

State Skallege

Upcoming ska shows brings horn-rimmed mix of Caribbean influences to the area

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Icers Coach Joe Battista shooting for 200th win tonight

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A brutal weekend ahead. Today, becoming cloudy by mid-day, high 65. Tonight, breezy with late-evening showers, low 48. Tomorrow, wind-driven showers and temperatures falling to 40 by evening.

— by Paul Markowski



the daily Collegian

30°

SHAKE-UP

at the COMMONWEALTH CAMPUSES

By PAULA SHAKI
Collegian Staff Writer

University President Graham Spanier announced plans to conduct a year-long study of the structure of the Commonwealth Educational System yesterday that could lead to the addition or closing of certain Commonwealth Campuses.

"The quest facing us today is whether that system... is properly organized to support the needs of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the 20th century," Spanier said yesterday at a news conference. "What we're asking each campus to do is look at its future — consider its mission for the future."

Because of population growth and increasing numbers of high school and adult students who want to attend college, Spanier and Senior Vice President and Dean of the CES Robert Dunham asked each campus to consider two or three options from a range of 15 to better serve the state.

And Corinne Caldwell, commonwealth educational officer at the Mont Alto Campus, said she is looking forward to an expanded mission.

"The students seemed to understand where we were going and were interested," she said. "I think we have the latitude to do what we think will work with the community."

Campuses with a sufficient number of students, faculty and dorms could choose to become a four-year campus. Others could become part of a larger college, such as Penn State Erie or Penn State Harrisburg.

The goal is not to close Commonwealth Campuses, but as the study is completed, the decision may be made to close one or more campuses, Spanier said.

"We might want to take an existing campus and merge it with another one of Penn State's campuses," he said.

The University will still be considered one University geographically distributed across the state, and courses and credits will still be transferable, Spanier and Dunham said. The plan also has guarantees:

■ Tenured faculty will not lose their jobs and no changes will occur immediately. Faculty members who do not want to be retained or relocated to a different campus will be offered early retirement.

■ Students at the campuses will be able to complete their courses of study at that campus and partic-

ipate in discussions about the changes, Spanier said. By the end of this year, Spanier and Dunham said they hope to formulate a new plan for each of the Commonwealth Campuses.

Jeffrey Butler, University Board of Trustees liaison for the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments — who was appointed as a student liaison for the study — said the restructuring will benefit everyone.

"It's important to have student input and someone who can get input from the campuses," Butler said. "It's been a long time coming. In the end, there may be cuts that have to be endured, but overall it's going to benefit the students and the commonwealth."

The planning this year is a pre-

lude to the University Planning Council that will continue to cut and reallocate money for five years, beginning in 1997. The University's Future Committee — which cut \$30 million out of the budget during the past three years — cut \$10 million from the Commonwealth Campuses last year.

"When the whole University starts its five-year planning process, we will have established the mission of each campus, which will give the whole process more meaning," Dunham said.

The budget request to the state this year is about \$292 million, but does not include additional funding for the study of the future of the CES, Spanier said. In following years, the University may ask for

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Well, you gotta choose...

The following options are available for consideration to Commonwealth Campuses of Penn State. Each campus will be given a limited number of choices based on campus size, type of student, dorms, geographical relationship to other institutions, and other factors.

- 1. **Continue present mission**
- 2. **Present mission with alteration**— Under this option the campus has the opportunity to define what the alteration should be and offer supporting data.
- 3. **Four year college**— There are very few of the present campuses which will find this option appropriate.
- 4. **Graduate Center**— This may be an option for some campuses which have a particular market for applied graduate programs and courses, growth potential and a minimum of unnecessary duplication with other colleges and universities.
- 5. **Upper division campus**— This may be more appropriate in urban areas where there may be a large number of community college transfer students who are location-bound and want an upper division program.
- 6. **Outreach Center**— This would be an appropriate option for campuses with an older nontraditional market or with significant needs for continuing education and community service.
- 7. **Community College (not a part of Penn State)**— There may be some communities without a community college that would like to broaden the offerings of a local campus.
- 8. **Part of a multi-campus/college**— In some areas of the state where there are two or more campuses located rather close geographically, it may be appropriate to combine them under one administrative head.
- 9. **A Campus of Penn State Erie or Penn State Harrisburg**— This option may be appropriate for some of the campuses that are close enough to Erie or Harrisburg.
- 10. **An alliance with another college or university**— Where there is another college or university in the region, there may be an opportunity for an alliance or formal collaboration.

Source: Commonwealth Educational System: A Plan for Planning

Collegian Graphic/Matthew Ztelli



Collegian Photo/Michael L. Palmieri

University President Graham Spanier, left, and Senior Vice President and Dean of the Commonwealth Educational System, discuss restructuring of the CES at a news conference yesterday afternoon in Old Main.

Seven decades shaped current CES

By KIRSTEN BYERTS and BETH YOUNG
Collegian Staff Writers

During the 1930s, experimental "Freshman Extension Centers" were created to bring education to students who would not have otherwise been able to attend Penn State. Although the original four centers closed within a few years, others arose, and soon nearby residents were petitioning the University to make them permanent.

Now, with 17 locations across the state, University President Gra-

ham Spanier is planning to take the Commonwealth Educational System through its next phase in University history.

"(CES) is considered one of the greatest success stories in higher education," Spanier said at a news conference yesterday, where he announced his new plan to restructure the CES.

The idea of the CES was born in 1912 with the opening of the Extension Branch School in Allentown. The CES was initially called the Commonwealth Campus System and evolved during 83 years into an extensive educational network

branched throughout the state.

The University established the CES to make education more accessible and affordable to people who may not have been able to attend the University because of reasons such as financial constraints, said Charles Hosler, retired professor of meteorology, former senior vice president for research and dean of the Graduate School emeritus.

The Commonwealth Campuses were intended for the first two years of a four-year undergraduate program. Students finished their education at University Park.

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Proposed timetable

The following timetable is being proposed. It may need to be altered once the process begins.

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER-DECEMBER	JANUARY
Campus is presented with a planning document and a general town meeting for faculty, staff and students will be held.	Campus and community initiate discussions and consideration of the demographic data and mission options.	Tentative recommendations should be submitted to the Senior Vice President and Dean of CES who will in turn share the recommendations.
APRIL	MARCH	FEBRUARY
The Senior Vice President and Dean of the CES will present these recommendations to the University Planning Council.	Final recommendations and supporting material will be sent from the campuses to the Senior Vice President and Dean of the CES.	Feedback from central discussions will be sent back to campuses.
MAY	JULY	AUGUST
Decision is reached by the President and discussed with campus personnel.	President takes to the Board of Trustees for concurrence.	5-year strategic planning process begins on each campus.

Collegian Graphic/Matthew Ztelli

Pa. waiting for Megan's Law

Controversy still surrounds the law, which was unanimously passed by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and is expected to be signed by Gov. Tom Ridge.

By JIM KINNEY and MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN
Collegian Staff Writers

Controversy has followed Megan's Law across the Delaware River.

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives voted unanimously in favor of sending the bill — patterned after a New Jersey law that was named for a slain child — to Gov. Tom Ridge.

If Ridge signs the bill, which he is expected to do, sex offenders would have to register with authorities in their area. Neighbors, schools and day-care centers in the area would be notified if the offender was judged to be particularly violent.

Local day care operators see the law as another tool to help them ensure children's safety.

Colleen Mortimore, director of the Magic Years Childcare & Learning Center, 1200 Farmstead Lane, said the center is always cautious of

strangers and instills caution in the children. "Of course I think it is a wonderful idea. It's important for people to be aware," she said.

Not everyone is that enthusiastic, as the law has already raised the ire of civil libertarians.

Larry Frankel, legislative assistant for the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania, said the organization is not in favor of the law.

"I don't know if we are going to sue but I'm sure someone will be suing," he said.

The law constitutes an excessive punishment, Frankel said. The offenders will continue to be punished after they leave prison.

"It will make it more difficult for an offender to adjust back into the community," he said.

While some see the rights of the offender violated, others see the welfare of children as paramount.

"I think we have to weigh the good of the children against the rights of the individual," said Judy Burgess, director of the Learning Station, 3035 Enterprise Drive. "You can't speak enough for (the children)."

In the minds of many, this law puts the two concerns on a collision course.

"I think it's a good idea in one respect, but on the other hand you made that one mistake," said Chris

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Smaller companies can fight back

Editor's note: This is the final part of a five-part series on big business in State College. This article focuses on how small businesses can compete with large national chains.

By JIM KINNEY
Collegian Staff Writer

Just because a shiny new mass merchandiser moves into town, it does not mean that all small town merchants should fall on their swords. It is possible to beat the Wal-Marts of the world — but not necessarily at their own game.

After years of research, Kenneth Stone, professor of economics at Iowa State University, said he might have a strategy for small businesses.

Stone began researching the effects of Wal-Mart on Iowa's county-seat towns in 1988, about 10 years after the chain moved into the state. He said he became fascinated in the changes the retailer brought to the rural towns in which it prospered and wanted to do research on it.

From his findings, he began to



How to beat Wal-Mart

1. Sell things Wal-Mart does not sell.
2. Offer services Wal-Mart does not offer.
3. Take advantage of the increase in traffic Wal-Mart brings to the area.

— by Kenneth Stone, professor of economics at Iowa State University

Collegian Graphic/Walter Barrueto

formulate strategies for small businesses to compete with large chains. In 1989, he gave his first seminar outlining strategies for small business.

"You can survive if you learn how to 'play the game' as I call it," Stone said.

At the request of chambers of commerce, main street organizations and local newspapers, he has spoken in 49 states — including Pennsylvania — Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The seminars, he said, have been successful. The most fulfilling part is receiving letters from previously terrified shopkeepers who learned how to prosper in the new business environment — one not conducive to small merchants.

James Kurre, associate professor of economics at Penn State

Erie, said the low prices of the large chains tend to pull customers away from local, mom-and-pop establishments.

"I think part of what we see here is what happened with grocery stores in the not-too-distant past," he said.

Kurre's parents, he said, shopped for groceries at the corner market when he was a child, until the advent of supermarkets. The su-

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