Napster is free for Penn State students

Can Turhan

It was last November that Penn State University announced it would make a revolutionary agreement with the online music service Napster to on-campus students.

And now, the service continues this fall, but with every enrolled student receiving the service.

Penn State followed the initiative due to the concern of students who illegally downloaded music over the computer networks.

With the new program the university hopes that students will understand that downloading copyrighted material without permission is against the law and students who do download could be prosecuted.

The University also hopes that they would deter students from illegal downloading with the new service with Napster.

Penn State is the first university or college in the world to provide such a service for students which launched on the first day of spring semester last year.

As to why Penn State chose Napster, they felt the program offered a variety of features available to students that other programs lacked.

Students, faculty, and staff will have access to over 800,000 songs on Napster as well as streaming an unlimited number of full-length tracks.

One of the best parts of the program is that it will be offered at no cost to students courtesy of the University's Information Technology Fee.

The services provided to students are listed on Napster's website, www.napster.com, and range from downloading unlimited song titles and Napster's own preprogrammed radio station to participation on the community message boards.

Students will be able to burn music to CDs or to a portable device only after a purchase of 99 cents per song is made.

One of Penn State's biggest concerns this year will be the unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material by students on file sharing programs.

Making copies of copyrighted material is against federal and state laws as well as a violation of University policy.

Industries like the RIAA (The Recording Industry Association of America) and the MPAA (The Motion Picture Association of America) have stepped up their efforts in bringing down violators of copyright laws by issuing serious penalties and fines.

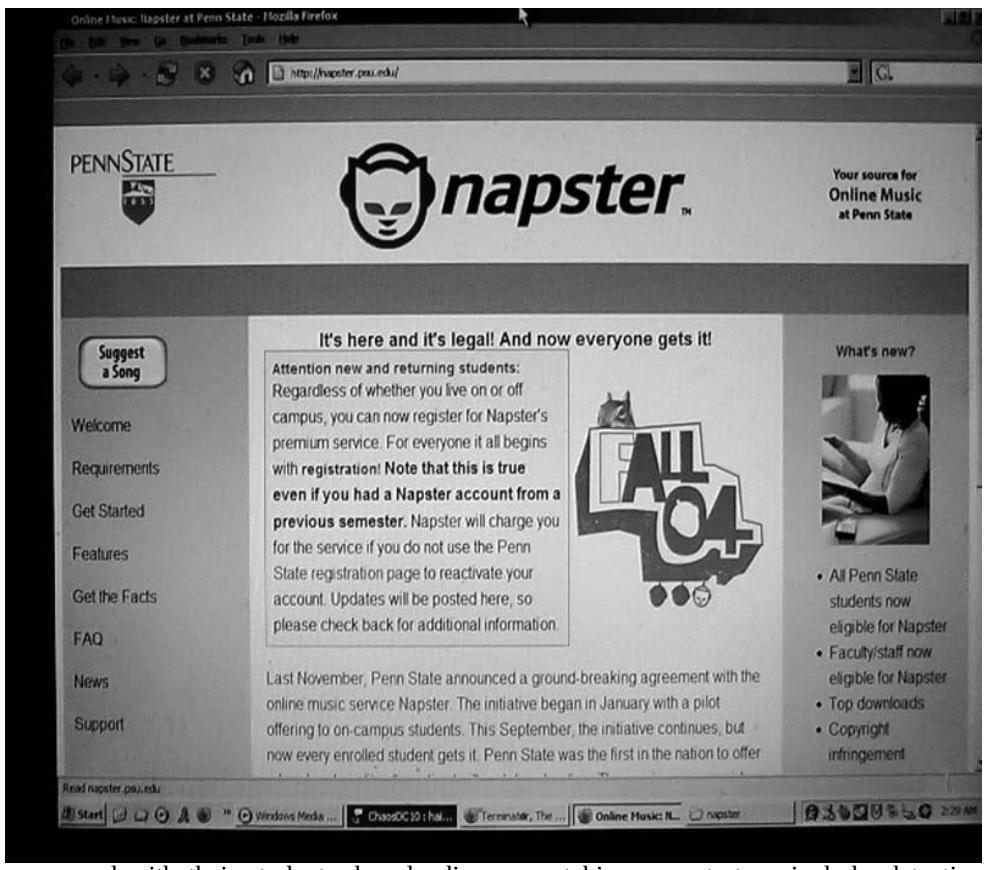
One of Penn State's primary goals will be to inform students that illegal file-sharing programs are much more serious than thought.

On top of the RIAA and MPAA penalties the University is also announcing it will take away network access privileges from that student. More serious offenders could face lawsuits from the music industry as well as criminal charges.

The Information Technology Services Web site at http://its.psu.edu/ further discusses the issue with the article "It's so cool to get any song I want from the net."

The web site also provides students with more information on University copyright policies under "Copyright Resources" at http://its.psu.edu/policies/.

Registering for the free Napster Premium Service Penn State is offering can be done at http://napster.psu.edu and is suggested for any students thinking about downloading copyrighted materials without breaking any laws as well as without paying any fees.



Universities all over the country are concerned with their students downloading copyrighted material illegally.

Many colleges are working to find solutions to help deter students in the act. And the new initiative bestowed by Penn State is a jump start in the right direction.

On college campuses it has become very easy as well as convenient to copy songs onto one's computer. While this is against University policy as well as state and federal law that hasn't seemed to stop students in the past.

The US Copyright Law (Title 17 of the US Code) has made it an initiative to fine and penalize those who participate in illegal file-sharing programs.

Those caught with more than $1,000 worth of material are subject to fines of up to $250,000 and up to 10 years imprisonment.

Some recent technological advancements in catching perpetrators include detecting over computers who is running servers as well as who downloads songs. Music industries say that getting caught is both growing more severe and more frequent.

Recent examples have been made of two Oregon students, one receiving a suspended two-year sentence, and the other spending time in jail.

Another separate incident put a North Carolina student in jail for 41 months for copyright infringement.

Among other penalties with federal and state governments as well as the music industries themselves included penalties and suspensions with the University.

Penn State has made it clear that offenders will have their network access taken away as well as be issued a referral to the Office of Judicial Affairs.

Students beware

E-fraud can clean out your account

Terry Ghali

E-mail - the next best way to contact someone whenever you want to. Unlike phone calls, you don't have to answer them at night, and you can reply to them whenever you wish. They keep you in touch with your loved ones, and another one of its best aspects is that many e-mail providers are completely free and easy to access. You would think that this form of technology is absolutely flawless and perfect. Think again…

Everyday, you may receive messages in your inbox ranging from "junk mail" to an important letter from one of your professors. In fact, you may receive a little more than what you bargained for, which can come in the form of a virus. Some of these dangerous programs attach themselves to incoming messages, and if your computer is not secured with up-to-date anti-virus software, your computer is about as powerful as a paperweight.

Most of us are aware of this issue, but if you think viruses are bad enough, it is virtually nothing compared to another type of "parasite", making its presence felt on the Web each and every day. This new breed of terror is known as fraudulent e-mail scams. This past summer, the United States Department of Education informed the public that there is an individual, who not only impersonated a USDE representative, but also requested personal and financially sensitive information from students. Recipients of this message were asked for their bank account and credit card information, in return for assistance on student loans.

In addition, Penn State University was aware of another scam where students were asked to visit a link to confirm their enrollment status and account information. Fortunately, Penn State responded to this issue very quickly and notified the students of what they can do if they have been victimized.

For those who enjoy using PayPal to purchase items online, there are those who find clever ways to imitate messages, supposedly being sent by PayPal, in order to obtain credit card information from PayPal users. These e-mails claim that the user's account has been intruded by another person and that the PayPal user must follow a certain link to verify their credit card number and back account information.

You are highly urged to notify others of the possible consequences of fraudulent e-mail scams, in order to avoid such catastrophes from occurring and spreading. Furthermore, if you receive an e-mail in which you are suspicious of its credibility, do not follow the links the sender provides, and perhaps, the safest option is to delete the message.

New staff member at Lehigh Valley campus

Give a warm welcome to our new staff member

Matthew "Catfish" Schwartz

Meet Eric Ritter, the new head of instructional services on the Lehigh Valley Campus

Eric is a 2002 graduate of Penn State Lehigh Valley, with a major in Information Sciences and Technology.

Before working at Penn State, he was a teacher for two years at Sacred Heart Regional School, where he successfully taught a second grade class how to count using the binary number system.

If you need to borrow any audio or visual equipment for use on campus, just ask Eric, who will be happy to accommodate you between the hours of 8am and 5pm.

He is also the staff advisor to the gaming club for the PSU LV campus.

His favorite movies include the original Star Wars Trilogy, Aliens, Terminator 2, The Godfather, and Star Trek 2: The Wrath of Khan.

What does it take to kick smoking habit?

Tammi Redd

According to the American Legacy Foundation, 25.7 percent of college students smoke. Among young adults who do not attend college, 33 percent smoke daily and 25 percent smoke a half-pack or more each day. Despite these percentages smoking among college students is declining. Smoking rates were highest in 1999 and since have fallen by five percent. Some say this decline is a result of rising cigarette prices, or is it

Smoking rates have declined five percent since ‘99

that students are becoming more health conscious?

There are many reasons why students would like to quit smoking. Health concerns, difficulty breathing, and the expense are just a few. Students who would like to quit smoking look for cessation programs such as the patch, hypnosis, inhalers, and chewing gums. The only problem these programs may create for a college student is that they are not always affordable. In many cases the programs cost more than purchasing the cigarettes.

Arlene Quesada RN, the coordinator of health services for PSLV has been approached by many students who have been looking for an affordable way to quit smoking.

The students wanted to know if there was any way the price of a cessation program could be reduced through the University's health program. "These students want to quit because they are concerned about their health," said Quesada.

Seeing that there was a large enough demand for a campus smoking cessation program, Quesada applied for grant money from the Allentown Department of Health via tobacco settlement funds. This grant money was made available to all colleges and universities in the Lehigh Valley area. The grant money was enough to begin a smoking cessation program for ten students on the PSLV campus.

During the spring semester students were able to purchase the Habitrol nicotine patch system for a discounted rate from campus health services. The average smoking cessation program costs around $250. With the help of the grant money, the students were only required to pay $80 for the same eight week program.

Seven students participated in the program and all who completed the eight week program did so successfully. They immediately experienced the benefits of kicking the habit. "The students stabilized their blood pressures and pulses and there was no notable weight gain" said Quesada. Some students also commented that they were able to do more physical activity with out getting as tired. The benefits of a smoking cessation program are limitless but the bottom line is that you have to want to quit smoking.

A similar smoking cessation program will be made available to the Lehigh Valley campus students beginning in November. Any interested students should contact Arlene Quesada at alq1@psu.edu.

IST program is changing

New courses and faculty will broden Lehigh Valley options

Tiffany Hawk

A new option in IST is being made available to students. It is called Information, Society, and Public Policy (ISPP).

ISPP teaches how technology impacts society and the legal and regulatory aspects of information technology. IST 431, The Information Environment, and IST 432, Legal and Regulatory Environment of IST, are classes unique to ISPP.

Professor William Bowers instructs IST 431 this semester and will instruct IST 432 in the spring. Bowers is a lecturer in IST. He teaches at both campuses.

According to Bowers, this option "focuses on the social impact of technology.

It puts people and society back into the equation when looking at issues involving information technology.

Graduates can get jobs in such areas as strategic planning, policy analysis, and consulting."

IST 431 emphasizes "how technology impacts society in a number of ways" and IST 432 "covers the legal and regulatory aspects of information technology."

Along with the new option, there is now an IST Career Services/Employer Relations Coordinator for students. Her name is Deborah A. McIntyre.

"[McIntyre's] background includes work in higher education, information technology, human resources and outplacement."

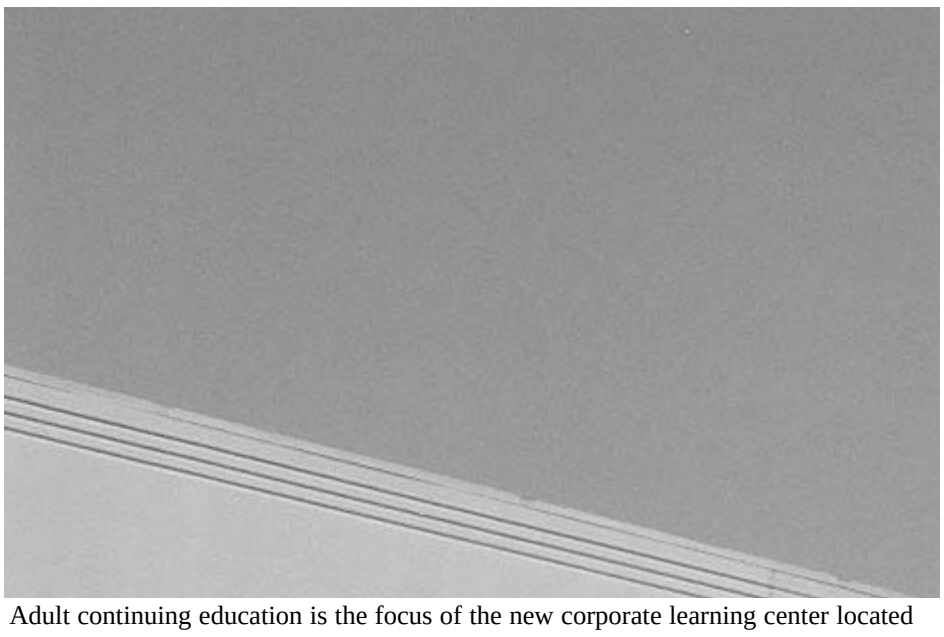
McIntyre states, "as the "new" IST Career Services/Employer Relations Coordinator, my job is two-fold.

I am here to support the IST students and graduates at both campuses with their job search needs for internships and full time placement.

This includes career planning, job search techniques, resume review and individual career counseling.

In addition, I am responsible for developing and maintaining relationships with area employers to uncover employment opportunities for the IST students."

Please give a warm welcome to our new staff member



Adult continuing education is the focus of the new corporate learning center located in Bethlehem.

Corporate Learning Center expands LehighValley campus

Matthew Marusiak

The new Penn State Lehigh Valley Corporate Learning Center is open for business. The facility, located in Bethlehem on Route 512 north of Route 22, provides an alternative site for traditional and non-traditional students to pursue their educational goals.

The first fall semester at the Corporate Learning Center (CLC), which officially opened in March 2004, is currently underway.

The CLC targets adult and professional education. Ken McGeary, the Regional Director, Outreach and Continuing Education says that "the Corporate Center will be a hub for our Outreach programs and services.

It will include several new initiatives including a focus on programs for senior citizens that should be both challenging and rewarding."

Dr. Nichola Gutgold, who teaches CAS 352 Organization Communication at the CLC, says the new facility "makes college possible for those students who work in Easton or Bethlehem and still want to earn a degree."

The center offers degree completion programs for B.S. in Business and Organization Leadership.

Master programs available are M.Ed. in English as a Second Language (ESL), and a Masters of Engineering in systems engineering.

Certificate programs offered at the CLC are Program Specialist in ESL, and Principal Certification.

Traditional students can also take classes at the CLC to fulfill the degree requirements. Classes for credit are available in business and organizational leadership, as well as ESL and systems engineering disciplines.

According to McGeary, approximately 250 students are participating in the undergraduate, graduate and non-credit programs at the CLC. McGeary says "We are off to a good start with a mix of programs and clients using the new Corporate Center."

The CLC is a modern, corporate-style facility, and is centrally located for Penn State students in Lehigh Valley.

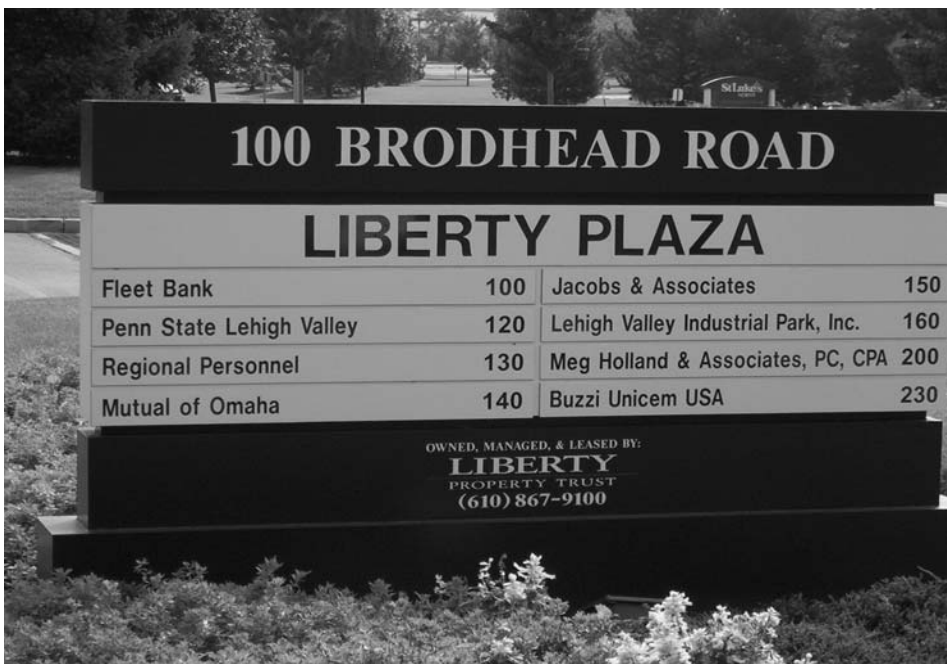
Gutgold says many of her students "appreciate the location," since they can "easily travel to the corporate center."

Not only is the facility first-rate, but so are the students.

Gutgold adds "the students we attract at the corporate center are highly motivated, which makes teaching that much more enjoyable."

The center includes five classrooms, a computer lab, a library, and conference and seminar rooms. Most of the staff from the Office of Continuing Education will be located at the CLC.

McGeary says "the Center has the potential to be a thriving location for programs for non-traditional students which will be the life blood of Penn State in the Lehigh Valley."



Students voice views on presidential candiates

Terry Ghali

"Who will be the next president of the United States?"

In what appears to be a very interesting and highly competitive election year, we asked the students here at Penn State Lehigh Valley who they feel should be our next president, along with their primary reason.

Adam, class of 2007: Bush "sticks to his guns" and doesn't go for "the popular way".

Anonymous, class of 2006: Kerry is a glorified slave trader from Hades and will bring this country down to the land from which he descended.

Jason, class of 2006: I was in the military, and I think his response to the 9/11 attacks have been good. The primary concern is America's safety.

Joe, class of 2006: I like his (Kerry) opinions on war, healthy, and S.S. He might bring the troops home early.

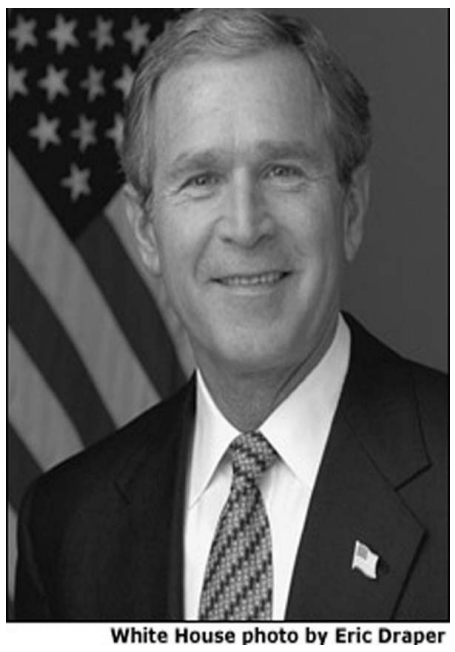
Fawaz, class of 2006: Bush started a war that he shouldn't have started. There's no terrorism in Iraq.

Anonymous, class of 2007: Anyone but Bush. I don't like his policies.

Jonathan, class of 2007: Bush shouldn't have gone to Iraq, and I think Bush is a bad president.

Elizabeth, class of 2005: Kerry doesn't have a plan of war, and only Bush knows how to finish it

Del, class of 2008: Bush because we shouldn't change presidents in the middle of a war.

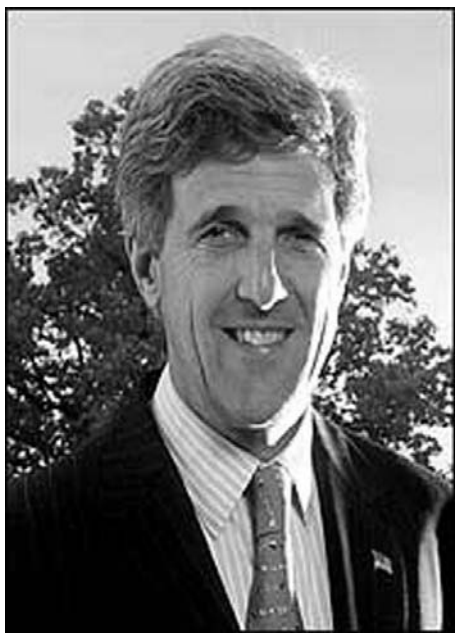


White House photo by Eric Draper

Van, class of 2007: Bush got us out of 9/11 and is still here. Let him finish. We don't know what Kerry can do.

Basem, class of 2007: Kerry will mess things up more and even wants to raise gas prices.

Andrew, class of 2007: Bush won't change his mind, sticks to what he says, and does what needs to be done.



Heather, class of 2005: Bush is for the rich. I don't trust him, and he's President for the wrong reasons. Kerry might have better motives.

Joe, class of 2008: Kerry because he's a Democrat.

Ahmed, class of 2006: I'm against Bush's war and how he brought this country down.

Charles, class of 2005: Bush is more convincing as a leader, and I agree with him going against the "Axis of Evil".

There you have it. These are some of the opinions and beliefs of our students here at Penn State Lehigh Valley.

So, who will be our next president, and who will you vote for? Only time will tell.

Outfoxed? Some people say conservative views dominate the mainstream media

Can Turhan

Following Michael Moore's acclaimed film "Fahrenheit 9/11" many small liberal media outlets are rejoicing at the fact that they've finally seen something that tells the truth.

Those media outlets can now feel even more blissful with the release of Robert Greenwald's film "Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism", which focuses on the reported Conservative bias of the Rupert Murdoch-owned Fox News Channel (FNC), which promotes itself as "Fair and Balanced".

The film has been getting much airtime in classes and campuses at Universities all over the country.

Students who saw the film in their American Media classes at Stevens Institute of Technology have said that what they saw was a real "eye-opener".

Newscaster cutways from programming to give tribute to Ronald Reagan

The film opens with a picture of Al Pacino as Michael Corleone sitting sly and powerful in an expensive mystique chair made only for the biggest of mafia bosses.

This continues as Bob McChesney, the founder of free press and author of "The Problem of the Media" makes a reference to Hyman Roth in "The Godfather II" giving each gangster a slice of his Cuba-shaped birthday cake at his posh villa in Havana.

Roth than states "Isn't it great to be in a country with a government that respects private enterprise".

McChesney makes the reference to make a connection between that fictional gangster film and the media policies of the United States for the past 50 some odd years.

He also states that there are powerful, hidden lobbyists that duke it out to gain control of the power.

The film goes on to credit Rupert Murdoch as one of those powerful lobbyists with 9 satellite television networks, 100 cable channels, 175 newspapers, 40 book imprints, 40 television stations, and 1 movie studio whose media reaches 900 million people worldwide through television, satellite, and magazines.

The first time Rupert Murdoch ever strained Republican propaganda was three years after he purchased his first television station in 1988 when he ordered his newscaster to cut away from regular programming to the "fawning" tribute of Ronald Reagan.

News broadcasters who aired the special are now saying that the orders to show what they did came from the top and that "it had zero news value".

In 1995 with the branch of Fox New Channel now in its birth one of Rupert Murdoch's top men, Roger Ailes, Fox News CEO and Chairman, as well as former media strategist for Nixon, Reagan, and Bush Sr. presidential campaigns, stated that the network would choose to do fine, balanced journalism.

The film continued with former Fox News employees, reporters, and contributors, some through masked and disguised phone calls, others who were brave enough to come on camera and discuss working for the conservative channel.

Many Fox News memos were revealed to show that the channel was very slice and dice on what to show, when to show it, and how to show it.

As one memo from headquarters stated "Do not fall into the easy trap of mourning the loss of U.S. troops and asking out loud 'why are we there'".

"Outfoxed" believes one of the most bias reporters on FNC is Bill O'Reilly with his famous "shut-up" line shown throughout the film.

O'Reilly who claims to only have used the shut-up line once in six years is shown using it over and over again in lines like, "It's our duty as loyal Americans to shut-up once fighting begins", and "Once the war begins we expect every American to support our military and if they can't do that they can shut up".

When O'Reilly had Jeremy M. Glick on the show, whose father died in the September 11th attacks, all O'Reilly did was yell at him, tell him to shut up, and cut his microphone when Glick expressed his views on the war in Afghanistan as being a mistake.

After the show aired O'Reilly had a follow-up segment on the interview where he distorted Glick's ideas claiming Glick had hatred for the country, that he claimed Bush Jr. and Sr. were responsible for 9/11.

Glick later exclaimed that he said nothing of the sort and that O'Reilly was lying. A lawsuit is impending.

The biggest issue "Outfoxed" has with FNC seems to be its use of the phrase "Fair & Balanced", claiming that it is clearly not.

"We Report: You Decide, 2004", another phrase used on the channel is another one that seems misused as Jeff Cohen, former MSNBC/Fox News Contributor, states that "It's very hard for Fox New Channel to separate between news and commentary ", as FNC blends the two together so blatantly.

"Some people say", a phrase used continuously through FNC, is used in a different manner than other news broadcasters who use it to display anonymous outside information while FNC broadcasters use it to state only right-wing conservative views while acting like people, other than themselves, said it.

As far as guests on the networks most prestigious show, "Special Report" with Brit Hume, Republicans outnumbered Democrats 5 to 1 which means 83% of the partisan guests on the shows were Republican. When that is the case, where is the balance?

Other statistics show that Fox New Channel viewers were three times more likely to believe the United States would find weapons of mass destruction than viewers of PBS.

The film's main theme, Don Henley's "Dirty Laundry", is played throughout maybe as a poke at the ethics and policies of the Fox News Channel.

The film ends by showing uplifting messages from young demonstrators who strive to get their own messages across in mainstream media.

Everyone from Air America to Independent Producers state that people should rise up against a hierarchical society with a few television stations controlling all media outlets.

The film closes with the elder statesman of news broadcasting, Walter Cronkite, humorously mentioning to the cameraman that hopefully he can still get a job with Murdoch after his interview.

LV Campus hosts Psychic Fair

Lori Kapes

Everyone may have a spiritual side, some of us are more in tune with it and others, well, aren't. Penn State LV hosted the Psychic Fair on September 15.

Those who are more in sync with their spiritual side could tell the less spiritually inclined people their future, read their palm, or understand their handwriting.

Being kind of skeptical about the tarot card reader and handwriting expert, I decided to try them out for myself to see if they were the real deal or not.

After I worte a sentence and my signature, the handwriting expert, Diana Mayer, let me understand my personality through my handwriting.

She told me that my "k's" weren't connected, which means I tease people by telling them personal things without telling them the whole story.

After that comment she reeled me in and I wanted to know more. Mayer then said that since I dot my I's over to the side instead of right on top that means I'm a procrastinator, which is also dead on. Overall, the handwriting expert was entertaining. Next up was the tarot card reader, Lady Nannatte.

Following Lady Nannatte's instructions, I randomly drew six tarot cards out of the pile to give to her and then I drew out another one to keep to myself.

When she flipped over the cards there was a recurring image on each card which was a white tiger. The white tiger represented foreshadowing for a momentous experience that will happen to me within five to six months.

I can't really be skeptical of what she told me because it hasn't happened yet so I'll just have to wait and see.

I didn't get a chance to have my palms read but I did speak to student, Heather Hansen, who did.

When asked if she believed the readings she got, she said "I was weary of the palm reader but he said some stuff that was actually true.

I was surprised." Judging by her comment and my experience with the other two experts it seems that the psychic fair was a success.

Psych Professor doubts psychic powers

Lori Kapes

There are countless psychics on television who talk to the dead or predict the future for you through a 1-800 number. Are these people gimmicks or the real deal?

Psychology Professor Livert said, "People like to have their future predicted or have events explained to them", when asked why he thought people are so interested in the future and psychics. Thinking this psychology professor may believe psychics to be fake, asked him if he thought they were real. His response was "I would like to think it's real, but I don't think the pet psychic is real." I then asked if he ever read his horoscope, he said, "I don't regularly do it, but if it's amusing I'll read it." To get another perspective on the situation I went to handwriting expert, Diana Mayer.

Being sort of a psychologist herself because she examines people through their handwriting, I asked Mayer how she got involved in the psychic world. She said, "I always felt I knew what was going to happen in my future. Then I studied many books and explored for others." I then asked if she herself watches such psychics as Sylvia Browne or John Edwards and if she thinks they are fakes. "John Edward is the real deal. I have watched him and read his books," replied Mayer. There's a lot of skeptics and believers out there, myself being the latter. Lastly, I asked if Mayer has gotten a lot of skeptic people or a lot of believers. She replied "I have more believers or people with open minds then skeptics."

Whether you are a believer or skeptic yourself you cant help but wonder what will happen to you in the future or what is your pet thinking right now.

LV students are mosaic artists

LV students are obviously proud of their mosaic tile work.

Tammi Redd

The word " Mosaic" is derived from the Greek language signifying "patient work." It is considered one of the highest expressions of art through its spontaneity and ornamentation. The art originated in the elaborate cobblestone flooring of Crete, Greece.

As a student activity, the PSLV students were given the opportunity to put all the pieces together in creating a Mosaic tile. This is just one of many activities to be held on campus throughout the semester. The students were able to design and create their very own works of art using broken tiles, beads and stones. The result was many fascinating master pieces that were just as diverse as the student population itself.

Cindy Nguyen, Coordinator of Student Activities, arranged the project. "The activities help build the campus community by bringing staff, faculty, and the students together outside of the classroom," said Nguyen. The activities are very important to the campus community because they allow students to relax and have fun between classes. For some students it is even a source of stress relief. Nguyen also commented, "It means so much to me when students can take something with them besides school work from college."

Despite all the glued and grouted fingers, the activity was a great success and the students were quite pleased with their works of art.

Penn State cyclists on are the line at national cycling finals in Trexlertown.

Penn State takes national gold at Velodrome

Dave Mory

Saturday September 18 was an eventful day in the Lehigh Valley, with the remnants of Hurricane Ivan dumping nearly five inches of rain though-out the area early in the day.

For weather enthusiasts this was an exciting event, but for sports fans The Penn State Lehigh Valley National Collegiate Track Cycling Championships held all weekend long also brought some fun and a national championship for Penn State.

Penn State, along with roughly 15 other colleges and universities from around the country, descended on the Lehigh Valley Velodrome in Trexlertown for an once-in-a-lifetime event. Ivan's rains cancelled Friday night's racing, so fans at the Saturday event received double for their money.

The Penn State National Collegiate Track Cycling championships pitted cycling teams from Penn State against squads from the University of Florida, Colorado University, Iowa, Temple, Stanford, Texas, Marian College and Fort Lewis College along with others. Penn State handily defeated a well-equipped team from Florida and a surprisingly strong showing from Indiana University for the overall national title.

Penn State Berks-Lehigh Valley was well represented by track cycling stars Andy Lackatosh, Bobby Lea and Mike Freidman who anchored the Team Sprint event along with Jordan Drayton.

Penn State Lehigh Valley was the title sponsor for the championships, and the campus threw a deck party for faculty, staff, students and alumni. Nearly 130 people showed up to support the team from Penn State, and chants of "We are…Penn State" reverberated throughout the stadium.

In the women's events Penn State was lead by a newcomer to the university, Sarah Uhl, who defeated a late charge by Sarah McClinotck of Florida for the silver in the 42 lap Women's Points Race. Jenn Wangerin of Indiana University won the gold.

Track cycling, for those who have never seen it, is an exciting, fast-paced event where cyclists compete in multiple long range and short distance events. The races are competed on a Velodrome, which is an oval shaped track with banked turns that allow spectators an incredible view of the action and spectators are close enough that they can reach out and touch the riders.

Races on a Velodrome require special bikes that are single speed, direct drive (this means you can't coast!) and they have no brakes. The cyclists can reach speeds of up to 35 miles-per-hour.

Lehigh Valley Velodrome is one of the premier cycling facilities in the United States, and it is known throughout the world as "t-town" from the 1996 Olympic Trials. The racing surface is concrete and measures 333.3 meters long, with 23 degree banked turns.

Penn State Lehigh Valley partnered with the Lehigh Valley Velodrome for the season, sponsoring numerous events along with Saturdays National Collegiate Cycling Championship. Races are held weekly on Friday nights at 7p.m. during the summer, and special events are announced on the radio, in the Morning Call, and online at the Velodrome website at www.lvvelo.org.