



The Homecoming Parade passes Beaver Stadium along its route in October 2008. The 2010 Faculty Court was recently announced, and includes professors as well as faculty and staff.

2010 Faculty Court selected

By Megan Rogers
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State staff member Susan James normally helps with Homecoming festivities, but this year she and seven other faculty members will take on a different role as members of the 2010 Faculty Court.

It was an honor to be nominated to the court, Associate Director of Women in Engineering Cheryl Knobloch said, who was humbled and speechless upon hearing the news.

"Because this nomination was generated by my students, it means so much to me," she said. "They are the reason I am so passionate about what I do here."

Students nominate members of the court, Homecoming Public Relations Director Caitlin Rush said, so the court is truly repre-

sentative of faculty who have had an impact on their students, she said. The court is made up of not only professors, but also staff and faculty members, she said.

James, an administrative staff support member for Student Activities Office, said she was surprised to be selected for the court as she is not a faculty member.

Knobloch said she is looking forward to celebrating Penn State pride during Homecoming week and connecting with returning students and alumni. Some students said they are proud of the faculty who have made the court and done so much for their students.

Barry Bram, Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON) adviser, has been selected to the court, to the excitement of the THON Overall Committee, Public Relations Chairwoman Jony Rommel said.

Nominees:

- Mary Edgington
- Susan James
- Cheryl Knobloch
- Melissa Marshall
- Frank Clemente*
- James Binney
- Barry Bram
- Dirk Mateer

"We are really proud of Barry for making it to the Faculty Court," Rommel (senior-philosophy) said.

Sociology professor Frank Clemente, who was nominated to the court, had to decline the offer because he will be out of the country, Rush said.

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Hort Woods closes for safety concerns

By Alexa Agugliaro
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Historic Hort Woods, located by Beam Hall and Park Avenue, is closing — and Penn State student Richard Kelly, a North Halls resident for four years, said he's very disappointed.

The trees located within Hort Woods either predate the start of the university or are descendants of those trees, making Hort Woods a landmark on campus, according to the Penn State Heritage Grove website.

Kelly (senior-architecture) said he often used the woods to walk in — now that they're closed off, it makes his commute to the architecture building less convenient.

He said it is now "awkward" to get to and from class and even more difficult to dodge Park Avenue traffic, especially with a new daycare center being built in the Hort Woods area.

Office of Physical Plant (OPP) spokesman Paul Ruskin said the decision to close off the woods to the public was made by the Risk Management Department because pathways were adjacent to the construction site for the Gary Schultz Child Care Center.

Since the pathways are a dead end, Ruskin said it would be best to put a "good-looking post and chain fence around the perimeter."

Ruskin said the rest of campus is "well-maintained, heavily landscaped and very carefully groomed" and Hort Woods could not be maintained at the same level. Since safety is Risk Management's No. 1 priority, the

"Pedestrians should still have the pleasure of going through it during the day."

Richard Kelly
senior - architecture

department decided it was better for people not to travel through a location unmanaged by OPP, Ruskin said.

Try telling that to Kelly, who thinks Hort Woods should be open to anyone who wishes to experience it.

"It would be just as easy for them to put a sign up that reads specific times and dates the public can walk through the woods," Kelly said. "Pedestrians should still have the pleasure of going through it during the day."

The situation has also impacted Penn State faculty. James Broyles, executive officer of the chemistry department and a College Heights resident, said he used to use a Hort Woods path to walk to work. Aside from losing peace and quiet, the closure removes a direct path to the Chemistry Building — a minor inconvenience but still significant to him. Ruskin said Hort Woods is the last remaining natural habitat on campus and it will be put to better use by animals. The closing of the woods will give the university a nature preserve right on campus, he said.

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Rape trial dismissed, lack of evidence cited by prosecution

By Zach Geiger
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After the defense challenged the inclusion of a dead woman's testimony in a rape trial for the second time, the trial was dismissed Tuesday.

Kyle Lingle, 22, of Milesburg, Pa., was scheduled to face trial today on charges of rape and sexual assault but the trial was dismissed by the prosecution, citing a lack of evidence, Centre County

District Attorney Stacy Parks Miller wrote in an e-mail.

In April, Lingle's attorney Patrick Klena petitioned to remove Racheal Lynn Perryman's testimony against Lingle after Perryman was fatally shot in October 2009.

Perryman testified at a March 18, 2009 preliminary hearing where she said Lingle raped her in 2008.

Because of her death, the testimony was the only evidence the

prosecution had in the case against Lingle, Parks Miller said.

Perryman was fatally shot on Oct. 24, 2009 — eight months after testifying against Lingle — while hunting in Black Moshannon State Forest in Union Township with her boyfriend, Troy R. Tierney, 25, after he mistook her for a deer.

Then-Penn State student Tierney, also of Milesburg, Pa., told police the fatal shooting was an accident.

The use of Perryman's recorded testimony was originally admissible in the opinion of Centre County District Judge Thomas Kistler.

But on Tuesday Klena filed a motion for reconsideration of Kistler's opinion in an attempt to remove Perryman's testimony from court, according to court documents.

The defense was denied a "meaningful cross-examination" of Perryman due to her untimely death during the investigation,

according to court documents.

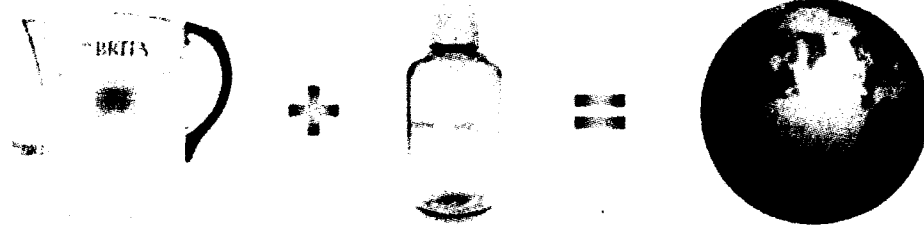
The petition cited a violation of the defense's constitutional right to confrontation, according to court documents.

Perryman's testimony was the only evidence in the case against Lingle, Parks Miller said, and therefore the entire case was dismissed.

Klena could not be reached for comment by press time.

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