

# Outdoor gathering popular

By Paul McMullen  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER



Tom Ruane/Collegian

The Bue and White Society held a recruitment event Tuesday afternoon.

Hundreds of students gathered on the lawn of the Hintz Family Alumni Center yesterday to find their niche in Penn State's largest student organization at the Blue & White Bash.

Students were able to enjoy free food and receive a limited edition Blue & White Society t-shirt for coming to the event, which acted as a recruitment drive for the Penn State Blue & White Society.

The Blue & White Society is the student membership group of the Penn State Alumni Association and is devoted to supporting the alumni association's service to the university and its communities across the commonwealth through Penn State pride and civic leadership.

Penn State's Alumni Association currently has a membership of more than 164,000, making it the largest dues-paying alumni organization in the world.

Both the Blue & White Society and the Penn State Alumni Association

use their resources to help give back to the community in a number of ways, some of which include the organization of food drives, community clean-up and charity bowling and all-you-can-eat wing events.

"There is something for everyone within our group," said Blue & White Society president Sara Zagnit.

"We have a hand in basically every aspect of the Penn State experience, and being a part of the group allows you to cement your spot in the Penn State tradition of giving back."

Although the group has many benefits for people in the community, it also has a great deal of perks for those involved in the group, said Sara Jones, Assistant Director for Student Involvement for the Alumni Association. All Penn State graduates are given a free, one-year membership upon graduation.

This membership entitles students and alumni to networking events, career counseling and alumni directories, which provides a link between students and a number of Penn State Alumni in the workforce, she said.

"Our organization is one of the best ways to stay connected to the university," Jones said.

"We are able to maintain a tight connection between the alumni and the institution."

At the event, there was buzz among those seeking to become a part of the group and explore the many benefits it has to offer.

"I am excited to join a group that has such a large presence at Penn State," said Ryan Bimes (freshman-mechanical engineering).

To email reporter: [pjm5030@psu.edu](mailto:pjm5030@psu.edu)

# Student leaders push for GPS at campus stops

By Alyssa Sweeney  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) President Christian Ragland is working to have GPS tracking systems for Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) buses installed at bus stops around campus.

"It's just a simple student service for students without the iPhone or who aren't near access to the Internet that will make things more convenient," said Ragland.

Some students said they would appreciate the switch. "We only have 15 minutes between classes, and it'd be nice to know whether I can catch the bus in time," Maxine Parker (sophomore-psychology) said.

Parker said she doesn't have the iPhone or its companion CATA application. Right now, she doesn't take the bus because she can't be sure when it's coming.

"It will definitely make a difference in the winter, too. Nobody wants to sit there and freeze, only to be late to class," Parker said.

Ragland said he's trying to work with the university and CATA to bring the idea to fruition. During the process, the Office of Physical Plant may be consulted, he said.

"I think it's a good use of time and resources," CATA Service Development Manager L. Eric Bernier said. "I'm looking forward to discussing it further."

Bernier said CATA would need to decide which locations would be practical and whether getting the necessary power and data to those stops would be feasible.

Once more progress is made on getting the system in place, Ragland said he plans on trying it out first on more populated bus stops — like those across from Allen Street and by the Bryce Jordan Center, where many off-campus students park their cars.

"We all know that going to and from the BJC is definitely not an easy walk," Ragland said.

Ragland said he got the idea from students last semester and included it in his campaign platform. Because of CATA's interest in the project, he said he's optimistic about its future.

"We absolutely welcome the opportunity to work with Christian and the UPUA," Bernier said. "Christian seemed very committed to it, so we'll get something together this year. I'm certain of it."

To email reporter: [ars5474@psu.edu](mailto:ars5474@psu.edu)

# Students weigh in on Iraq address

By David Bodin  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After President Barack Obama announced the end of combat missions in Iraq in a speech on Tuesday night, leaders of student political groups at Penn State agreed that pulling troops out was the right decision.

The speech marked the transition of American control of the Middle Eastern nation back to the Iraqi government.

Speaking in a calm, direct voice from his desk in the Oval Office, Obama said all remaining troops stationed in Iraq will leave by the end of next year. He encouraged Iraq's leaders to move forward in establishing a free nation for themselves.

Obama said the soldiers who gave their lives to serve their country "stared into the darkest of human's creation — war."

He added that all Americans, whether they are for or against the

war, are united in appreciation of the men and women serving in Iraq.

Rob Ghormoz, president of the College Democrats at Penn State, said Obama fulfilled the promise he made during his presidential campaign in 2008. Ghormoz (senior-political science) said Obama's decision was wise since some Americans had grown weary of the war — now in its seventh year — and were voicing concern over the complications involved with America's occupation of the country.

"We can't run two countries," Ghormoz said. "At some point you have to leave Iraq to the Iraqis."

Josh Crawford, the chairman of Penn State's College Republicans, said Obama's strategy was the right thing to do because his Joint Chiefs of Staff recommended it.

"Pulling troops out of Iraq will boost his approval rating," Crawford (junior-crime, law, and justice) said. "But I doubt it was a political agenda."

He said that conditions in Iraq hadn't improved or worsened when the Obama administration took control of the White House.

For some students at Penn State, the end of the war in Iraq is an emotional development nonetheless.

Kim Dudine, the president of the campus organization They Were Our Soldiers, said her boyfriend, Pfc. Christopher Lotter, was killed in Iraq during her freshman year.

She said she's happy soldiers are coming home to be with their families and friends but added she feels for those who lost loved ones in the Iraq War.

"Emotionally, it is very difficult," Dudine (junior-international politics) said. "I lost the love of my life when he was serving in Iraq."

The best way to cope with the war-related death of a loved one is to seek people who are going through the same experience, she said.

To email reporter: [dib367@psu.edu](mailto:dib367@psu.edu)

PUCA 107326  
**Taxi**  
By Handy Delivery  
**814-355-5555**  
We accept Credit and Lioncash

**THE PAPER PLATE**  
Dining Guide  
Delivery - Take out - Dine in

ORDER FOOD ONLINE AT [PSUCOLLEGIAN.COM](http://PSUCOLLEGIAN.COM)

**FALL CAREER DAYS**  
September 7-16, 2010  
Bryce Jordan Center  
Beckman Coulter  
Employer

**BECKMAN COULTER**  
We're better together.  
**Join. Lead. Succeed.**  
Launch Your Field Sales with the Commercial Leadership Program

### Program Overview

The Beckman Coulter Commercial Leadership Program (CLP) is an exciting 9-month development opportunity that prepares recent college graduates to successfully embark on a rewarding career as a member of the Beckman Coulter field sales team.

### Rotations

Participants engage in a series of rotational assignments both in the field and in the office to gain a broad perspective of the business and build skills that will be essential to a successful career with the Beckman Coulter sales organization.

### Qualifications

- Bachelors Degree required with preference for:
  - Business
  - Life Sciences
  - Liberal Arts
- Geographically mobile and able to travel
- Desire to learn and develop as a sales professional
- Effective time management
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to adapt to change
- Self starter

To learn more about the Commercial Leadership Program, please visit [www.beckmancoulter.com/colleasrotations](http://www.beckmancoulter.com/colleasrotations)

[www.fallcareerdayspsu.edu/fall](http://www.fallcareerdayspsu.edu/fall)  
list of Employers - tips - resume help - and more!

**Do you want to design pages like this ...**

**... and graphics like this?**

The Daily Collegian is looking for enthusiastic students to serve as graphic artists and page designers. Experience is not required.

Those interested should come to a brief information session at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 7, at the Collegian office in the James Building on South Burrowes Street.

Applicants must be full-time Penn State students to be eligible. Students who cannot make it to the information session can email Heather at [hfs5029@psu.edu](mailto:hfs5029@psu.edu).

**THE DAILY Collegian**