

Roads to close for new garage construction

By Devon Trolley
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Parking garage construction on South Fraser Street and Beaver Avenue will cause traffic to be redirected over the next few months. Until March 23, Fraser Street will be limited to a single lane from Highland Alley to Beaver Avenue, Amy Story, borough engineer, said. She added that during this time, Beaver Avenue will also have a single lane in the segment in front of the parking garage construction between Fraser and Burrowes streets. However, from March 24 to April 8, Fraser Street will be completely closed from Highland Alley to Beaver Avenue, Story said.

The parking garage was expected to be finished in July, but the project's completion has been delayed until Aug. 1 because more rock had to be excavated from underneath the garage than was originally expected, public works director Mark Whitfield said. "Realistically, [it] couldn't happen in the time frame we had hoped," he said. Leonard S. Fiore, Inc. started construction in the fall of the six-story parking garage that will hold 525 cars. Paul Jovanis, Transportation Commission member, said they are proposing a plan to reconfigure the intersection around the parking garage. The intersection at Fraser Street and Beaver Avenue is currently a "three-legged intersection," which means the streets are not aligned in the more com-

mon plus-sign formation, which are found at other intersections, such as Garner Street and Beaver Avenue. Reconfiguring them would align the streets to provide for a more efficient signal arrangement, Whitfield said. "It would make the operation of the intersection much more simple," Jovanis said. He added that a date has not been set for the reconfiguration because the plans are still under discussion. Fraser Street was completely closed last week to assemble a crane, and will be closed again sometime in middle to late May to disassemble it. Whitfield said the crane will set pre-cast concrete blocks, which are manufactured at another location, into place at the parking garage site.

Darin Verbeck, manager of Pennsylvania Pizza, 222 W. Beaver Ave., said most of the restaurant's business relies on pedestrian traffic, which has decreased because of the crane and construction blocking that side of the street. "In places like New York City, they reimburse small businesses," he said. "They should have some sort of reimbursement plan." Verbeck said he just took over the business and is having a difficult time drawing in customers with the construction in front of his restaurant. "I don't think [the State College Borough Council] really understand ... or they just don't care," he said. "It's killing us." However, Bill Besecker, manager of

- ### Street closures
- Between Burrowes and Fraser streets along Beaver Avenue
 - Fraser Street from Highland Alley to Beaver Avenue

The Camera Shop, 311 W. Beaver Ave., is not worried about the construction. "I think in the long run [the parking garage] will be a benefit," he said. "If people need [our product], they'll come." Besecker added that traffic volumes depend on the time of day, mid-morning and afternoon being busiest. "We try to let customers know about [the construction]," he said.

University may reallocate PSU groups' stipends

By Joelle Hutcheon
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The student activities committee is considering reallocating the stipends given to student organizations. Each stipend, an amount equal to one year of in-state tuition, is given to student leaders within registered organizations on campus to compensate them for work they do for the university. Of the 11.5 stipends distributed to student groups, the only groups receiving stipends are Undergraduate Student Government (USG), Graduate Student Association (GSA), the four greek councils and the University Park Allocation Committee (UPAC). Kevin Kerr, director of fraternity and sorority life, said each of the greek councils divide their one stipend among each executive board. "Many [board members] don't have

the abilities for part time jobs. [the stipends] give them compensation for making Penn State better," he said. Stan Latta, director of union and student activities, said the delegation of stipends was first decided by a group of students over five years ago. "You have to be accepted as one of the registered groups [to receive a stipend]," he said. Latta said in an e-mail message that in the beginning of the fall 2004 semester the process to become a recognized student group at Penn State had changed. Because of the change, there are no more "registered" student organizations. The Office of Student Activities now recognizes student groups based on certain criteria that are provided by the office. Since the registry process has been

changed, the allocation of stipends has been under review for the past five or six months, Latta said. "It would be premature to speculate how the stipends will be given out [in the future]," he said. Currently, USG, GSA and UPAC each receive 2.5 stipends, while each of the greek councils receives one stipend, he said. "The individual groups decide how they want to allocate the money [within the organization]," Latta said. The university was originally responsible for deciding how the organizations would divide their stipends, he added. "It would be premature to speculate how the stipends will be given out [in the future]."

Students felt this was not fair as we did not understand the value of each of the positions in each of the different organizations," Latta said. "So they requested that we allow each organization to decide how the stipend should be allocated among the members." Recently, Black Caucus released a list of 11 demands to improve the racial climate at Penn State, which included a request of six annual stipends from the university. As of now, Latta said no one from the Black Caucus has contacted him about receiving stipends for their executive committee.

He added that it was too early to determine if stipends could be given to Black Caucus. Galen Foulke, USG president, said the stipends given to USG are divided among members of the organization. "The entire stipend is spread throughout seven people," he said. Tom Truong, overall chair for UPAC, said the stipend given to his organization is divided among the chair and sub-chair of UPAC. The division of the stipends has been allocated in the same way over the years in UPAC. Truong said he would not object to the reallocation of stipends in the future. "That is not my decision to make, and whatever happens is in the best interest of all the groups," he said. Latta said the last group to be granted a stipend was the Multicultural Greek Council, created three years ago.

'The Price is Right' for Glee Club

By Cynthia Rathinasamy
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Matt Cassidy, come on down. This spring break, Cassidy (junior-chemical engineering), a member of the Penn State Glee Club, hit a high note when he won \$10,000 on the game show *The Price is Right*. "When they called my name, I was shocked," he said. "If it hadn't been for people pulling me out [of the stands], I wouldn't have gone." While some Penn State students were basking in the sunlight of more exotic locations, 25 members of the Glee Club were shining under studio lights. *The Price is Right* episode the Glee Club attended is scheduled to air April 6. Steven Pierce, Glee Club tour co-manager, said member Jon Badalamenti, a devoted fan of Bob Barker's game show, saw an opportunity for the Glee Club to visit a place other than the musical stage when the group traveled to California to perform. The club was picked to be part of the studio audience and given 25 seats for its members.

"[Bob Barker] has the softest hands, like a pillow, but real firm." While waiting in line to get into studio, the members sang a few songs to the rest of the waiting crowd. Once they were ushered into the studio, a producer gave each of the members 15 to 20 second interviews to determine whether or not they would get picked to be a contestant on the show. "After the interview ... I was 97 percent sure I wasn't going to be picked," Cassidy said. However, when he was picked Cassidy said "it was chaos in the glee club section." Audience member and Glee Club president Trung Truong (senior-management information systems) agreed with Cassidy. "We were absolutely ecstatic," he said. "We basically went nuts." By playing "The Grand Game," Cassidy collected \$10,000.

In the game, a contestant is asked to guess which of six household items are under the target amount. For Cassidy, the amount of the item was \$4.50. Cassidy laughed when he thought about what he wanted to do with the money. "That's the question of the day," he said. "I have no idea." Although taxes will claim a portion of the check, Cassidy said he was going to save most of his winnings. The rest of the members in the stands were invited to sing "Fight on State" for Barker and the studio audience on stage during a commercial break. Before they sang, the group members had the opportunity to meet the host of the long-running game show. "[Bob Barker] has the softest hands,



PSU Glee Club members show their enthusiasm at *The Price is Right* during break.

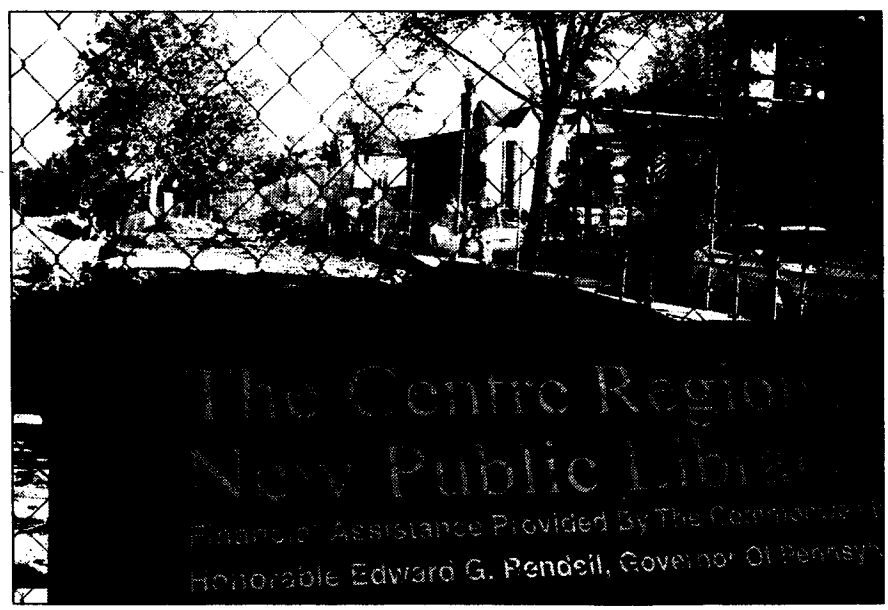
like a pillow, but real firm," Cassidy said. After the show ended, the members heartily greeted their victorious peer. "We pretty much tackled him," Ben Wenk (junior-agroecology) said. Now that the club has gotten national

exposure, Penn State alumnus Micah-Payson Lewis, a member of Glee Club for four years, said the club will have the opportunity to go to more places and participate in more activities all over the country.

Committee to generate names for new library

By Stephanie Liberatore
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The Schlow Memorial Library Board of Trustees announced a three-member committee that will generate a list of possible names for the new library building. The committee will present the list at the board's April 13 meeting, when the board will vote on a name for the new library building, located at the corner of Beaver Avenue and Allen Street. "The point of the committee is just to get something to have a process, to kind of get the number of possibilities down to a workable choice, and the board as a whole will vote," said library director Betsy Allen. Board President Dan Hawbaker named board members Richard Weidhaas, Cathy Zangrilli and George Henning to the committee at last Wednesday's meeting. Allen said the committee will take all of the public comments received into consideration. "With so many letters to the editor and so many letters to the library, they have hundreds of names to choose from," Allen said. "They're taking all of the suggestions that have been made, and they will consider them." Board member David Miller said less than 10 spectators attended Wednesday's board meeting, and only three or four spoke up during the public comment period. "There wasn't anybody criticizing it being named Schlow whatever," he said. "I think that the general mood is that Schlow should remain in the name of library."



A sign for the new library sits on Allen Street in front of the construction site.

Ed Mattil, a long-time State College resident who attended the meeting, said he is seeking a compromise for the new name. "The five townships have committed money, and individuals have committed money, and the borough has committed money," he said. "We've had a wonderful drive, and now we are going to have a \$10 million library, and I think that the citizens of the regions should be recognized as well as Mr. Schlow and the Schlow family," Mattil said. He added that he has no opposition whatsoever to including Schlow in the library's new name, and suggested Schlow Regional Library to show that the people of the region have also contributed. "I don't want to be misunderstood, the Schlows are fine people ... and I have always respected and admired them," he said. "But you have to recognize that hundreds, perhaps thousands, have made contributions to the library, too, over the years," Mattil added. The library, which is now temporarily located at 118 S. Fraser St., was named for the family of Charles Schlow, who donated space in his house on West Col-

lege Avenue free of charge for the library's home in 1957, according to www.schlowlibrary.org. David Schlow, the grandson of Charles Schlow, was also present at the meeting, but chose not to speak because he felt there was nothing to talk about. "In truth, as far as activity or anything happening, nothing really happened," he said. "They appointed the committee ... and said they will be reporting back next month," David Schlow added. Miller said he expects people to attend next month's meeting because the board is voting. "I think they'll want to observe what goes on in this final meeting when the name is selected," he said. Allen said that public comment might be allowed during the discussion, although there may not specifically be a public comment period because the committee will be taking all of the suggestions that have come forward to date. "But I really can't say because we're not there yet," she added. Both David Schlow and Mattil said they plan on attending next month's board meeting.

Filmmaker's work defines global issues

By Laura Bailey
and Leah Felicity Budin
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Filmmaker and critic Trinh T. Minh-ha, known for her emphasis on transnational and global issues, will speak at 11:15 a.m. today in the HUB Auditorium. Minh-ha's lecture is part of the John M. Anderson Endowment Lecture Series, sponsored by the School of Visual Arts. The lecture will be followed by two screenings of Minh-ha's latest film, *Night Passage*, at 7 and 9:30 p.m. tomorrow in 113 Carnegie. "[Minh-ha] is one of the leading filmmakers, in the artistic sense," said Caroline Eckhardt, the main faculty organizer of last weekend's American Comparative Literature Conference. "Her films are not bestsellers, but she's a well-known figure for film as an art form." Minh-ha was the keynote speaker at a conference Saturday night at the Nittany Lion Inn. She spoke to an audience of about 500 people about her Vietnam War-era childhood and her family's migration to the United States. Minh-ha said Vietnamese folklore, literature and her life all shared themes, Eckhardt said. While artists and writers previously used only one language and tradition in their work, Minh-ha is an example of many modern artists who truly belong to multiple cultures, Eckhardt said. In her lectures, Minh-ha also discusses social justice and issues of feminism and cultural politics recur in her work, said Lyn Elliot, assistant professor of communications in the film and video department. Her speeches are framed by screenings of her films, Eckhardt said. The first film, a documentary called *Surname Viet Given Name Nam* was

- ### If you go
- What:** Trinh T. Minh-ha Lecture
 - Time:** 11:15 a.m.
 - Date:** today
 - Where:** HUB Auditorium
 - Details:** Admission is free
-
- What:** *Night Passage* screening
 - Time:** 7 and 9:30 p.m.
 - Date:** tomorrow
 - Where:** 113 Carnegie
 - Details:** Admission is free.

shown Thursday. The film focused on the experiences of Vietnamese women during the Vietnam War, Elliot said. "The film deals with the question of how to represent people's experience in a truthful, authentic way that preserves their own voice," Elliot said. *Night Passage* is the story of a journey by train, Eckhardt said. The double screening is part of a regular Wednesday night film series organized by Elliot through the College of Communications. Admission to the Wednesday night screenings is free and open to the public. Many Wednesday night screenings feature international films, said Lucas Buck, vice president of the Student Film Organization. "When you're in film school, you learn that many people are anti-Hollywood," he said. "Hollywood is so readily accessible, and foreign and international film screenings really open us up." For students who attend, the film may be more challenging than most. Minh-ha's films are more concerned with exploring ideas than catching up an audience in a story, Elliot said.