Commuters Cope during SEPTA Strike

By **MICHELLE ROCHE**
Lion's Eye staff writer
mcr5013@psu.edu

After a week-long strike by SEPTA, the Philadelphia region's transit agency, Gov. Ed Rendell and union workers came to an agreement that entailed a four-year contract that was settled Nov. 7.

This strike was a bit shorter in length compared to the one in 1998 that involved around 5,300 workers and lasted 40 days.

The strike began at 12:01 a.m. on Oct. 31. It left about 400,000 people with out transportation, which included about 27,000 students. Penn State University contributed their efforts to help the

students.

During the week of the strike, Penn State students signed up to give rides to students who usually use Septa. Ten willing students acted as drivers and around fifty students signed up for the service.

To make things easier, Chris Coia and the Student Life Department put together a shuttle van that would help the students with their travels to and from the campus. They also created and posted schedules online and throughout the campus for the convenience of the students. Shortly after Coia and Student Services put the service together, the strike ended.

"In the future," said Coia, "in case of a long-term strike, we are prepared."

One student who uses SEPTA as a means of travel to school said, "SEPTA workers are in a position in which people are and become dependent on them. Whether or not they are justified in their desire for better pay or health care setup they shouldn't simply abandon the responsibility they've accepted."

Twenty percent of the Delco campus' students use public transportation as a means of getting to and from school.

SEPTA's 13 Regional Rails remained active despite the strike, and as expected, contained a larger capacity of passengers than usual.

Routes in Philadelphia, Chester, Burkes, Delaware, and Montgomery counties were all temporarily out of service because of the strike.

Suicide Rising Among College-Age

By **DAVID HARDISON**
Lion's Eye staff writer
dph5001@psu.edu

On Monday, Oct. 10, a young man named Kyle Ambrogi took his own life by a gunshot. He was a running back from the University of Pennsylvania's football team, and had run for two touchdowns the Saturday before his death. He was greatly cared about by his family and community. So one question comes to mind: Why?

The short answer is depression.

In some cases, there is no defined cause for depression, only the symptoms.

Depressed people exhibit feelings of uselessness, and often consider the only solution to be killing themselves.

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, suicide is the second leading cause of death for college students, the first being car accidents.

Such a statistic is likely to conjure up myths about the cause of suicide, including the speculation that students who attend schools with high academic standards are more likely to kill themselves than others.

According to Brown University's Psychological Services Website, "student suicide rates are not related to institutional prestige, size, or to one's class standing."

Rather, in many cases, depression-triggered suicide is enhanced by abuse of alcohol or drugs.

Alcohol, by its very nature, is a depressant. Combine alcohol with a student who is already down-and-out, and the results can be dire.

"How could this have happened?" "This person was taking the same classes as I was. They seemed to be doing fine..." all of these are sentiments are probably shared by students who have lost those close to them due to suicide.

Surely, these are the sentiments that are being felt among students at the University of Pennsylvania, as it has already been a month since Kyle Ambrogi took his own life.

Losing a friend, or even a classmate, is a traumatizing experience that nobody should ever have to endure.

Villanova University suggests the following methods for dealing with a fellow student who has suicidal tendencies: be willing to hear the student out, don't act surprised, or seek help from professors or advisors.

There is a memorial site to Kyle Ambrogi: www.tedsilary.com/kyleambrogi.htm

Penn State Delco Students Awarded \$210,00 in Scholarships

One hundred four Penn State Delaware County students received over \$210,000 in scholarship support at the annual Fall Honors Convocation. Recipients are:

The Adult Student Organization Scholarship: Tammy Edgington, Atglen.

The John E. and Judith Baillis Endowed Scholarship: Andrew Hanks, King of Prussia; Katherine Katubi, Bryn Mawr.

The Barnes and Noble Presidential Scholarship: Michael L. Caruso, Broomall; Scott Parsons, Brookhaven.

The Edward Berman Memorial Award: Meredith Handwerk, Norristown.

The Judge Louis A. Bloom Scholarship: Joseph Wassel, Media.

The Boeing Scholarship: LaGayla Berry, Frazer; Rayanne Lynch, Philadelphia; Samantha Park, Media. The Joseph J. Bradley Memorial Scholarship: Mohammed Ibrahim, Philadelphia.

The Calderone Award: Carolyn Summers, West Chester.

The Julia K. Carter Scholarship: Joseph Flyntz, West Chester.

The Anita Chevres and David Lipson Award: Carolyn Summers, West Chester.

The Lauren E. Chrest Memorial Scholarship: Xiyuan Yan, Drexel Hill.

The Clayton Family Award: Leah Semmelhaack, West Grove.

The Commerce Bank Scholarship: Nicholas Cacia, Philadelphia.

The Jane E. Cooper Endowed Adult Student Scholarship: Mark Scimitarra, Drexel Hill.

The Jane E. Cooper Honors Scholarship: Jeffrey Disciullo, West Chester; Steven Donahue, West Chester; Melissa Ellett, Philadelphia; Dominique Gallery, West Chester; Laura Gregg, Wilmington, DE; Jason Harrington, West Chester; Jared Holcomb, Malvern; Paul Hurych, Media; Anton Kovalsky, West Chester; Daniel McGarity, West Chester; Emily Sprik, Media; Dylan Sutton, Conshohocken; Ryan Whittington, Aston; Devin Zuczek, Middletown.

The Judith Davis Memorial Scholarship: Steven Darbes, Wallingford.

The Ralph B. and Shirley McFadden D'Iorio Scholarship: Krista Spellman, Clifton Heights.

The Robert E. Finucane Memorial Scholarship: Stephen Kane, Media.

The Franz-Kahmar Scholarship: Gloria Boyd, Boothwyn.

The Lawrence E. Hallstrom Memorial Scholarship: Nghia Nguyen, Malvern; Bo Chen Wu, Philadelphia.

Thomas Edward Hare III Memorial Award: Mark Cooke, Ridley Park.

The Barbara S. Iannacone Memorial Scholarship: Mark Cooke, Ridley Park.

The Joan Impagliazzo Adult Student Award: Timothy D'Apollo, Ridley Park.

The H. Leonard Krouse Award of the Penn State Club of Delaware County: Crystal Bowhall, Glenolden; Jaclyn Varisano, West Chester. The Bayard D. and Ethel M. Kunkle Scholarship: Cathleen Carpenter, Ridley Park; Vladislav Koyfman, Brookhaven; Megan McLean, Swarthmore; Michael Viall, Malvern.

The Dewey LaRosa Memorial Scholarship: Daoda Kanneh, Upper Darby.

The Scott Latimer Engineering Award: Walter Subers, Nottingham.

The Ada Case Lobrovick Scholarship for Early Childhood and Elementary Education: Hisham Rahmi, Upper Darby.

The Tim Mark Endowed Award: Charles Sandor, West Chester.

The Thomas McKelvey Engineering Award: Nghia Nguyen, Malvern; John Petro, Nottingham; Walter Subers, Nottingham.

The Michael Menichini Award: Catherine McBrearty, Drexel Hill; Devin Zuczek, Middletown.

The David and Florence Newman Scholarship Fund: Fatimot Adekanmbi, Philadelphia; Ryan Blickos, Darby; Ralph Gaudiello, Havertown; Amy Lentes, Ashland; Susan Ndukwu, Sharon Hill; Theresa Nguyen, Upper Darby; Xiao Zhang, Boothwyn.

The Penn State Campus Scholarship: Jiawei Ouyang, Philadelphia; Bethany Thomas, Drexel Hill.

The Chester County Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association Award: Molly Pardue, Devon; Bradford Wiggins, West Chester.

The Penn State Delaware County Alumni Chapter Award: Keri Soring, Aston.

The Penn State Delaware County Advisory Board Trustee Scholarship: Noelle Friday, Linwood; Tak Yee Liu, Media.

The David E. and Margaret M. Pergrin Scholarship: Sean Nichols, Norwood.

The PNC Financial Corp. Endowed Delaware County Scholarship: Nida Qadeer, Morton.

The Ernest and Angela Repice Endowment at Penn State Delaware County: Christian Meccariello, Philadelphia.

The William Rush Woodcarvers Award: Alan Zhaolun Meng, West Chester.

The Harold M. Schaeffer Scholarship: Natalie Demeis, Boothwyn.

The Richard and Sylvia Schaffer Scholarship: Jennifer Johnson, Media.

The Sib Severance Memorial Award: Robert Stidham, Jr., Newtown Square.

The Jane Housman Sheetz Memorial Scholarship: Lauren Ditaranto, West Chester; David Hardison, Philadelphia.

The Smith-Howard American Legion Post No. 93 Award: Brian Zimmerman, Aldan.

The W. W. Smith Charitable Trust Scholars Awards: Kevin Basner, Voorhees, NJ; Jasmine Belser, Philadelphia; LaGayla Berry, Frazer; Jembrehessa Bowman, Boothwyn; Charles Bryson, Upper Darby; Laura Burns, Conshohocken; Alma Clark, Brookhaven; Mark Cooke, Ridley Park; Karen Craig, Brookhaven; Gregory Crawford, Clifton Heights.; Timothy Crum, Chester; Michael Deluca, Thornton; Matthew Garcia, Media; James Halligan, West Chester; Morgan Kelly, Wallingford; Shannon Kollhoff, Collingdale; Jake Lucas, West Chester; Benjamin Lucey, Media; Thomas Maguire, Collingdale; Jean Morisset, Lansdowne; Hisham Rahmi, Upper Darby; Amanda Ross, Collingdale; Cheryl Spera, Parkside; Lina Taing, Collegeville; Anya Takos, Thorndale; Michael Viall, Malvern; Anne Widdowson, Boothwyn.

The Victor Spizzirri Memorial ACE Award: Jembrehessa Bowman, Boothwyn.

The Robert L. Stout Memorial Award: Laura Lubrano, Boothwyn.

The Sarah Stover Memorial Award: Meredith Handwerk, Norristown.

The Edward S. J. Tomezsko Scholarship: Onochie Ofili, Elkins Park.

The Trustee Scholarship Fund for Penn State Delaware County: Thomas Spaventa, Lansdowne.; Andrew Suh, Exton; Anthony Tassoni, Broomall.

The John D. and Greta C. Vairo Scholarship: Leah Semmelhaack, West Grove.

The Visual Sound, Inc. Endowment at Penn State Delaware County: Thanh Tran, Malvern.

The Gilbert A. Wetzel Delaware County Telecommunications Scholarship: Laura Gregg, Claymont, DE

The Woman's Club of Swarthmore Scholarship: Megan McLean, Newtown Square.

The Charles and Jean Zeien Scholarship: Brie Benson, Chester.

Compiled by Lion's Eye Staff