

# Eye On Community

## Should Big Brother be Watching?

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There has been a long history of school shootings in the United States dating back as far as 1927. One of the most infamous school shootings took place April 20, 1999 at Columbine High School in Jefferson County, Colorado. This horrific event caused awareness of school bullying and provoked heated debate regarding gun control.

On October 2, 2006, a shooting occurred that hit home with Penn State Delco students much more because of the closeness of the incident. This was the Amish school shooting that took place in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Charles Carl Roberts, IV walked into the school, held the students hostage and eventually killed five girls.

The proximity of this event demonstrated that something this terrible can happen anywhere, at any time, and to all types of people.

Years ago, schools merely had to worry about students smoking in the boys' bathrooms. Today, there are more serious issues including drugs, harassment, and the use of weapons, that can lead to all sorts of violence in schools.

In light of these troubling events, how do Penn State Delco students feel about the safety of this college? Brian Drissel, Penn State freshman, said that he does feel safe at Penn State Delco because he hasn't seen any evidence or heard of any crimes being committed.

However, when James Forrest, also a freshman, was asked if he feels safe on campus, he stated that he really doesn't. "It [the campus] has maybe two security guards, and people who don't belong on campus can enter any building at any time, and abduct or hurt students," Forrest commented.

When asked if he thinks that Penn State is taking adequate measures to make sure an incident like the one that happened at the Amish school wouldn't happen here, Forrest said, "No, the only time I see security guards are when they are checking parking passes."

There are many ways to prevent people from trespassing with the use of technology. Schools can use security cameras, metal detectors, and key passes. Although these devices can be very useful, they only assist officials in an ongoing security plan.

Utilizing these devices effectively means strategically placing them in areas of concern and having staff monitor and operate these devices to their fullest capacity.

Forrest thought it would be a good idea to have more security guards. He added, "I worked at Villanova and you need to swipe your student ID card to get into buildings, so maybe install something like that."

Drissel, on the other hand, feels that additional security is unnecessary. "Having any more security would make the school feel more like a prison, and the incident like the one in Lancaster is so rare that having all that security would go to waste," he said.

Perhaps the best line of defense is to inform students and teachers that if they hear or see something suspicious, even if they think it may be a joke, to notify security or police immediately.

### Crossword Answers

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Dinosaur: Dionychus

Photo by Sharon Achilles



### Review: Nam Phuong by Dr. Andrew Walter D.

Ever get bored of traditional "college cuisine?" Do you like Asian food and culture? Check out Nam Phuong for an exotic Vietnamese meal without the crippling high cost expense of most fine restaurants.

Located on 11th and Washington in Philadelphia, their friendly staff and excellent food make the 25 minute drive from campus more than worth it. With dozens of delectable meals from which to choose and plenty of dining area, Nam Phuong is an

incredible place for either the whole family or just a small group of friends.

Prices range from about \$5 to \$12 for an average dish. Types of food include noodle and rice dishes, soups, meats, fish, and vegetarian dishes. My personal favorites include "Pho" (Beef noodle soup), "Bun" (Vermicelli noodles), and "Mi Xiao" (Various types of meat and seafood omelet topped with crispy pan-fried noodles). So try something new! Give Nam Phuong a chance and you won't be disappointed.

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