

NEW IFC POLICIES SHOW GROWTH

The new changes to fraternity social policies made by the Interfraternity Council (IFC) are signs of both success and growth after last year's overhaul.

The new rules allow certified fraternity members to govern parties instead of requiring houses to hire professional security guards.

This shows initiative on the IFC's part to scale back on redundant party regulations and relieves unnecessary financial

strain on fraternities.

We believe that the certification of these internal greek monitors is a good policy that should continue to be practiced. It shows that the IFC is actively reaching out to educate its constituents and promoting standards and equality among all houses.

Better education in party safety must be accepted by the members of the greek community to make social nights safer for all of those involved. By explaining not only the

specifics of the new rules, but also why it is in the best interest of the fraternity to follow them, should lead to a better reception of the changes.

If new situations present themselves that reflect the reinstatement of professional party control, the IFC should roll with the punches and continue to adapt.

We encourage the IFC to continue to make necessary adjustments to all social policies as it sees fit.

Compassion argument still deflects focus of debate

When somebody questions the concepts of welfare and growing dependency on the American taxpayer, it is common for a welfare supporter to quickly point out a personal lack of compassion for those who are less fortunate. This deceptive tactic is used to deflect attention away from the issue while falsely singling out somebody for being coldhearted and ignorant.

I am supportive of people who receive these entitlements. I want to create a sense of accomplishment through community, and along with motivation, feelings of hope and genuine dedication that once led to individual success and socioeconomic advancement. An opponent to this favors the status quo, or the continuing expansion and institution of programs that have created two generations of dependent Americans while encouraging further government reliance. It is as important to recognize the problem as it is than to propose a viable alternative. Stop criticizing those who question failing government programs while doing their best to work hard and promote a better America.

Andrew Chansky
senior-science

Quran bonfire is deplorable as commemoration of 9/11

With the approaching anniversary of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, much has been planned to commemorate the events of that dreadful day. The University Park Undergraduate Association has planned a commemoration event for Sept. 10, but unfortunately, not all events planned have been positive — the proposed Quran Bonfire by a Gainesville, Fla. pastor, most notably.

The idea is to commemorate the tragic events of Sept. 11 by burning hundreds upon hundreds of Qurans. This is a disgusting and deplorable act. I do not subscribe to the belief that Islam is an evil religion, but like so many other religions, it has some evil people in it. We are at war — not at war with an entire religion — but a group of people who pervert the teachings of Islam to achieve their own ends. Is this proposed Quran bonfire protected by the First Amendment? Perhaps, but that doesn't make it right. Flag burning is protected by freedom of speech, but it doesn't make that right either. Everyone from Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and General David Petraeus, to Pope Benedict XVI have stated how deplorable this is, and that it is a direct threat to our national security.

It's time for people to wake up and use a little common sense and decency.

Josh Crawford
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Penn State College Republicans Chairman



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Kanye's Twitter rant shows arrogance

By Amanda Elser

TWITTER is a wonderful thing. I don't care what haters say — having an outlet for the abundant amount of irrelevant thoughts I have each day makes me happy.

But using the continuously updated Twitter feed as a therapy session is another story.

I'm talking to you Kanye West. On Saturday morning, over 1 million of Kanye's followers, including myself, were bombarded by an outstanding 77 tweets in just over an hour.

I'm guessing that this famous recording artist feels he doesn't get enough airtime to voice his opinions and felt the need to go on a stream-of-conscious tangent.

It started innocently enough, in that only Kanye-can-be-so-pompous type of way.

Tweet One: "Man I love Twitter... I've always been at the mercy of the press but no more... The media tried to demonize me."

It is no secret that when Kanye opens his mouth, controversy comes out.

But the media didn't force

Kanye to go on stage at last year's MTV Video Music Awards and tell him to act like a raging jerk.

The media doesn't have that type of control, which brings me to the next 140 characters of absurdity.

Tweet Two: "They wanted y'all to believe I was a monster in real life so you guys wouldn't listen or buy my music anymore."

Yeah Kanye, I'm sure the main goal of CNN, Fox News and every media outlet in between was to ruin your record deal (I hope my sarcasm is translating).

His Twitter vomit read like lyrics to his next album when he repeatedly asked his followers to "walk with him" and to understand his point of view.

I feel for him, really, but I feel for Taylor Swift more. He did make some apologetic points, though, which makes me think that perhaps he has some regret for what he did.

Tweet Forty-Four: "Beyonce didn't need that. Taylor and her family friends and fans definitely didn't want or need that."

He continuously compared himself to other famously hated people, from George Bush to Ron Burgundy from "Anchor Man" and Elphaba from the Broadway musical "Wicked."

But in classic Kanye fashion, he insisted on referring to himself in the third person, even though he claimed his ego is now in check.

My favorite tweet: "I'm ready to get out of my own way. The ego is overdone... it's like hoodies."

I'm glad he finally realized that he was only hurting himself every time he opened his mouth, but since when are sweatshirts out of fashion?

Listen up Kanye — they were never IN fashion.

Sad thing is, I could have predicted this type of Twitter abuse as soon as the news broke that Kanye had made an account. In fact, I initially started following him to get a laugh out of his obnoxiousness.

These Twitter ramblings were in complete Kanye-character, and even though he tried to humble himself he still managed to come across arrogantly in his apology.

Tweet Eighteen: "If you Google asshole my face may very well pop up 2 pages into the search."

I did the research Kanye, your face didn't make an appearance till page 23.

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THE DAILY Collegian

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blog lines

SMALL WORLD

What's happening in Russia

I've only been in Russia (and loving it) for two weeks, but it already feels like a lifetime since I waved goodbye to my parents at the airport and began this journey.

My first three days in St. Petersburg were spent recuperating from jet lag brought on by the 8-hour time difference and attending seminars designed to prepare me for the challenges of life in the former Soviet Union.

But no seminar could have adequately prepared me for how frustrating it is to live with people I can barely talk to, or how rewarding it is to find myself communicating with them better with every passing day.

Erin Rowley
Small world blogger

IT'S YOUR DIG IT?

Freshman receives honor

Deja McClendon's outstanding play in this past weekend's Hampton Inn Classic at Rec Hall didn't go unnoticed.

On Sunday, the Big Ten named McClendon the conference's Co-Freshman of the Week along with Jennifer Bonilla of Illinois. McClendon averaged 4.1 kills on a .464 hitting percentage in Penn State's three sweeps.

Jake Kaplan
Women's volleyball reporter

SNAP, CRACKLE, POP

Jeggings shape up fashion

I'm not really much of a girly-girl — I've never worn the two skirts I own, and I possess approximately one pair of high heels. In all honesty, I'm more of a jeans and flats type of girl.

Jeans are comfortable, they go with anything and they can be dressed up or down — it's pretty hard to go wrong with a solid pair of jeans. But there is one thing that always gets to me about denim — it tends to lose its shape easily. My pants will fit perfectly in the morning, yet during a day of walking, sitting, standing and sometimes nearly running to class, my jeans have suddenly become three sizes too big. I've got important things to do — who wants to have to hike up their pants every five minutes? Not me.

Julie Mastrine
Culinary reporter

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