## Cake, songs help celebrate HŪB's 50th

By Kate Faxon-St. Georges and Elaine Hughes COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER | kkf5000@psu.edu

A six-foot-long birthday cake, decorated with blue and white icing and a giant cake replica of the HUB-Robeson Center, waited to be cut into 1,000 slices.

Students and faculty gathered on the ground floor of the HUB at noon yesterday to celebrate the building's 50th birthday with performances by the Penn State Singing Lions and members of the Penn State Indoor Drumline.

Penn State President Graham Spanier, sporting a themed pin for the occasion, said 4 million people walk through the building's doors every year. "The HUB has been through three renovations and kept up with the university's space and programming needs," Spanier said. "Join me in saying happy birthday to the HUB, and then we're going to cut the cake.'

Throngs of students passing through the HUB on their way to classes or for lunch stopped to admire the cake and listen to the speakers.

Stan Latta, director of unions and student activities, challenged the Nittany Lion mascot to do 50 push ups one for each year the HUB has been open - which he successfully completed. Latta said when the HUB opened in 1955, there were listening rooms where students could listen to



Penn State President Graham Spanier speaks in honor of the HUB-Robeson Center's 50th birthday at noon yesterday on the ground floor.

records and use rotary phones. "Now students can text message, instant message and communicate with oth-

ers using Thefacebook," Latta said. Vice President for Student Affairs Vicky Triponey said people from other universities visit the HUB throughout the year to decide how to make their student unions better.

"Many people call the HUB the 'living room' of the campus because people can come together and connect," Triponey said. "It's a place where people can come together, communicate and learn from each other outside the classroom."

She said the birthday celebration is about paying tribute to the students of past, present and future generations. The Penn State Singing Lions sang

"Happy Birthday" and "Fight On, State!," followed by a performance by the Penn State Indoor Drumline.

The Penn State Indoor Drumline had completed their first number when a man on the stairs of the HUB velled at the drumline, telling them to move their performance outside because the noise had carried to the first floor of the HUB as well.

However, the crowd responded by booing the man, and the drumline continued to perform two more energetic numbers.

Tara Burnham (junior-public relations) said her favorite part of the celebration was the drumline.

"The birthday celebration was a great way to celebrate the history behind the HUB," Burnham said.

## **Admission reports** show fewer students

A report cited the rising cost of attendance, demographics and competition as reasons for the decline.

By Christiana Varda

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The admissions process may seem like a remotely distant one for students currently enrolled at Penn State, but it is a serious issue for the university.

Yesterday's University Faculty Senate meeting underlined the imporfance of admission recruitment and enrollment in an informational report.

"The key here is that the whole university community needs to be engaged in the recruitment process," said John Romano, vice provost and dean for enrollment management.

According to the report, fall's enrollment decreased in comparison to past vears. The report cited three forces affecting the admissions process: demographics, the increasing cost of attendance and competition.

Even though there is a stable, modestly increasing enrollment in higher education, some students are opting for community colleges instead, Romano said. With Penn State being the public university with the highest in-state tuition in the Big Ten, some students may even decide they are unable to afford college, he added.

In his address to the Senate. Penn State President Graham Spanier said the administration is working hard to

keep tuition increases moderate. Even though minority enrollment has increased by 42 percent since 1995, graduate, associate degree, adult learner and provisional enroll-

ment has decreased. "Higher education, especially in Pennsylvania, has entered a buyers' market," Romano said.

Students are looking for a "tuition discount," waiting for the best offer a university can make in terms of university-sponsored scholarships or grants, he said.

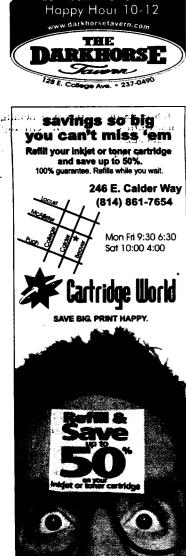
But there are things the university can do to increase enrollment recruitment and admissions such as recognizing the importance of grants and scholarships, campus visits, personalizing the admissions and requirement process and involving all campus constituents.

About 50,000 students apply every vear — "that's half the number we can fit into Beaver Stadium and we have to acquaint them to the university," Romano said.

Faculty Senate Chair Kim Steiner said the nature of the report was informational and there won't be any legislation resulting from it.

"It's good information for all faculty members to have and [information about] where we're likely going," he





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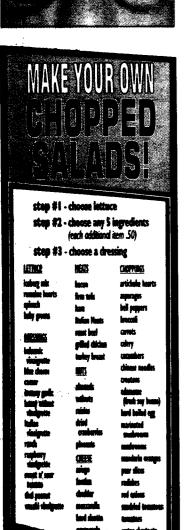


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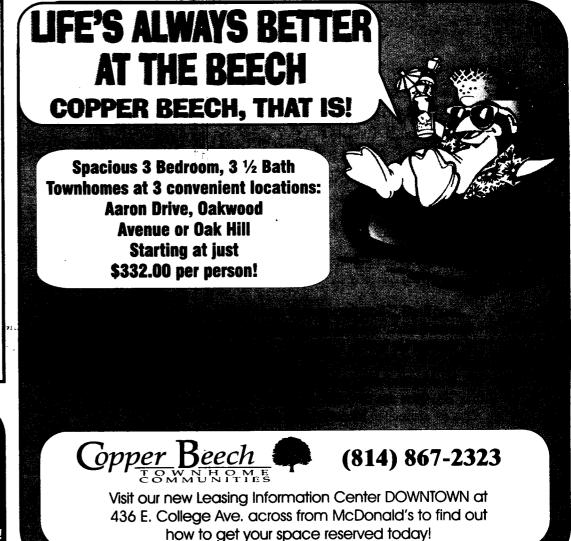
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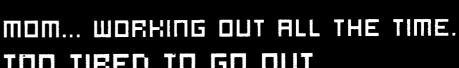
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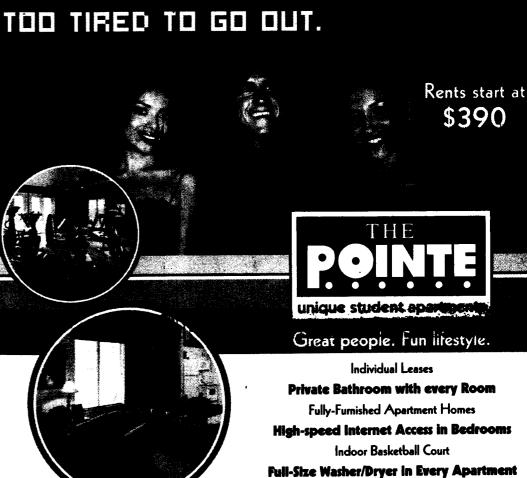
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