

# Term at Wallops: Texts and tan

By MATT BENSON  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer  
One of Penn State's most popular "branch campuses" is actually an island in the sun.  
The Wallops Island Marine Science Program allows about 50 students to live and work at the Marine Science Consortium in Wallops, Va.  
The consortium is located on the western shore of Chincoteague Bay, 50 miles south of Ocean City, Md.  
The courses taught at this marshy Atlantic shoreline location include: Methods in Oceanography (Engineering 200), Coastal Geology 445 and Coastal Biology 482. Each course is worth four credits.  
Of the students that participate in the program, some are interested in the marine sciences professionally, but most see it as an opportunity to get involved in a quite different type of educational experience," said Albert

Guber, a faculty member of the Geology Department and professor in charge of the program.  
Guber said the program is not designed to meet the needs of those going into marine science, but is more of an unusual experience. Only about 10 per cent of the students involved are in marine science, he said.  
The Wallops Program is not limited to students in particular majors. All that is necessary to enroll in the program is at least a sixth term standing, a fairly good grade average and an interest in the marine sciences.  
The area is isolated and leisure activities are left up to the individual imagination. The town of Chincoteague is 10 miles away and offers little in the way of entertainment. However, Wallops is located in a wildlife refuge and the area's fishing is excellent.  
The social circle and academic circle are one and the same, Guber said.

Students have to depend on each other for individual interaction and cooperation.  
"Life at Wallops is one big compromise," Guber said.  
Brian Dade (10th-earth science) said the type of social interaction is like that found in a small, close-knit community with everyone working towards the same goal.  
"The work was hard and sometimes frustrating, but I learned a lot about myself and the scientific method," Dade said.  
Dade said he didn't miss anything about University Park during his stay at Wallops.  
"Wallops spoiled me," he said. "I had a hard time adjusting again to life at Penn State. I wondered just how relevant work here is."  
The cost of tuition for Spring Term at Wallops is the same as at University

Park. Room, board and operation cost for the stay at the Consortium will be about \$625. Books are the only additional cost.  
Applications for Spring Term 1978 at Wallops Island are available in 540 Deike Building and are due by Dec. 9. Selections will be made during Christmas break and announced Jan. 9, 1978.  
This past Spring Term 55 out of 120 applicants were chosen.  
Lodging is dormitory style in the barracks of the former Naval Air Station and meals are served in the cafeteria.  
The University is one of 19 colleges that owns and operates the Consortium. Penn State joined in 1971 and pays a share towards upkeep of the facilities.  
"It isn't fun in the sun, sand and sea," Guber said. "Most students say they've never worked so hard, but the majority discover they can do a lot more than they thought they could do."

# ASA details funds given organizations

The Associated Student Affairs Budget Committee has allocated funds to many organizations in the past few weeks, with the big money going to the Student Film Organization and Homophiles of Penn State.  
The Student Film Organization received \$1,904.40 for a film festival to be held Feb. 9 to 11. The funds will cover judges and advertising.  
There had been some delays in the committee's decision because it was unsure if the film organization would be charging admission, thus making it ineligible to receive ASA funds. No admission will be charged.  
HOPS requested \$1,790.50 and received \$460.50 for advertising, newsletters, office supplies and rental of the Jawbone for coffeehouses.  
The International Relations Organization requested \$811.82 and were allocated \$440.70 to bring speakers to campus for their model United Nations program to be held March 17 to 19.  
The Hetzel Union Board was funded \$139.84 for travel, lodging and registration fees for two people to go to the Association of College Unions' International Convention in Maryland. The request was for \$265.44.  
On Drugs, Inc. requested \$451 for travel to a convention in Phoenix, Arizona. They were not funded.

# Snow Shoe landfill gets Centre County's garbage

By MOLLY HERRING  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer  
Filling in ugly strip mine gullies with overabundant solid waste provides an ironic environmental benefit similar to killing two birds with one stone.  
Gullies carved from strip mining near Snow Shoe in Centre County will someday be filled and given a facelift, thanks to the Centre County Solid Waste Authority's landfill operation there.  
Solid Waste Authority Manager Don Smith said the Authority is permitted to fill, with alternate layers of solid waste and soil, a 100-acre, 30 to 35 foot deep pit left over from surface coal mining.  
Smith said the landfill was chosen because "it was a strip mine that could be reclaimed."  
"It is also one of the areas where the soil could be approved by the state Department of Environmental Resources," Smith said. "DER won't approve all soils," he said.  
According to Smith, almost any solid waste can be put in the Snow Shoe landfill.  
"We dump everything — anything that is

picked up from household waste, anything from the garbage bags set along the street," Smith said. "We get brush, old furniture, water heaters, washers, dryers, stoves, even refrigerators," he said.  
About 186 tons of solid waste per day (September's average) gets hauled to Snow Shoe by tractor trailer, Smith said.  
Only about 16 of the pit's 35 feet are actually filled with waste, he said. The first 11 feet must be a layer of DER-approved soil, then a layer of waste, then soil, and so forth until the pit is filled, Smith said.  
"Each day everything that is taken there is put in a cell (a smaller division of the landfill pit) and compacted," Smith said. "In the evening everything is completely covered with soil. Then the next day we start right at the edge of that," he said.  
Smith said that his method allows the land pitted by strip mining to be restored to its original contour.  
The landfill area "will be covered and vegetation will be planted," Smith said. Then,

"DER will specify what they want put on that land. They tell you what you can do and what you cannot do," he said.  
Environmentally, the Snow Shoe landfill is much better than the former dump on N. Atherton Street, Eco-Action President Theresa Kerchner (10th-environmental resource management) said. The former dump was inadequate for the area's development, she said.  
Smith also said the dump did not comply with the Pennsylvania Solid Waste Act of the early '70s.  
Kerchner said using the landfill is "burying a problem so we don't have to think about it," adding, "but the actual operation of the landfill is really sound."  
Kerchner said most people believe that "All garbage has a place to go." She said, "People don't think solid waste is a very big problem. There is no thought that we may ever run out of space to put our garbage."  
"The landfill itself is fine — it's a great environmental project," she said. "It's so far out

there in no-man's-land it doesn't really matter that it is a landfill area."  
"It's not going to matter for a long time what it gets used for," Kerchner added.  
Once the Centre County landfill at Snow Shoe is finished, the reclaimed land could be used in several ways.  
Smith said, however, "Knowing the area, I would doubt that they would build anything on it for many years to come."  
In Anne Arundel County, Maryland, a landfill there will be a recreational facility by 1998.  
Anne Arundel County Bureau of Solid Waste Chief Parker Andrews said the 560-acre Millersville landfill is being developed into a recreational area featuring rolling terrain, a plateau for athletic fields, a bench-and-terrace open amphitheater and 210 undisturbed acres of natural land.  
Andrews said the Millersville landfill is divided into ten "cells." Each cell will be used as soon as it is filled, he said. The cells are topsoiled, seeded and shrubbed as completed, Andrews said.

"We don't wait until cell 10 is done," Andrews said.  
Andrews said the landfill is being developed into a recreational area by excavating virgin land, filling the excavation with trash and redeveloping the land.  
According to Andrews, Glen Burnie landfill in Anne Arundel County is being developed into land suitable for light industrial or warehouse use.  
Andrews also said sections of golf courses in Baltimore County and Salsbury, Maryland are being built from solid waste. A ski jump constructed from solid waste and covered with clay is also possible, Andrews said.  
The county landfill in Snow Shoe opened in 1973 and is expected by engineers to last fifteen years, Smith said.  
"If the tonnage for some reason would go way beyond our anticipation, then it would fill up faster."  
"There are so many strip mines out there in that area that I don't think you and I will ever have to worry about this."

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