

# OPINION

THE DAILY  
Collegian

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## Letters

We want to hear your comments on our coverage, editorial decisions and the Penn State community.

■ **E-mail**  
collegianletters@psu.edu

■ **Online**  
psuonlinecollegian.com

■ **Postal mail/In person**

123 S. Burrows St. University Park, PA 16801  
Letters should be about 200 words. Student letters should include class year, major and campus. Letters from alumni should include year of graduation. All writers should provide their address and phone number for verification. Letters should be signed by no more than two people. Members of organizations must include their titles if the topic they write about is connected with the aim of their groups. The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters. The Collegian cannot guarantee publication of all letters it receives. Letters chosen also run on The Daily Collegian Online and may be selected for publication in The Weekly Collegian. All letters become property of Collegian Inc.

## Awareness heightened by march

Last Friday, University Park Undergraduate Association held its second annual "Every Lion a Shrine" sexual assault march. The march along Pollock road was an attempt to raise awareness about sexual assaults at Penn State.

It is refreshing to see so many different student organizations band together for the second year in taking a stand against this threat to the Penn State community.

Marches like this set a

good example for the rest of the university, and demonstrates that everyone is responsible for ending sexual violence. The event helps to foster important camaraderie between bystanders and victims.

We encourage UPUA to keep up the good work in facilitating events that will benefit all students and potential victims. We also commend those organizations like Men against Violence and Penn State Center for Women Students in

devoting themselves to promoting awareness and becoming helpful allies for all who fight this uphill battle. Their presence at the march represents a different side to the sexual assault issue.

Any type of attention brought to this distressing subject is good. Hopefully, walks like this helps give victims the strength and support needed to report sexual assault and encourages everyone else to be proactive in combating this crime.

## LETTERS

### Anniversary overtly publicized

I want to first start off by saying that I mean no disrespect to the memory of Joseph Dado. Joseph Dado's death was a tragedy; however, it was a tragedy that could have been avoided.

I do not see it fitting for The Daily Collegian to run two full pages to his memory. I speak on this issue also from personal experience. My freshman year at Penn State I lost a very dear friend and teammate of mine from high school to an alcohol-related incident. I mourned and cried for my friend just as I'm sure Dado's friends did for him. What I did not do, however, was ignore the fact that my friend's death was his fault and his fault alone.

But as I skimmed the two full pages dedicated to Dado today all I could find myself wondering was whether or not that space could have been used to give praise to a Penn State student who is making valuable contributions to the Penn State community.

Conor Downs

junior-crime, law and justice



## Why it's not weak to be a PSU greek

By Amanda Elser

So, I am like totally a sorority girl and like I totally don't talk like this.

In light of Panhellenic Recruitment this week and next I feel the need to clarify some other common misconceptions.



MY OPINION

The entertainment industry does a good job of portraying sorority women in a dim light. Movies like "Sydney White" and "House Bunny" cast them as either the mean, blonde bombshell bimbo or the dork with gum stuck in her hair who still wears a metal retainer. I am neither, nor are the majority of other Penn State Panhellenic women.

When I tell people that I am in a sorority I am usually met with a bit of skepticism.

My favorite: "But you write for the Collegian... isn't that like an oxymoron?"

Many other Penn State greeks also have outside interests — they are student government leaders, THON Overall Members, Lion Ambassadors and members of hundreds of organizations in between.

We have pride in our university and more importantly, in our

greek community.

Even television shows that portray us in a more positive manner seem to somehow skew our ideals and standards into silly, useless things. In the TV show, "GREEK," every time they plan a philanthropy or event, it turns into something corny, frivolous and filled with petty drama.

Penn State greek life couldn't be more of an opposite (although drama is everywhere).

In addition to our national philanthropies, most chapters also participate in other sorority and fraternity's philanthropies, not to mention the annual IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon.

It now boasts the title of the largest student run philanthropy in the world, but THON started as a greek philanthropy. And of the staggering \$7.8 million raised last year, there was nothing ditzy about the \$2.4 million that greeks raised for the kids.

Sororities are not a breeding ground for stupidity, drinking problems or eating disorders. In fact, most women who join a sorority excel, not only socially but also academically. The current average overall sorority GPA is 3.36 while the independent women GPA average is 3.29.

I think Elle Woods really could have gotten a 179 on her LSAT. Greeks also carry a tainted

stereotype that is all we do is drink, which is immensely exaggerated. As students at Penn State, we drink no more than our fellow students. In fact, we are one of the few organizations on campus that regulates social activities.

The greek community only makes up 4,215 undergraduate students of the 34,822 at University Park. So, we did not get that "number one party school" title alone.

I did not "buy my friends." I bought a membership into a nationally recognized organization. Don't confuse the two.

I'm not saying we are perfect (anything but) — there is just another layer to our community other than what is shown on the big screen. And while each chapter and each school is different, the women at Penn State have a strong general sense of the bigger picture. We understand that what we do will effect today and tomorrow. Every ritual we do from secret handshakes to wearing our letters is engrained in our history and our tradition.

It all has a larger meaning, no matter how mundane and unimportant it may seem to a passerby on the street.

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## blog lines

### FOOTBLOG

#### The Lions speak tonight

**Lions Roar: Andrew Dailey**  
Dailey said he has been practicing in the base defense, while Astorino is in the nickel. The same rotation could be seen this weekend.

Dailey said the secondary is "keyed on the running game just as much as the passing game."

Dailey said athleticism has impressed him the most about Temple, along with QB Chester Stewart.

Penn State was like his high school in the school pride aspect, leading him to State College...

#### Lions Roar: Justin Brown

Brown said he was athletic out of high school, but he developed as a receiver at Penn State.

He learned route running, blocking, etc.

Brown said once Temple saw he was being recruited by other bigger schools, he thinks the Owls backed off.

He found out he would start against Kent State only several days before the game.

Brown said there are designated plays for not only Devon Smith, but every receiver...

#### Lions Roar: Johnnie Troutman

Troutman said the last month has been OK getting the left-guard job back. When he lost the job in the preseason, it felt like something was stolen from him.

Troutman thinks the job is his and doesn't expect to rotate.

Troutman was put on the second team in the preseason because of his weight.

Troutman said the O-line needs to fight a couple more seconds to get the running game going...

Football reporters

### SNAP, CRACKLE, POP

#### Banks talks business

I had the chance to talk with Lloyd Banks before his show at Mezzanine last night.

Q: What have you been focusing on for the past couple of years, because you haven't been in the spotlight for a while?

A: I don't think people ever forgot about me. I think that people are not just on a mix tape market. I'm just trying being dominate and relevant in both.

Q: How has your music evolved in the past couple of years?

A: Well recording at least once a week, sometimes two or three times a week, will change anyone. I have gained so much experience since 2000, early 2001 — so much experience that after a while, your music is definitely going to change. It has made my voice change. When I started my voice was still rapping from the street and that's how I went into the booth.

Q: Why should students be excited about the show and what should they expect?

A: It will be a lot people's first time seeing me. I have a catalog that goes back to 2000. Every time I step on the stage I try to make people say, "Oh my God, damn, he did it." Every time I try to come with a new energy...

Karina Yucel

TV reporter

### Just a little more Jersey

Want an extra dose of Pauly D, Snooki and the rest of the Jersey Shore crew?

Look no further. Valore Books, a college textbook company, has launched a series of "webisodes" parodying season two of the hit MTV show to draw attention to its newly launched textbook rental program. The first episode opens with a shot of Snooki sleeping and Pauly D lifting weights and fixing his greased hair. It's the network, saying the cast isn't educated enough and needs to go to college.

And so the adventure begins...

Sarah Roters

Education reporter

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