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JOE KNOWS POLITICS



Christine Reckner/Collegian

Vice President Joe Biden is surrounded by attendees after his speech on Tuesday. Biden spoke to a crowd of over 1,000 for more than half an hour.

Biden visits PSU

VP stresses student vote

By Katrina Wehr
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Vice President Joe Biden said he has a bad habit of saying exactly what he thinks.

And what he thinks is if young adults bring their dedication from the 2008 presidential election to the upcoming midterm elections, the progress of Democrats in Washington can continue.

"Your generation swept us into the White House," Biden said. "You, more than anyone else, have the power to help us like you did last time."

Students and community members filled the HUB-Robeson Center Tuesday afternoon for Biden's "Moving America Forward" rally. Interest was so high that some attendees were not able to enter Alumni Hall before it was closed by fire marshals.

Rob Ghormoz, president of the Penn State College Democrats, said it was wonderful to see how enthusiastic the students in the audience were.

"It's what we wanted to see," Ghormoz (senior-political science) said. "I'm just excited for people to hear the vice president's message on continuing the changes that benefit students."

Before the program began, local band Velveta played until student body president Christian Ragland introduced the national anthem.

Attendees also heard from Democratic Congressional candidate Michael Pipe, who talked about some of the initiatives the Obama administration has put in place to help students and young adults.

Jay Paterno, Penn State quarterbacks coach, took the podium next and compared the players he looks to recruit to the kind of people needed in Washington — team players.

"A great team and a great nation needs 'we' and 'us' kind of people," Paterno said.

Ghormoz then took the podium to introduce the vice president, whose entrance was met with an uproar of cheers and applause.

"All I heard when I got here in Happy Valley was the roar of a lion," Biden said after the audience quieted down.

The vice president spoke for more than half an hour to a crowd of more than 1,000 people. From See RALLY, Page 2.



Alex Weister/Collegian

Vice President Joe Biden greets those who waited in an overflow room.

Students protest administration

By Casey McDermott
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Just past the HUB-Robeson Center and the audience filing in to hear Vice President Joe Biden speak, another student stood waving a red, white and blue sign that read, "2012: Just 'Biden' Our Time."

The student and his peers from the Penn State Chapter of Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) set up camp alongside Pollock Road Tuesday morning, holding hand-made posters protesting the current administration, passing out miniature American flags and conversing with passersby.

Though it seemed like YAF

President Samuel Settle and his group were opposing the vice president's visit, Settle said their real goal was to reach out to other students who are frustrated with current political leaders, but don't feel as though other students share their discontent.

"It's a message to the general student body: If you're feeling like a minority, you're not," Settle (junior-political science and history) said.

But, Settle said, that's not to say he and his fellow YAF members weren't trying to get those in power to pay attention to them, either.

"It's important that the See PROTEST, Page 2.

Some miss VP's speech

By Katrina Wehr and Aubrey Whelan
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITERS

About 250 people denied entry to HUB-Alumni Hall Tuesday afternoon — as crowds for Vice President Joe Biden's Moving America Forward rally filled the room to capacity — might have felt like they'd gotten the short end of the stick.

But as it turns out, they got lucky.

After his speech, Biden shook hands and took pictures outside the Paul Robeson Cultural

Center's Heritage Hall with attendees who waited for about an hour and half in the HUB Auditorium after Alumni Hall's doors closed.

"Well, you didn't miss much," Biden said to laughter, "but I did miss speaking to you."

Biden, sporting a Penn State baseball cap, delivered a shorter version of his speech for the small crowd waiting for him.

Attendees filed into the auditorium after being turned away at Alumni Hall when staffers told them they'd be able to watch the See OVERFLOW, Page 2.



Peter Tesoriero/Collegian

Young Americans for Freedom members protest on Tuesday afternoon.

IFC: New policy levels field

By Megan Rogers
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Interfraternity Council (IFC) executives said Tuesday night that the council's updated uniform sanctions policy — which names the consequences for violations of IFC policies — will assure that all fraternities are equally affected by fines they receive for violations.



Wendkos

The new policy was approved at Tuesday's IFC President's Council meeting.

Fines for all IFC violations, ranging from recruitment violations to the recently updated social events policy, will be determined using a formula that is based on the number of brothers in a chapter, said IFC Vice

President for Public Relations Dan Cartwright.

Cartwright (senior-energy, business and finance) said the fine will be determined by charging a certain fine per brother — equalizing the impact a fine will have on fraternities of all sizes.

The aim of the policy is to level the playing field between all IFC chapters, IFC President Max Wendkos said, adding that the updated policy is a "drastic change" for the IFC.

Under the new uniform sanctions policy, a chapter with more members will face a larger fine than a chapter with less members, Cartwright said. Before, there was a set sanction fine for every violation, Cartwright said — each fraternity chapter paid the same fine for a violation, regardless of the chapter's number of members.

The previous policy did not consider the financial means of each fraternity. As a result, larger

chapters with greater funding by students were not as impacted by a fine as a smaller chapter may be, Wendkos (senior-marketing and psychology) said.

Policy updates weren't the only matter discussed at last night's meeting.

Also at the meeting, the President's Council approved the idea of a "Greek or Treat" event. The event would take place the weekend following Halloween, Cartwright said.

The premise of the event is to have community families take a trolley to fraternity houses, where they can trick-or-treat for candy, he said. He said more plans for the events are still in the works and some details need to be decided upon.

"It's a nice community service event," Cartwright said.

The council will meet again on Oct. 12.

To e-mail reporter: mer5200@psu.edu



Collegian file photo

Lady Icers coach Mo Stroemel oversees a practice in 2009.

Teammates to travel

By Greg Garcia
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

It was just another ordinary day for Heather Rossi.

The senior goaltender had just finished handing in her paperwork before Lady Icers coach Mo Stroemel summoned her into his office. It was that moment where Rossi realized her lifelong dream would now become a reality.

Once Rossi entered the room, Stroemel told her she had been

selected to represent the United States in the 2011 Winter World University games in Erzurum, Turkey. It was seconds later when Rossi was also told that her coach and three other teammates — fellow goalie Katie Vaughan, and defenders Lindsay Reihl and Kate Christofferson — would be joining her overseas.

"I was speechless after coach Stroemel told me I had made the team," Rossi said. "It was an See LADY ICERS, Page 2.