

Eye on World & Local

Despite Dedication to Gulf Clean-up, Public and CEO are Unhappy

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April 20th 2010, over four months ago a BP oil rig exploded killing eleven people, dumping tons of oil into the coast, and branding the catastrophe as the worst oil spill in the US history. NY Daily News reported that a cap was installed in the faulty rig on July 5th to stop the flow of oil into the Gulf. Social networks such as Facebook and Twitter have been a channel for critics of the spill, as they blame BP in its oversight for the defective well. Since the flow of oil has been contained, the residue of long term economical, ecological, health, and other effects has taken the forefront.

Several different techniques have been researched to aid in the cleanup. According to CNET, scientists have discovered microbes that have been eating through the oil. Biotechnologists from Berkeley explain that these microbes have attacked the oil at an accelerated rate. Combined with natural processes, BP staged several controlled oil burns which eliminate oil within the larger concentrations. Other methods consist of skimming, where specially designed boats collect oil by separating it from the water. Some natives of the coast worry, however, that the cleanup will not be enough to restore their way of life.

In a CNN video, resident Russell Dodal explains that he has been laid off from his job as a commercial fisherman due to the oil spill. As he takes reporters



Photo courtesy of usocv.org

into the waters, he shows the build-up of tar that strangles the land. Fishing has become impossible and threatens his economic stability and Dodal is unable to provide for himself and his family. With effects on Gulf residents ranging from health complications to economical loss, BP has created a claims fund, shelling out \$120,000 so far in support.

As efforts continue in the coastal cleanup, the British oil giant BP has dedicated communications around the spill. Its website sports an extensive guide to the Gulf cleanup. With updated reports of the new technologies, press releases, video, and research pertaining to the Gulf. BP released a YouTube page committed to the spill. The latest video is of Iris Cross, BP Community Outreach Manager, explains that BP will stay in the Gulf for as long as it takes. Similar commercials released by BP executives have aired on primetime TV with vivid images of the cleanup efforts.

BP's CEO Tony Hayward is stepping down, after ABC News allegedly reported him saying he wanted the crisis to end so that he could "get his life back." BP announced Robert Dudley to be appointed CEO effective October 1st. In BP's report the new appointment is hoped to lead BP into a new image as being environmentally aware and conscience of the people of the Gulf Coast.



Local Creativity Exhibited, as Flugtag Comes to Town

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The Red Bull Flugtag was held over the bridge in Camden, NJ last weekend on Saturday September 4, 2010. There was close to 90,000 attendees including people watching from Penn's Landing.

This is an event in which Red Bull sponsors and has people create their own flying apparatus that competes to see who goes the furthest. The top flight machines are awarded with prizes to the contestants whose device travels the farthest, as well as a people's choice award.

This year's Flugtag in Camden was postponed by a few hours due to the coast guard's concerns with the wind, they were even thinking about cancelling the event all together. With a rowdy crowd the event was able to continue, there were 32 homemade aircrafts that had to try and fly off of a 28-foot runway.

The prizes went to the following, for first place was team Giant Flying Llama, second place went to team Let Freedom Wing, and third place went to team Bumble. Last, but not least, the people's choice award went to team Five Guys, One Clock.



The Red Bull Flugtag graced Philadelphia on Labor Day Weekend and Penn State Brandywine was there for all the fun. The homemade aircraft of Team Flightless Flight Test preparing to launch off of the pier at this year's Flugtag event, above. Brandywine students Billy Handy and Judy Bowker sporting their Penn State blue, bottom left. There was no mistaking one's location this year, as signs reminded guests what it was that they were present for, bottom right. (photos by Lion's Eye Staff Writer Judy Bowker)