



Kelsey Morris / Collegian

Wasil Wahi (freshman-physics) and Nick Stanisha (freshman-physics) battle each other in a game of Rock Band at the Gamers Arena, 421 E. Calder Way. Gamers Arena held its Grand Opening Party on Friday.

## Grand opening draws gamers

By Zach Geiger  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Gunfire, roaring football fans and Metallica riffs blasted throughout Calder Way during the grand opening celebration of State College's newest video game store, Gamers Arena.

Friday's all-day event at the store's 421 E. Calder Way location had gamers of all ages battling it out in video games like "Halo: Reach" and "Madden NFL 2011."

Radio station B94.5 was on hand from 6 to 8 p.m. broadcasting live, as well as challenging gamers to come down to the store and take on the competition.

The event remained packed throughout the evening, drawing everyone from Penn State students to small children and their parents.

"It's pretty amazing," storeowner Jeremy Gibson said. "There's a lot more people than I expected."

One of the store's employees

remained undefeated in "Guitar Hero" for the entire night. B94.5 let listeners know about the challenge to dethrone the champion where gamers could win a \$10 gift card, a free Gamers Arena T-shirt and free entry to a future video game tournament hosted by the store.

John Thompson (freshman-mathematics) won a free T-shirt after nearly beating the Guitar Hero champion.

After seeing an advertisement for the store, Thompson said he decided to come downtown and check out the event. Though he didn't win the competition, Thompson said he enjoyed participating and was glad he didn't have to walk away empty-handed.

"I like playing that game," he said. "The shirt was an added bonus."

All three of Gamers Arena's televisions were constantly in use throughout the night, with people waiting for their chance to play.

James Murphy (junior-civil engineering) visited Gamers Arena for

the first time on Friday.

"It's a pretty nice looking place," Murphy said. "I like the fact that they have the radio station out here."

Murphy and Chris Holland (junior-mechanical engineering) both said they wouldn't come to the store for video game competitions, but they would consider renting games, based on the store's array of options.

"I'd be lucky to get a kill [in a tournament,]" Holland said. "But if they have a good selection for renting, I'd come in."

About six people signed up on Friday for different video game tournaments the store plans to host in the future, Gibson said.

But the overall turnout at the grand opening — 30 to 40 people — was a pleasant surprise, he said.

"It was a success, absolutely," Gibson said. "B94.5 did a good job, too. We're really happy with them."

To e-mail reporter: zjg5012@psu.edu

## 9/11 widow finds faith

By Katrina Wehr  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Cheryl McGuinness bid farewell to her husband Tom as he went off to his job as an American Airlines pilot on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, not knowing it would be the last time she'd ever see him.

McGuinness shared her story of that day on Friday night at Bellefonte High School, 830 E. Bishop St., with an audience of military veterans, community members and high school students.

The program began by honoring each branch of the military with its respective anthem, followed by a slideshow of the destruction at the crash sites, including Ground Zero, Shanksville, Pa., and the Pentagon.

When McGuinness took the microphone, she said despite all the horror of Sept. 11, she still managed to see the "Beauty Beyond The Ashes." She founded a ministry and wrote a book of that title to share what she learned about faith through the experience of grieving her husband's death.

First Officer Tom McGuinness co-piloted American Airlines Flight 11 alongside Captain John Ogonowski and nine flight attendants, according to a 9/11 Commission report.

The flight had its last communication with the ground at 8:14 a.m., and about a half hour later the plane made impact with the North Tower of the World Trade Center, killing the entire crew and all 81 passengers on board, according to the report.

"It has been quite a journey out of the ashes of Sept. 11," McGuinness said. "At times, it seems there's no end to the human suffering we can experience."

She said she remembers the details of that morning clearly, as she sat on her deck in New Hampshire near the shore — right up to the instant when she heard her husband was missing. Her children were in grade school at the time and she answered the telephone to one of her friends asking if Tom was at home. When McGuinness said Tom was at work, her friend told her some planes had been hijacked and she rushed over to comfort her.

"I remember thinking, 'This is America, that doesn't happen here,'" McGuinness said.

Later that day, after watching hours of news reports with friends and neighbors, McGuinness said she saw a black car parked at the bottom of her driveway. Three men got out and came to the front door: one of them the chief pilot of American Airlines.

They told her American 11 had not only been hijacked, but flown deliberately into the North Tower of the World Trade Center — there were no survivors.

McGuinness met her husband when she was 16. They were the definition of high school sweethearts, she said, and married shortly after she graduated from college. They had celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary only weeks before Sept. 11.

"I never imagined that my peaceful life would be shattered," she said.

She imagined she would live the rest of her life in despair and anguish after the attacks, but after a while McGuinness said she found a way to heal through religion.

"My story is not what happened just on that day," she said, "but what God has done with my life since."



McGuinness

## Solar panels reduce costs for Pa. residents

By Matt Morgan  
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Jo-Ann Dreibelbis has had her solar panels turned on since April and her electric bill has been \$0 ever since. "I love it," said Dreibelbis, a resident of Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa. "It's quiet, and I don't even think it looks bad."

Dreibelbis's residence was just one of the seven stops on the inaugural State College Solar Tour held on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Penn State Chapter of the American Solar Energy Society (ASES), the tour was an effort to expose people to feasible alternative energy options.

Don and Delores Breon of State College also activated their system in April and didn't have to pay electricity bills for the duration of the summer.

"You can't hardly go wrong with this," Don Breon said. "We have already seen positive results and we are very happy."

On average, the solar panels cost about \$50,000, but government incentives to use alternative energy ultimately make the systems more affordable, Dreibelbis said.

The Pennsylvania Sunshine Grant will pay for about one third of the cost of her solar panels, she said, and she will receive a 30 percent federal tax rebate. With the combination of rebates and the reduction in electricity costs, most residents estimate that the system will pay for itself within five to eight years.

"You don't usually find something that pays for itself that quickly," Delores Breon said.

Tour participant Charith Tammineedi (graduate-energy and mineral engineering) was excited about the day's events because he has an interest in solar energy.

Lucas Witmer, president of the Penn State Chapter of ASES, was also pleased with the results of the tour. "I think it went fabulously. It was terrific," Witmer (graduate-energy

and mineral engineering) said. "There was great support from the community and a great student turnout. We all learned a lot about solar systems."

Witmer also said the enthusiasm of the local residents made the tour a positive experience for everyone involved. "I didn't know what to expect, but the homeowners were welcoming and terrific," he said.

But for people who are hesitant to break their traditional energy usage habits and convert their homes to solar energy, State College resident Sylvia Feldman has some advice.

"Do it and do it now," she said. "Don't wait."

Don Breon

State College resident

To e-mail reporter: kmw5340@psu.edu

**PASTA MONDAY**  
All You Can Eat - All Day  
11am-10pm  
\$5.95  
Corner of College & Allen St.

of PSU students agree that distribution racks are conveniently located.  
**BE NOTICED ADVERTISE IN THE COLLEGIAN**

**Cartridge World**  
Why Buy New Cartridges?  
All You Need Is New Ink.  
Head to Cartridge World for your ink and toner needs. You'll not only save money, but you'll help save the environment by reducing the number of cartridges in American landfills.  
**SAVE BIG-GO GREEN**  
Over 1,700 locations worldwide  
© 2008 Cartridge World. All rights reserved.  
The Ink and Toner Experts

**LIONCASH PLUS**  
**Featured Merchant**

**PENNSTATE Hospitality Services**  
Working with PSHS provides an opportunity to experience the very best of many worlds. While providing world class hospitality to loyal customers, our team has access to innumerable resources of the University community, academic, cultural, athletic, and recreational resources. Part time positions are at The Nittany Lion Inn, The Penn State Conference Center, Hotel and Laundry Building.  
• AV Setup  
• Culinaricians Cold Food/Prep Cook/Line Cook  
• Banquet Bartenders  
• Dishwasher/Banquet Stewards (Sanitation Cleanup)  
• Bar (Pub) Server  
• Refreshment Break Attendant  
• Bellhop/Valet/Van Drivers  
• Restaurant Food Server/Table Attendant  
Competitive pay rates. Must be 16 Years of Age or older. Apply online and click on Job Opportunities www.pennstatehotels.com. Penn State is comitted to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its workforce.

**George's Floral Boutique** FREE delivery when paying with LionCash+  
www.georgesfloral.com  
**Jezebel's Boutique** 20% off store wide including Halloween costumes when paying with LionCash+  
www.jezebelslingerie.com  
**Sheetz** \$2.99 22 oz. fountain drink with the purchase of a 6 MTQ when paying with LionCash+  
www.sheetz.com  
**Uncle Chen's Chinese Restaurant** \$15 off any \$15 or more when paying with LionCash+  
www.unclechen.com  
**Walk's Service Center** \$10 off PA State Inspection AND \$6.00 off oil change when paying with LionCash+  
www.walksautoservice.com  
**The West Wing at the West Food District** \$10 off any food services prepared on campus when paying with LionCash+  
www.foodservices.psu.edu/west/  
Oct 2010 www.idcard.psu.edu