

# 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.

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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.

## EDITORIAL: ANGEL CONTRACT EXPIRATION

# System switch should be smooth

Information Technology Services (ITS) is considering changing the online course management system when the current contract with ANGEL expires in 2014.

The university sometimes seems hesitant to change student technology such as Webmail and ANGEL because of the large volume of students who access it. But if the changes are beneficial and fix problems that continually occur, they should be made.

We encourage ITS to

transition from ANGEL to another system if it believes the change will benefit students, but it should also try to do so as smoothly as possible.

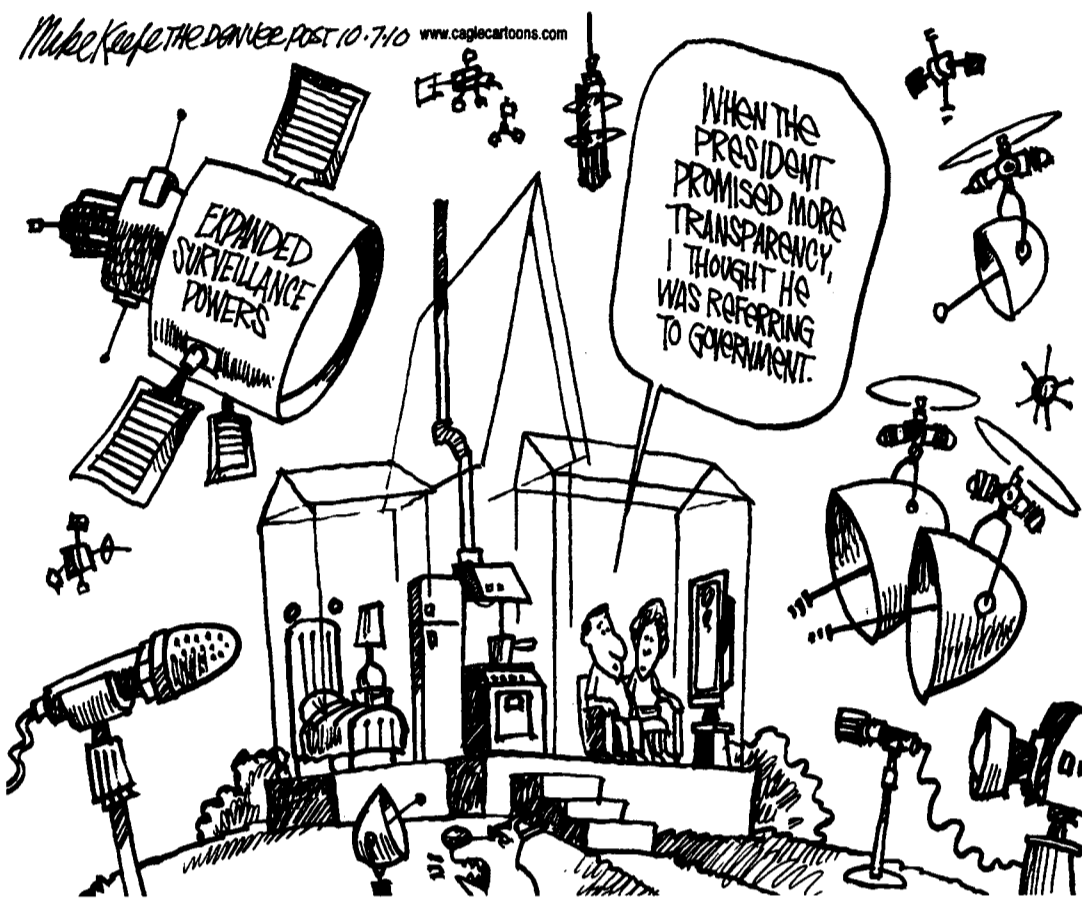
When looking into replacement programs, the university should not only take into consideration student feedback, but also professor feedback. Professors are the ones who can make the program a blessing or a hassle for students.

If professors do not like the program or have major issues with it, they

will not use the program to its full advantage.

It would be beneficial if all professors used the new program uniformly, instead of sporadically like ANGEL is used now, and especially as students are getting used to the new system.

Cost should also be considered when looking at new programs. Tuition rises almost every year and the university should look at this as a way to keep costs down, not raise costs with the change in program.



## COLUMNIST

# Homecoming brings together alumni, students to celebrate our sacred bond

By DJ Ryan

**B**ONDED by Blue and White. It took the Homecoming Executive Committee several hours to come up with such a great theme. When it came time to announce it to the world, we all thought carefully over the theme's meaning and what it said about Penn State. It was clear to us then, and still is now, that this theme celebrates the one thing we all share, even 50 years after leaving Happy Valley — our Penn State pride.

Today, many alumni return to Penn State to celebrate just that: The bond of the blue and white. Without our alumni, the best in the world, Homecoming could not be what it is today.

I take this opportunity to thank them for their enthusiasm and support — but most of all to welcome them home.

I have served for the last year as the Homecoming Alumni Relations Director. Throughout this journey, I have met many alums who were very successful after graduation.

No matter what excitement has come in their life post-Penn State, they're all so enthusiastic about this weekend.

It's their time to relive the best years of their lives — the blue and white years.

My most special relationship has been with Grand Marshal Allison Baver, Class of 2003, who has gone on to "swell the fame" of her Alma Mater through her athleticism and philanthropy.

Someone who is literally one of the world's best at what she does has never forgotten her roots at Penn State Berks, and we are honored to have her here today.

Baver's journey is particularly special, because she spent her Penn State career at the Berks Campus. When I see the alumni of Penn State Berks march in the parade today, I hope it serves as another testament to the Penn State experience. Without the diversity of educational options offered here, we wouldn't be the great university we are. Baver's selection as this year's Grand Marshal shows the Commonwealth Campus alumni bond to the community is just as strong as ever.

I said before that Homecoming could not be what it is without alumni. Of course, the many alumni "come home" to celebrate with us.

But the proudest group of alumni is without a doubt the Penn State Alumni Association. Their unwavering support for the efforts of the Homecoming Executive Committee has been

nothing short of astonishing. To Roger Williams, Deborah Marron, Michele Moore, Jill Selje, Tom Hammond, Sara Jones, Amy Caputo and the entire Alumni Association family: Today is happening almost as much to your credit as ours. The bond of blue and white grows stronger each and every day because of your efforts.

That same gratitude goes to the family we have found in the HUB-Robeson Center. To our advisers Jen Grossman, Leopard and Anna Elais, who have guided us each and every step of the way, and to Susan James, Gina Hurny, Barry Bram, Jeff Zapletal, Darcy Rameker and the rest of our 209 HUB family, we thank you eternally.

Regardless of the path we've taken to get here or the path we take when we leave, all of our lives converge here, at Penn State. This weekend is our time to celebrate those two, four or more years we spent under the blue and white skies of Happy Valley.

To that celebration we now go, and with it my wishes for the happiest of Homecoming Weekends.

Welcome Home.

DJ Ryan is a senior majoring in communication arts and sciences and is the 2010 Homecoming Alumni Relations director. His e-mail is [alumnihomecoming@psu.edu](mailto:alumnihomecoming@psu.edu).

## LETTERS

### Guevara shouldn't be revered

On Oct. 9, people around the world and students on this campus will recognize the anniversary of Che Guevara's death. People honor him on a regular basis by wearing a cool looking shirt with his face on it. If you do not know who he is, you have certainly seen this T-shirt (probably on this campus). In today's world, Che is idolized. Yet, Che Guevara was an international terrorist and mass murderer much along the lines of Lenin, Stalin and Mao. He maintained an inhuman campaign to impose communism on Latin American countries. He trained and motivated Fidel Castro's firing squads who were responsible for the execution of thousands of men, women and children.

We do not glorify and idolize murderers like Stalin because we know about their evil deeds. Che's life is more ambiguous — he is praised as a hero and his cult of violence is largely ignored. This is a man who is quoted as saying, "I'd like to confess, at that moment, I discovered that I really like killing." Does he still seem like such a great hero who should be praised, who should be an icon for students, who should have his face printed on shirts all over America? Maybe we should use the anniversary of Che's death to learn the truth about this vicious murderer.

Alexandra Pirko

junior-political science

Young Americans for Freedom secretary

### Conflict found in court picks

I am rather skeptical of the selection process for this year's Homecoming court, and would request that Dan Florencio and Katherine Larimer relinquish their nominations for the 2010 Homecoming court in the name of common sense.

The conflict of interests posed by Mr. Florencio's involvement as a homecoming captain this year, and Ms. Larimer's role as King and Queen captain in 2009 casts doubt on the validity of their nominations to the court. Every student — particularly the other nominees — should be leery of two homecoming captains being surreptitiously nominated for their own election. Especially, if they win.

Michael Vincent

senior-French linguistics and visual journalism

## blog lines

### FOOTBLOG

#### The latest predictions

**Brendan Monahan**

Record: 42-8  
Last week: 9-1  
Michigan 31, Michigan State 21  
Nebraska 24, Kansas State 10  
Alabama 27, South Carolina 13  
Arizona 21, Oregon State 10  
Utah 17, Iowa State 3  
Arkansas 20, Texas A&M 17  
Florida 21, LSU 17  
Miami 27, Florida State 10  
Stanford 24, USC 14  
Notre Dame 24, Pittsburgh 13

**AJ Cassavell**

Record: 39-11  
Last week: 9-1  
Michigan State 30, Michigan 24  
Nebraska 24, Kansas State 16  
Alabama 34, South Carolina 10  
Arizona 27, Oregon State 24  
Utah 31, Iowa State 21  
Arkansas 24, Texas A&M 20  
Florida 26, LSU 17  
Miami 24, Florida State 13  
Stanford 23, USC 20  
Pittsburgh 21, Notre Dame 20

**Audrey Snyder**

Record: 37-13  
Last week: 8-2  
Michigan 24, Michigan State 23  
Nebraska 31, Kansas State 17  
Alabama 37, South Carolina 13  
Oregon State 24, Arizona 22  
Utah 27, Iowa State 13  
Arkansas 30, Texas A&M 24  
Florida 23, LSU 20  
Miami 23, Florida State 14  
Stanford 27, USC 23  
Notre Dame 26, Pittsburgh 17

Football reporters

### SNAP, CRACKLE, POP

#### Community watch

Yvette Nicole Brown stars as Shirley in the NBC sitcom, "Community." We talked about her past roles as well as her experience working on the show.

**Q:** I am also a big fan of Drake and Josh, and Josh as well as yourself was the reason my first job was in a movie theater. What is the transition like, from a kids show to Community?

**A:** I am shocked because [Helen] is kind of crazy.

**Q:** How does working on this show compare to others you have been on in the past?

**A:** Every set is pretty much the same work with different people. The environment is the same. We still have trailers, make-up and the food station. The only difference between Community and other shows I've worked on is the style of sitcom. The actual shoot day is different because Community is a one camera production; other shows have multi-cameras on set. The day is a lot longer because the shooting is slow and meticulous...

Karina Yücel

TV reporter

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