After two incidents of assault on campus this school year, students are divided on what the school should be doing to keep us safe, despite administrative efforts to ease fears.
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Security on Campus
After two criminal incidents, HACC safety concerns are under a microscope. Find out how students feel regarding their safety and what they think should be done to improve it.

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Sports
Is wrestling real or fake? Whether a performance or a true sport, wrestling has real consequences. Read a student account of his experience in the wrestling ring, injuries and all.

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Global Ed Travel Courses
Want to travel abroad? Here are some student experiences provided by HACC’s Global Education program. Learn how you too can afford to see the world, and learn a subject while you travel.

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Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
PTSD isn’t just a disorder that affects soldiers. It’s an equal opportunity disorder. The mental anguish caused by past traumatic events, not just war traumas, take time to heal. Read stories of how others have dealt with the mental horrors of PTSD and the reasons why it can’t be dealt with on your own.

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Hookah Bars
College students don’t just hang out at clubs and bars. Here’s why some students enjoy the alluring social aspect of the hookah bar.

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Tech Column
Increased memory and a kick-ass new controller have gamers excited about the upcoming PS4. Our columnist gives you the scoop on Sony’s big reveal.

Page 19
Interested in joining TFE? We are currently looking for photographers, sports, and general news writers, illustrators, business majors, and other creative, enthusiastic people to join our team. For more information, email us at 4estate@hacc.edu or check us out on Facebook. Staff meetings are open to all interested students and are held Thursdays at 2 p.m. in Cooper 110.

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AASA
• AASA Dance - Friday, March 8, 10PM-2AM, in Cooper 115
• AASA Dance - Friday, April 20, 10PM-2AM, in Cooper 115
• AASA Loves the Kids - Wednesday, March 20, 10AM-1PM, in Cooper 101

Student Government Association:
• Monday, March 18, packets are due in the Student Life Office if you are running for senator or president of the SGA.
• Monday, April 8, SGA elections will be held. Vote on campus or online.

HACC Allies: We are GLO*W:
• Soup and bake sale - Wednesday, March 6
• BBQueer - Wednesday, March 27, Hot dogs and more
• 2nd Annual Day of Noise - Wednesday, April 17. Starts at 10AM in front of the Cooper Building. There will be food, music, entertainment and much more...
• 4th Annual Gala - Saturday, April 20. Starts at 7PM at Holiday Inn Harrisburg East. Theme is Malice in Wonderland, it’s based on a darker version of Alice in Wonderland. There will be dinner, entertainment, costume contest, and much more. Tickets are $20 and are on sale now.

Have a wonderful spring break!

Glance...

News Briefs

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Dramatics Art Club bake sale: Wednesday, April 3, 8AM-4PM, Cooper lobby

Student Programming Board: Make one Take one Wax Hands - Wednesday, March 27 in Midtown, & Thursday, March 28 in Cooper lobby. Both are scheduled from 11AM-3PM.

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Spring 2013 Job and Internship Fair: Wednesday, March 27, 10AM-2PM in Cooper 115. To register contact Howard Alexander III, C-215.

College Fair: Wednesday, April 10, 1PM-5PM in Cooper 115. To register contact Debbie Weller, C-213.

Spring 2013 Job and Internship Fair: Wednesday, March 27, 10AM-2PM in Cooper 115. To register contact Howard Alexander III, C-215.

Got a news brief? Get the word out about your cause, club, or upcoming campus or local event by submitting information to TFE. To place an ad, contact the editorial board for pricing information.

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As spring break approaches, SGA wants to do more for students, but needs their input

By Monica Graham
Editor-in-Chief

One of the most important responsibilities the student government association has is listening to students’ concerns and acting on them.

While it’s true that not many students attend SGA meetings unless they are interested in joining the senate, that does not deter the SGA from getting answers.

One way the SGA has attempted to do this is with student surveys. Senators go out and ask various students around campus several questions to see where there may be gaps that need to be filled.

Questions about how long a student has been at HACC, their likes and dislikes of the campus, and what they would like to see, all help SGA get a sense of what works and what doesn’t work for students.

Recently, another survey was taken up by Senator Daniel Markowski regarding student financial aid, or academic programs.

President of the SGA Kadijah Kastriba has been receiving about 20 – 30 completed surveys a month. That’s not much when you take into consideration how many senators are a part of the group. “It’s embarrassing,” Kastriba said during an SGA meeting, where she mandated every senator bring back at least three student surveys back the following week, “We have a job to do and we aren’t getting it done.”

The Harrisburg SGA executive board, left to right: Vice President Nicole DuPree, President Kadijah Kastriba, Treasurer Kendra Haines, and Secretary Arthur Guise.

Asking questions about how long a student has been at HACC, their likes and dislikes of the campus, and what they would like to see helps SGA get a sense of what works and what doesn’t work for students.

Brent Miller, SGA senator, agrees with the fact that the students’ voice needs to be heard, but he would like to see more depth to the questions, “not just yes or no.”

While the agenda on February 27 lacked substance (no bills were up for review at that meeting), there was much discussion on how to rectify the problem. Questions were asked by newly appointed senators on how to go about submitting bills. Director of Student Life and SGA Advisor Jeff Fazio let the senators know that several bills needed to be brought up before the SGA from year to year and that they needed someone to sponsor them, or to bring them up during meetings for approval.

The SGA is not afraid of working hard. They have several committees set up, from documents to PR to HACCFest, and updates have been given in each meeting. Help is always requested, especially for mundane tasks like posting bulletins around campus.

Secretary Arthur Guise says he is proud to be a part of the organization. “The unique perspectives and experiences each member brings to the table is well poised to lead the student body,” he says.

Kastriba and Marjorie Brackbill, a newly appointed SGA senator, also serve on the shared governance taskforce. They have both been a part of this taskforce since September of last year. The taskforce is comprised of faculty, administration, and students. They have been in talks trying to make sure all constituencies (groups) have a say in what happens in the college.

Coming to an agreement takes time, and an update of their recommendations should be forthcoming in March.

Serving on the taskforce has taken much time, and effort, from both senators and all involved. Kastriba’s main goal was to make sure positive steps were made with all in mind. “The shared governance taskforce is not about loss,” she says, “it’s about moving forward.”

With the upcoming elections on April 8, there is room for more senators (up to 30 total) to take up the students’ voice, as well as room for presidential candidates. Packets to run are available now and are due back to the Office of Student Life by March 18.

College budget crunch

Will tuition costs rise to save money?

By Dennis Keller
Contributing Writer

In the forefront of every college student’s mind is the universal fear of rising tuition. What makes tuition rise?

Just like the representatives in Washington DC, Harrisburg Area Community College has a budget that needs balancing. How does this process work, and where are we in the process? The Executive Director of Business Affairs, Harrisburg Campus/Interim Vice President of Finance, John Eberly said, “Development of the College’s 2013-14 budget is well under way. The Cabinet has held meetings to discuss methodologies to achieve a balance budget.”

What about tuition? HACC has various sponsoring school districts that keep tuition down at a fixed level. Eberly said, “In addition, negotiations for a revised sponsoring school district agreement have been underway since July 2012. A tentative four-year agreement will be unveiled soon. Additional information will be shared soon.”

The cabinet of college representatives has a two-pronged attack when it comes to tackling the budget. The first is how to maintain tuition rates as low as possible for the students, and the second is how the college can comply with Governor Tom Corbett’s request for educational institutions to keep tuition rates increases to a minimum.

Since most students use financial aid, or are paying their way through school, an increase in tuition would be devastating. If tuition rises, enrollment will decrease.

Just recently, the Standard & Poor’s Rating Services downgraded HACC’s credit rating from an “A” to an “A-“. How will this affect tuition? According to HACC President John J. Sygielski, “the S&P rating will not impact tuition, transfer agreements, financial aid or academic programs.”

What does this mean? We have seen in the news how a nation’s credit rating can be downgraded, like the United States, but what does it mean for a college? Put bluntly, money managers use this to determine decisions based on debt risk. In HACC’s case, this rating is due to the $8 million in bonds for the renovations of the old Wildwood Conference Center into the Ted Lick Administration Building.

There have been several factors leading to this downgrading in credit. One of the factors is decreased funding from local and state agencies. A decline in enrollment is also a key contributor. When the college is not getting the numbers in enrollment they are looking for, the credit rating is in danger.

Over the past semester, HACC was fighting to remain accredited, receiving a warning from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. “The rating is the result of the current environment in which we are operating. As we resolve these issues, the rating will ultimately reflect that,” said HACC President John J. Sygielski, Ed.D in a statement taken from HACC’s online newswire, “This is also a trend that is happening throughout the country, including Pennsylvania.”

The college budget is everything. From athletics to the arts, college officials will have some possibly heartbreaking decisions for cuts if the contract with sponsoring school districts fails to get approval. Times are tough, and to find money for education is even harder.
Plenty of security on campus, needs enforced

By Leif Johnson
Staff Writer

In response to the “domestic incident” on February 13, 2013, President Ski sent out an email to the student body to address safety concerns of students regarding this incident and the security measures taken since the abduction which took place on campus December 3, 2012. If you haven’t read the email, it was sent to all Hawkmail accounts on February 21.

The first issue addressed by President Ski was the additional security measures taken after the abduction in December. One of these measures is that there is more security present on campus and that more vehicle patrols are happening in the parking lot. When students were asked if they noticed these security changes, Miranda Baldys, 19, language studies, said “No, I have not seen any increase in security measures since the abduction in December or the incident in February.”

According to the HACC website, 41 security staff are employed to patrol the five campuses. This means that if security was divided equally there would be at most 8 security guards patrolling each campus. Since the campus is open for more than 8 hours, it is reasonable that one person doesn’t work more than a 9-, maybe 10-, hour shift. This breaks down to 4 security personnel on campus at any given time.

So what can be done to improve the security at HACC? Jessica White, 19, nursing, says “More visible security cameras would be nice.” Eadys Gonzdez, 24, real estate/business management, says “There should be scanners for ID cards to permit entry into buildings.” SGA Secretary Arthur Guise, 29, engineering, said, “Considering we have armed security guards on campus full-time, I am really not aware of any further steps we could take.” An unnamed student commented that she always sees two or three security officers at the Evans athletics building during her 9AM Monday, Wednesday, and Friday gym class and would like to see them patrol more.

Some students were concerned with the presence of so many non-students on campus. Henderson said, “Tighten access to campus with a kiosk at the entrances of the campus.” Vincent Green, 19, psychology, said, “I don’t understand why there are so many people that just hang out in Cooper. There’s a sign that says to please come to the visitor center for a visitor name tag.” James Potter, 25, theater, commented that HACC was a public space and it would be hard to control the people that come on and off campus. Baldys commented on this further by stating that once she was stopped by campus security for walking her dog on campus because it accidentally got off its leash. “It’s nice to know that security is on top of the stray dog situation on campus,” she said.

When asked about the purpose of a parking permit, second semester student Steve Barber, 18, theater, said, “They serve a purpose? I don’t use one and have never been reprimanded.”

Barber contacted TFE to advise that when he went to acquire his parking permit, an unknown security officer told him that as long as he was in student parking and parked legally, he didn’t have anything to worry about. Guise said, “I don’t understand why we have parking permits if anybody can just park on campus.”

A public forum will be held at the Harrisburg campus Monday, March 26 at 3:30PM at the Rose Lehrman Arts Center Theater. This is open to all staff and students to give their feedback and voice their concerns.

“Plenty of security on campus, needs enforced.”

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"I don’t understand why we have parking permits if anybody can just park on campus."
“Having Your Say: ‘Colored TV’”

In a panel discussion sponsored by AASA for Black History Month, (L-R:) Linnie Carter, Vice President, College Advancement, Devon Jones, Coordinator of Student Life & Multicultural Programs, Christina Wood, Interim Director of Recruitment, and Jeffrey Fazio, Director of Student Life & Multicultural Programs discuss the misrepresentation of African-Americans in the media. Also taking part in the discussion, but not pictured: LaMont Jones, Treasurer of AASA, Brandon Sheppard, Lead A/V Technician, and Thaddeus Sampson, Dean Emeritus.

Performer Steven Courtney visited U-Gro Learning Centre in the Grace Milliman Pollock Childcare & Early Childhood Education Center in January to entertain the children and HACC EDUC 111 students and instructors with his rollicking children’s songs. He incorporated a lesson into his songs about dynamics in music and the letter T.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO BE MAY 3

U-GRO & ECE
When you think of college sports you might not immediately think of HACC sports but Lisa Cleveland, HACC athletic director, hopes you do. "HACC has been involved in athletics for 10 years and it is one of our focuses," says Cleveland. She has very high hopes for HACC athletics. “We have had a lot of success over the last 10 years and we hope to get some kind of consistency and continue this success.”

Cleveland and other HACC officials think that bringing sports to HACC will help to entice new students to come to HACC and current students to develop a school spirit.

Most students don’t even know that HACC has sports but some did express interest when they found out that there were sports here. Are they interested enough to sign up?

It’s tough to tell when you look at the attendance of the games but that can’t necessarily be attributed to the lack of interest. “We are headed in the right direction and I think the success we have had is a testimony to that,” says Cleveland.

HACC is a two-year college without any kind of on-campus housing. This means all the students are commuters. Most have jobs or families to take care of outside of school and just strictly don’t have the time to make it to a game. Cleveland believes that this year is an anomaly saying, “The participation with the Men’s and Women’s basketball team this year was a fluke. We have always had a lot of students express interest and we expect that to continue.”

Cleveland and other HACC officials recognize this and say that they understand that is a huge part of their student body and they understand that but they are looking at the students who don’t fall into that category.

Cleveland feels that having sports at a school like HACC can help give some students a sense of belonging. It gives them a group to belong to. A group to help them make friends while playing a sport they enjoy.

She also feels that having sports at HACC helps students get that typical university feeling right out of high school that some feel like they are missing out on.

The sports here at HACC are gaining more and more interest but some sports are thriving more than others. While Men’s and Women’s basketball experience a bigger recognition, sports like tennis and golf do not draw as many fans.

HACC has a variety of sports that students can join: golf, Men’s and Women’s basketball, Men’s and Women’s volleyball, Team tennis, and Men’s soccer. All of these are varsity sports while Men’s volleyball is only a club sport at this point.

Lisa Cleveland is extremely pleased with how the sports here at HACC are coming along and she couldn’t be prouder of how our school is doing. “Watching these teams mesh together and succeed is the best part of my job. There is so much pride here at HACC and that is why I love what I do,” says Cleveland.

HACC competes in the Eastern Pennsylvania Athletic Conference the 19th region of the National Junior College Athletic Association.

The Athletic Program is young, beginning in the 2001-2002 academic year with three sports at the club level competing in the EPCC. HACC Athletic Teams, though, have been achieving success across the board. As of the 2010-2011 season, the Hawks have combined to win 14 EPCC Regular Season First Places, 11 EPCC Tournament Champions, 5 EPCC Tournament Runner-ups, 6 PCAA State Tournament Champions, and 3 PCAA Tournament Runner-ups.
NFL Scouting Combine brings high hopes

By David Corder
Contributing Writer

With the NFL season over, and now being in the off season, most fans are looking forward to two events, the scouting combine and the NFL Draft.

The combine is where some of the college players going into the draft get invited to show what they are capable of physically and mentally for NFL scouts. The mental aspect is obtained through personal interviews between the teams and players and with the Wonderlic test, which is an IQ test administered to every player. Physical ability is tested with various exercises, including the 40 yard dash, the bench press, and the vertical jump.

The Wonderlic is administered to every player at the combine. The players have twelve minutes to answer fifty questions. A score of 20 indicates that a person has an average IQ and a score of 10 indicates that a person is literate. Pat McInally, former punter and wide receiver of the Cincinnati Bengals, has scored the highest score in NFL history - a perfect 50. The lowest score on the test was a four out of fifty scored by Morris Claiborne, cornerback for the Dallas Cowboys, at last year’s combine.

The fastest time for the 40 yard dash ever officially recorded was by Chris Johnson, running back for the Tennessee Titans, who ran the 40 in 4.24 seconds in 2008. Three players came close to breaking that time this year, Tavon Austin, wide receiver from West Virginia at 4.34; Marquise Goodman, wide receiver from Texas at 4.27; and Dee Milliner, cornerback from Alabama at 4.31. This year also saw the fastest 40 ever for an offensive lineman, Terron Armstead from Arkansas-Pine Bluff, who ran the 40 in 4.71 seconds.

The most reps ever recorded for the bench press at the combine was set by Stephen Paea, defensive tackle for the Chicago Bears, who did 49 reps in 2011. The highest count this year was 38 which was set by two people: Margus Hunt, an offensive lineman from Southern Methodist University, and Brandon Williams from Missouri Southern State.

The highest vertical jump ever recorded at the combine was 45 inches and set by Donald Washington in 2009. Two players came close to breaking that record this year. Christine Michael, a running back from Texas A&M, had a height of 43 inches and Jamie Collins, an outside linebacker from Southern Mississippi, had a jump of 41.5 inches.

The scouts use all these tests to figure out which players they want to draft, if they fit in with their team, and at what point they would want to draft them if they were still on the board at that point. The combine can help or hurt a player’s draft stock, and many will need a good showing during their college teams’ pro day to get their stock back up. The combine is over, but the wait for the draft on April 25 has just begun. The Kansas City Chiefs have the first pick in the draft so they are now on the clock.
The fake and not-so-fake face of wrestling

By Alexander Goodlive
Staff Writer

“How are you injured from that? Isn’t it all fake?”
I’ve had to answer that question countless times. The idea seems to be that somehow in an entertainment venue, where the results are pre-determined, people don’t get injured. The word “fake” implies that there is no danger whatsoever in the industry, and that’s why that word will earn you an unpleasant glare.

I was a professional wrestler. I spent several years working in the Pittsburgh and West Virginia independent scene, and learned more about life than I ever have anywhere else. The main thing I learned is that I was not meant to be a professional wrestler, but I was fortunate enough to get to live out a childhood dream, despite being awkward and not exactly physically impressive.

Most people ask me why. What is it about the wrestling scene that would draw me in with the reputation it has? Pro wrestling is a unique industry, because it combines the experience of being an athlete, a rock star, and an actor in one simultaneous adrenaline rush. Stepping through that curtain and hearing your chosen music playing, receiving the desired crowd reaction, and entering the arena for simulated combat; there’s nothing like it.

Hundreds of people turn out to take part in the audience. The fans vary from those who are aware they are seeing a show to those who still think it’s real. Staying in character around those who believe is one of the most fun aspects of the business. The truth is, most fans of professional wrestling know that what they are seeing has been planned, and they accept that. You don’t watch William Wallace rallying his countrymen and say “That sword is totally fake.” It’s like any other show; except it’s live, physical theater, and you don’t get to yell “cut” when you mess up.

That’s on the televised level. Many are not aware that there are thousands of independent promotions all over the world where wrestlers learn to hone their craft. Like anything else, it takes going to school to do it, and those who can survive the grueling training process get the chance to fulfill their fantasies, sometimes in front of hundreds of people, sometimes in front of a few. You never know what to expect. It’s not like any other business.

I only had a handful of matches, compared to some, and I don’t walk straight, my hips are off, my back is crooked, my neck is straight, and my knees bother me.

There is no minimum wage, no healthcare coverage, and little to no enforced rules. If someone feels like beating you up for real in the ring, no one’s going to stop it unless it gets bloody. On the Indies, if someone feels like doing steroids or Vicodin, there aren’t any drug tests to worry about. Rookies go through long days, where the ring gets set up at 10am for a 7pm show, and they have to take it down afterward, sometimes not leaving until after midnight, if they’re lucky, for 20 bucks... if they get paid.

There is no uniformity of an early death in the business. Unfortunately, early deaths among wrestlers are staggering. Painkiller addiction is the biggest killer, as even on the highest level, wrestlers are seen as independent contractors and are therefore not covered under their company’s healthcare plans. I only had a handful of matches compared to some, and I don’t walk straight, my hips are off, my back is crooked, my neck is straight, and my knees bother me. Not a day goes by that I don’t feel pain from this experience, but I don’t regret any of it for a second.

I do hope that the circumstances improve for others. In addition to the many early deaths that are well known and documented, I’ve lost two friends to unfortunate suicides. If physical ailments are covered, mental illness treatments are out of the question. The environment, the pain, and sometimes the drugs can exacerbate these problems. But keep in mind, this is the business that many refer to as “fake.”

There’s nothing fake about limping around campus at the age of 27. There’s nothing fake about the addictions, the pain, and the early deaths of far too many in the business. There’s nothing fake about someone who takes an entire weekend off work to drive three hours to a show, sets up the ring, trains for several hours, plans a match, wrestles in a match, stays until after the show, interacts with fans, tears down the ring, hopes he might get paid, and drives three hours home. It is a passion, and anyone who has ever stepped through those ropes has a respect for it that cannot be tarnished by the ignorance of those who have never bothered to learn anything more than the over-used clichés of the uninstructed.

Professional wrestling was an avenue that was not meant for me, but I was lucky enough to live my dream for a short period of time. Some of my remarks may sound like contempt, but it’s not. It’s just a hope that one day the business evolves and the lives of wrestlers are no longer destroyed by injuries or mental anguish. Someday, I hope my hips will straighten out and I can walk through the campus with ease instead of constant pain. Someday, I hope the pain of seeing the tattoo I got when one of my wrestler friends died will ease, and few more will follow the same path of an early death in the business.

But remember, it’s all fake.
By Allison Stark
Associate Editor

If there are three things Nancy Hile and Mike Sandy would love all students to be aware of, it’s how life-changing global travel is, how it can help you earn transfer credits, and how affordable and feasible HACC can make it for students.

The center works around the semester schedule so that trips work into the timeframe required for financial aid to be available and around students’ regularly-scheduled classes. They also try to meet the needs particular to HACC students.

Sandy, Director, Center for Global Education, says, “For community college students, we try to offer programs in a full range of cost and time away, so that if it’s finances, you still have opportunities, if it’s family, a lot of people can manage to get away for ten days. If it was all finances, you still have opportunities, full range of cost and time away, so that if it’s finances, you still have opportunities.”

“The school that we’re opening applications to is TTM, the International Thai Massage School. So, it’s the philosophy that if you’re going to learn something you might as well learn it from its origins. Then it doesn’t get watered down.”

The center works around the semester schedule so that trips work into the timeframe required for financial aid to be available and around students’ regularly-scheduled classes. They also try to meet the needs particular to HACC students.

Sandy, Director, Center for Global Education, is excited about the new, streamlined process available to students applying for scholarships at https://hacc.academicworks.com/. She is frustrated when scholarships go unclaimed because many students don’t know about them. The Swope Travel Award - scholarships of up to $1,000 - is available to students who don’t know about them. The Swope Travel Award - scholarships of up to $1,000 - is available to students who don’t know about them.

“The urge to travel is inherently human. We started as nomads and over time, for some reason, we decided to put down roots. Now, it’s almost impossible for people to find time in their schedules to travel, and if one can find the time the financial aspect is the next barrier one must overcome. So, having the opportunity to travel for college credit is key. Not only will your financial aid help out, but also there are a few travel grants available. To have the ability to travel for a studio course allows the student to add to their arsenal of techniques.”

Students were surprised by how life-altering their trips were.

Eve Smith, 53, photography, went to Jamaica for photography, and is going to Ireland this spring. Smith, who did not receive one of the $1,000 scholarships, says the trip was enlightening because of the behind-the-scenes access they were granted because of their service project. She says, “Jamaica is a resort nation for Americans to go to, and that’s all it ever is, and we go to see everyday life in Jamaica, which was an opportunity that just doesn’t come along every day.”

Smith also says she made a lifelong bond with her classmates because of their shared experiences.

Julia Byrd, 29, music industry, says, “This was a life changing trip! So much history and culture to see and experience. I made new lasting friendships with my fellow classmates and have developed such good relationships with the professors that lead the trip,” she says.

Byrd adds, “I remember always hearing about how the rest of the world hates Americans, and felt so sad that they think so little of us. I believe if more Americans take the time to educate themselves about the rest of the world and to also experience the rest of the world, we would be looked at in a different light.”

Carla Foutooulos, 19, biology, went to Costa Rica on a Spanish language trip. She applied for, and received, a $1000 scholarship toward her trip, which she took to bolster her language skills, but says ended up having a much larger impact on her.

“This trip helped me to improve and become more comfortable speaking Spanish. I made a lot of great connections and friendships during the three weeks. My favorite part had to be staying with the host families; it’s one thing to simply visit another country but this was so much more than that. We were immersed into the culture and got to actually experience first hand how they live day to day. This trip is definitely an experience that will stay with me forever.”

TFFE Photographic Editor Liana Marie, who took the surrounding images on a travel abroad digital photography course in Jamaica says, “The experience, the memories, and the friends I’ve made will never compare,” with any other.

Global Education trips give students a new perspective while earning their degree.

AROUND THE WORLD FOR CREDITS

International Business students pose at the Tower Bridge in London.

International Business students with Marty Wise fly the HACC Bag at the Great Wall in China.

Benefit the town which hosted them. About 90% of the students who travel abroad with the center say, ‘Let’s go to the Bahamas, and if it’s finances, you still have opportunities, full range of cost and time away, so that if it’s finances, you still have opportunities, full range of cost and time away, so that if it’s finances, you still have opportunities.”

The center works around the semester schedule so that trips work into the timeframe required for financial aid to be available and around students’ regularly-scheduled classes. They also try to meet the needs particular to HACC students.

Sandy, Director, Center for Global Education, is excited about the new, streamlined process available to students applying for scholarships at https://hacc.academicworks.com/. She is frustrated when scholarships go unclaimed because many students don’t know about them. The Swope Travel Award - scholarships of up to $1,000 - is available to students who don’t know about them.

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“The urge to travel is inherently human. We started as nomads and over time, for some reason, we decided to put down roots. Now, it’s almost impossible for people to find time in their schedules to travel, and if one can find the time the financial aspect is the next barrier one must overcome. So, having the opportunity to travel for college credit is key. Not only will your financial aid help out, but also there are a few travel grants available. To have the ability to travel for a studio course allows the student to add to their arsenal of techniques.”

Students were surprised by how life-altering their trips were.

Eve Smith, 53, photography, went to Jamaica for photography, and is going to Ireland this spring. Smith, who did not receive one of the $1,000 scholarships, says the trip was enlightening because of the behind-the-scenes access they were granted because of their service project. She says, “Jamaica is a resort nation for Americans to go to, and that’s all it ever is, and we go to see everyday life in Jamaica, which was an opportunity that just doesn’t come along every day.”

Smith also says she made a lifelong bond with her classmates because of their shared experiences.

Julia Byrd, 29, music industry, says, “This was a life changing trip! So much history and culture to see and experience. I made new lasting friendships with my fellow classmates and have developed such good relationships with the professors that lead the trip,” she says.

Byrd adds, “I remember always hearing about how the rest of the world hates Americans, and felt so sad that they think so little of us. I believe if more Americans take the time to educate themselves about the rest of the world and to also experience the rest of the world, we would be looked at in a different light.”

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Photographer Paul Batchelor documents the C. Ted Lick Conference Center’s transformation into the Ted Lick Administration Building.
PTSD affects more than soldiers with war trauma

By Matt Jones  Contributing Writer

It's been called the thousand-yard stare, soldier's heart, war malaise, shell shock, neurasthenia, traumatic war neurosis and battle fatigue. Now called post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD, a disorder that has existed throughout the course of human history has finally been named in a way that acknowledges that traumatic events of all sorts can be responsible for ongoing mental anguish that marks the disorder.

No matter the cause—domestic violence, an untimely family death, combat, or other trauma—PTSD is not typically something a person can deal with on their own in a healthy way according to psychological health expert Damon Frantz. After all, he said, PTSD is only diagnosed if a person has been dealing with the issue for more than six months. Otherwise it is called acute stress disorder, and the treatment can be different.

While working at the Bethany Children’s Home, Frantz’ experience with mental stress was much different than in his current role as the Pennsylvania National Guard's director of behavioral health. In this role, combat-related trauma is front and center.

“PTSD is really just the body and mind’s way of dealing with traumatic events that was not dealt with quickly and completely,” Frantz said. “It sets in when you genuinely fear for your life or your life was actually in danger even if you realized it later. The threshold for that is different from person to person.”

This can involve being in a firefight to suffering long-term abuse or neglect. The longer the event is ongoing, the more likely a person is to develop PTSD.

“Someone could be deployed for a long period of time and never be involved in combat, but that ever-present threat could be strong enough that a person could still develop PTSD if they don’t deal with it,” Frantz explained. No matter the cause, everyone copes with their experiences differently.

Retired Pennsylvania National Guard Staff Seargent Earl Granville is one example of overcoming adversity through resilience. Earl and his twin brother Joseph were once inseparable.

They were boot camp bunkmates and served together in two overseas deployments. The third time around, however, Earl ended up deploying without his brother, to Afghanistan in December 2007.

During that time, Joseph received orders to deploy to Iraq. Before he left, tragedy struck. Earl was in the gunner’s hatch during a mission in the Zormat province on June 3, 2008. A roadside bomb exploded when he was returning to his operating base killing two and ejecting him from the vehicle. Medics and doctors were able to keep Earl alive, but his left leg had to be amputated.

“My brother took it pretty hard,” Earl told a group of troops in Afghanistan during a visit he made this past December as part of healing program for wounded warriors. “After I got hurt, he told me couldn’t go to Iraq on a deployment he had orders for. They sent his wife instead and it was just a downward spiral from there.”

More than two years after his brother was wounded, Joseph was still struggling to cope with everything that had transpired. On December 18, 2010, he took his own life.

“These signs were there. I just didn’t realize there were signs until he left,” Earl said.

These signs vary, but Frantz said anyone who experiences any of the following symptoms for an extended period of time should seek help. Signs of PTSD include re-imagining through flashbacks, hallucinations, nightmares; avoidance through isolation, withdrawing, or fear of crowds; and excessive or misplaced aggression.

While some people may be aware that they are struggling, others may have trouble understanding the trigger of their symptoms. Frantz said he spoke with one soldier who suffered from anxiety and flashbacks triggered by something seemingly random.

“For whatever reason, he doesn’t know why—the smell of cinnamon would trigger these flashbacks for him,” Frantz said. “He would instantly start to picture and have thoughts of his ex-girlfriend.”

For Elizabeth Hare, a 2010 HACC paralegal studies graduate, her triggers were easier to recognize, but difficult to control. Hare was molested at 8 years old during a church retreat. She knew something wrong had occurred, but blocked out most of the details.

Nearly 15 years later, she was the victim of date rape while attending Shippensburg University. Eventually, being confronted or criticized by males would elicit a trapped orcornered feeling.

“I literally felt like walls would get closer to me,” said Hare. “Then the more someone pushed, the worse it got.”

It didn’t matter if the man was a teacher, boyfriend or supervisor, making it difficult for her to deal with confrontation or criticism appropriately.

Frantz said this reaction is common for victims. He said he has worked with many soldiers with urban combat experience. Many times, their anxiety level in large crowds can “go instantly from zero to 60.”

“That can happen regardless of whether the trauma was a result of combat, domestic violence, or something else,” he said.

So what can be done? A person can’t be expected to avoid male confrontation, crowds, or even cinnamon forever.

“PTSD does not go away on its own,” Frantz said. “For that matter, you can’t expect to properly treat it on your own.”

Once PTSD sets in, treatment of some sort is necessary, not optional, he said. Co-occurring disorders and self-medication are two problems Frantz cited with ignoring PTSD.

“Substance abuse is a quick way for someone to mask symptoms related to sleep, anxiety or depression,” he said.

“It's a quick way to temporarily sleep, relax, or feel better.”

Hare discovered through her counselor that PTSD can distort a person’s ability to deal with tasks and reward appropriately.

“You almost have a constant assumption that you’re not going to live much longer or life is never going to get any better,” Hare said. “It’s not this dramatic feeling of doom, but more like a dark filter that everything has to go through.”

Frantz said when someone reaches that point, “That truly is the best it’s going to get unless you get help.”

Hare said she once felt like everything positive in her life was subject to a filter of negativity.

“Every compliment, every smile, every fun experience had to go through this film of crappiness before it reached me,” Hare said. “My treatment has gradually weakened that effect so that I can live normally.”

Frantz said treatment is exactly what is needed in cases like this.

“Life can be so much better than that,” he said. “You don’t need to live like that forever.”

Improvements can be made in just a few sessions, he said, and many people experience a significant decrease in their symptoms in as little as 15 - 20 treatments. Others need inpatient treatment or long-term in-depth counseling. There’s no telling how long a person shares their experience with a professional.

For Hare, improvements come slowly at times, but always steadily. She takes frequent breaks from counseling, but expects it to always be a part of her life.

“ Healing has not been a linear process for me,” she said. “At some point I may have gotten strong enough and learned enough coping mechanisms that I can take myself the rest of the way, but for me, I spent so many years without dealing with my past that it’s something I’ve always lived with, and may always live with to some degree.”

Despite her struggles, Hare said she probably wouldn’t change anything.

“I’m a strong, smart, independent woman, and my past helped make me who I am,” she said.

For Granville, his and his family’s loss is more tangible, but he too has been able to grow and turn his injuries and his brother’s suicide into a learning experience for others. He remains involved in the military by participating in fund-raising efforts and sharing his story with other soldiers.

He said counseling is responsible for much of his successful recovery, and he decided to go to school to become a counselor focused on veterans’ needs.

Frantz said this optimism and positivity is a common reaction of those who recover from PTSD.

“During the healing process, a person will experience a tremendous amount of growth. They can become more resilient,” he said. “You get to a point where you say to yourself ‘I got through this, and I can get through anything.’

March 2013

13
By Allison Stark

Cody Burt, 22, humanities, is a familiar face to anyone who spends any time in the Cooper Student Center. Whether he’s working the Welcome Center desk, emceeing an African-American Student Association event, or guiding a tour group of incoming students, Burt is instantly recognizable for his welcoming grin and sonorous voice.

That voice, along with his love of music and musicals, is well-known around campus. If you time it right, you may catch Burt bursting into song in the International Room during an AASA meeting.

Burt loves all kinds of music, from gospel to Broadway musicals. He’s helped coordinate two trips for students to go see his favorite show, The Lion King, on Broadway, and can’t wait to go again. Burt says, “If I could go see it a third time, I would,” adding, “At my 50th birthday, my funeral, and my wedding, I will bring the Broadway show to perform. It will happen. It’s going to happen. I will have the Broadway show at those three events of my life. So, be ready!”

Music has always been a big part of Burt’s life. He sang in GATFC, God’s Army of Tenacity Fellowship Choir, in high school, as well as his church choir. “I come from a musically gifted family. They’ve been singing for years,” he says. “My Dad’s a musician. My mother’s a singer and a speaker. So, it’s just music all the time. Everywhere we go, it’s just music.”

A HACC student since Fall 2009, Burt moved quickly from the student worker position he began in January 2010 to being hired as a casual hourly employee in June of the same year. His work in enrollment services, the Welcome Center, and the registration office brings him into contact with new students, for whom he provides a friendly face to turn to with their multitude of questions.

This empathy for students trying to find their way has its roots in Burt’s own college experience. He initially left Harrisburg to attend Morgan State University in Maryland, but returned home to Harrisburg after one month. Burt says he came back “because I was not emotionally, mentally, or spiritually ready to go on to a 4-year institution where there’s no training wheels, there’s nothing there – no rules, nothing.”

Burt enrolled at HACC because it was close to home and he could learn the skills he needed in an environment geared toward helping students succeed. “The reason why I’ve been here for 3 years is because HACC prepares you to go on. It prepares you to go to the next big step.”

That next step for Burt is transferring to Howard University in Washington, DC, where he plans to major in applied communication and become a high school or college speech teacher. “I would love to help people talk because I love to talk. I’m a great talker, an awesome speaker.”

Burt is gaining experience for his planned career as a speech tutor at HACC. “I help people prepare their speeches: how to outline their speeches, different techniques on how to not fumble and fiddle when you’re up on the stage or in front of the classroom.” He also explains the difference between traditional speech or public speaking classes, and effective speaking classes, which teach students how to talk to others productively.

HACC also presented Burt with the opportunities which helped him develop into a student leader. He says, “It offered so much. That’s why I was in so much. Every time somebody would say, ‘Cody, would you do this?’ I’d say yes – and it would be for free, it would all be voluntary, because I would love the experience.”

Eventually, this led to Burt becoming president of AASA. “It was an exciting experience,” he says, “It built my leadership skills. It honed my decision-making. It humbled me – it’s still humbling me.” Of the many events he has helped coordinate during his tenure with AASA, Burt says the three he is proudest of are: “Having Our Say,” a symposium where students and employees gathered to discuss different issues specific to the African-American community, the AASA Honors award ceremony last February, and the series of events held on campus this February to celebrate Black History Month, which included the “Colored TV” panel discussion and a Friday movie series focusing on films about African-Americans.

Looking back at his three years, Burt feels ready to move on. “I will already have the experience, the tools, the skills, and the expertise to plan an event, help somebody with a speech, fundraise, mentor, cook, paint, build a community service project, do a capstone project, tackle email, eat using proper etiquette, stuff like that – I learned all that here. So, I am grateful for HACC and my experience here because now I’m ready to go on and just take over the world!”

Calm, cool, and confident are all adjectives to describe Cody Burt. Friendly, helpful, and know-it-all do as well.

On The Lion King: “At my 50th birthday, my funeral, and my wedding, I will bring the Broadway show to perform. It will happen.”

HACC Student Profile: Cody Burt

If you hear someone randomly burst into song in the international room, it’s likely to be Cody Burt.
Employee Profile: Garrick Dorsett

By Allison Stark
Associate Editor

The road that led Garrick Dorsett out of HACC as a student in the early 90’s and brought him back in 2003 as an Instructional Program Specialist in Photography was a twisty one.

Dorsett relocated for a while to Rochester, NY, before returning to PA to earn his BFA in photography, with a minor in glass blowing, from University of the Arts, Philadelphia in 1999.

After that, Dorsett held jobs as an athletic shoe salesman, above-ground pool installer, bar bouncer, heating and air conditioning mechanic, bike messenger, and mason’s tender.

He was working as a chimney cleaner when he ran into Senior Professor of Art Ron Talbott at the Camp Hill Mall. Talbott told Dorsett he ought to apply for the open position in the photography lab, so he did.

“I was cleaning a chimney, and HACC called, and they said, ‘We’d like to offer you a job here.’ I was like, ‘Great!’ I yelled up – I was down in the fireplace and my guy was up top – and I was like, ‘Yo – I quit!’ and I just left.”

Ten years later, Dorsett manages the photo lab and teaches digital photography and glass-blowing courses. He has served tenures as advisor and co-advisor to the glass and outdoors clubs, but stepped down to spend more time with his wife, Dewi, and daughter Sophia, now four.

A few years ago, Dorsett began collaborating on artwork with high school friend (and HACC alumus) Zack Rudy as The Huckle Buckle Boys. For their first show, they painted giant images directly on the bare, 15-foot walls at HMAC. They did another mural for the open position in the photography lab, so he did.

“I was cleaning a chimney, and HACC called, and they said, ‘We’d like to offer you a job here.’ I was like, ‘Great!’ I yelled up – I was down in the fireplace and my guy was up top – and I was like, ‘Yo – I quit!’ and I just left.”

Dorsett describes their process as “pretty much pure chaos and lots of laughter, and then we think about the craziest thing ever. Like, we did a show in Rochester, NY, (at the 1975 Gallery) called ‘Animal Obscura,’ and they were animals that don’t exist, but, if they did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns. And this llama we did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns. And this llama we did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns. And this llama we did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns. And this llama we did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns.

He and Rudy dig into their own history together for laughs. “We depict a lot of high school stuff, too. Like, things that we endured through high school? That keeps us going a lot because you can always go back. And we were kids in the time where we were just ugly – I mean, the hair, the mullets, the big glasses! They weren’t mullets, though, because we had them before the term – they were just cool. I had a Camaro – with the mullet, and I’d braid it down the back.”

Dorsett says, “I like to make people laugh. It just makes me happy.”

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Dorsett says, “I like to make people laugh. It just makes me happy. And Zack’s the same way.”

Contrasting but complementary styles keep the duo going. Dorsett says, of Rudy, “He’s really, really technical. He can draw anything. Anything you want, it’s done. You’re like, ‘Oh, my God, you drew that?’ I can’t draw anything, right? So, I get him loose, he keeps me tight. It’s pretty cool.”

A sense of humor and love of making people laugh is the Boys’ common ground.

Dorsett describes their process as “pretty much pure chaos and lots of laughter, and then we think about the craziest thing ever. Like, we did a show in Rochester, NY, (at the 1975 Gallery) called ‘Animal Obscura,’ and they were animals that don’t exist, but, if they did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns. And this llama we did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns. And this llama we did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns. And this llama we did exist, they’d be awesome. Like a sheriff that’s actually a giant bird – like Big Bird with guns.

Dorsett says, “I like to make people laugh. It just makes me happy. And Zack’s the same way.”

This is one of the reasons that his upcoming photography show at the Fenêtre Gallery is his first in a long time.

Dorsett does conceptual work in photography, but says he feels uncomfortable with the elitism of the “fine art” label. “We have a certain set of rules that were set, and that is how you determine what fine art photography is,” says Dorsett, explaining, “I just don’t get the same thrill.”

He is excited about the Fenêtre show, though, which is a collaboration with Benjamin Lee Sperry and runs March 15-April 10, titled “The Predecessor: An Exploration in Tradition.”

Dorsett used his newfound love of Instagram as inspiration for the show. He says, “It’s all Polaroids, but then I’m using my iPhone, and the images from my Instagram will be on the wall. And my section’s called ‘Eating Crow’ because I condemned electronic photography for so long as a faid, and it’s not a faid. Now it’s just part of our society, and I’m like, ‘Well, might as well jump on the…’ like when the Pittsburgh Steelers win the Super Bowl, I love them! ‘Pittsburgh Steelers rule!’ So, ‘Eating Crow,’ for me, it’s going to be a really fun show because it’s the first time in quite some time that I actually showed photography here, in Harrisburg.”

“The Predecessor: An Exploration in Tradition”
Benjamin Lee Sperry and Garrick Dorsett

A reception will be held at Fenêtre Gallery at Midtown II Friday, March 15, 2013, from 6-8 p.m. during Harrisburg’s 3rd in the Burg. An original musical composition by Willie Markley will be performed during the reception.
By Sam Renner
Contributing Writer

A little known way to spend your free time is in the laid back environment of a hookah bar. According to a study posted on bmjopen.com, 27.8% of college students around the age of 18 have at least tried smoking hookahs. It seems that hookah bars have hit the perfect recipe for a relaxing hangout spot. What makes hookah bars so appealing isn’t just the actual act of smoking a hookah, but the social aspect of the experience.

“It’s a way of interpersonal communication,” says HACC student Kelly Kovacs. With many students being too young to hang out at bars and most restaurants not having the right layout for simply talking with some friends, hookah bars have found their niche. “It’s a great place to go and just relax with your friends while smoking some great flavored tobacco,” says business administration major Kyle Kabonick.

Hookah bars seem to have an aura of mystery surrounding them.

The dim lighting and comfortable couches also cater to the low-key feel that many people pursue. Throw in the relaxing effect that hookahs have on its users, and you have the perfect place to unwind after a long week of classes.

Prices are something that all young college students always take into consideration when deciding where to go. At Delhi Kabab House, the local hookah bar on 2nd Street in Harrisburg, prices range from about $11 to $20 depending on the kind of tobacco flavor. This price split among two or more friends comes out to be very economically friendly.

A hookah is defined as an oriental tobacco pipe with a long, flexible tube that draws the smoke through water contained in a bowl. A special tobacco called shisha, which is made out of sweet smelling fruits, molasses, and tobacco, is most commonly used. The shisha is one of the biggest appeals to smoking hookah.

There are a wide variety of shisha flavors. Some are as simple as strawberry or mint, and others more exotic like rose or Irish cream. Because of such variety of flavors, hookah has attracted smokers and nonsmokers alike. People are more likely to try and enjoy hookah than cigarettes because of the superior flavor and smoother drag.

Hookahs have a smoother drag because the tobacco is filtered through water. This eliminates the harsher feel that one would get from smoking a cigarette. There is one aspect where hookahs aren’t any different than cigarettes, health risks.

TobaccofreeU.org posted an article showing that smoking out of a hookah is not any healthier than smoking cigarettes. The water vapor in hookahs might help for a smoother drag, but it does not filter out any of the cancer causing carcinogens or nicotine. Also, in a normal 45 to 60 minute hookah session, you are inhaling 100 to 200 times the smoke that is in one cigarette. One other health risk is the chance of spreading oral diseases such as STDs if separate mouthpieces are not being used.

Now that you’re educated on everything about hookahs and hookah bars, keep it in mind for one of those times when you and your friends don’t know where to go. The closest hookah bars are Delhi Kabab House on 2nd Street in Harrisburg and The Pillar Hookah Lounge and Gourmet Coffee Shop in Lancaster.

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Feminism isn’t yesterday’s news, it’s today’s

Even though battles have been won, the war wages on regarding women’s equality. There is a long way to go to gain equal pay and sexual equality.

By Elizabeth Hewitt
Contributing Writer

Women’s History Month is observed during the month of March, but since it was instituted in 1987 some may think we are beyond needing a month to celebrate women’s history while others may say women still need to be recognized for their accomplishments and the month will be relevant until all the goals of feminism have been realized.

Heather Linebaugh, 24, political science, felt that feminism has changed in a major way since women received the right to vote in 1920. She said, “I believe feminism is more now about commonality among women in the workplace, not only about suffrage but also equal wages, sexual equality, and modesty in the workplace. There is always progression to be had in any group of people who have formerly been discriminated against; women still need to fight for equality on an intellectual standpoint.”

Ideas of feminism have changed tremendously over the past century. In 1920, women received the right to vote and in the 1940s, during World War II, women started taking jobs that the men serving in the war relinquished. After the war ended in 1945 women showed that they deserved equal employment.

In sociology, two concepts pertain to the problem of equal pay; the glass ceiling and the glass escalator. The glass ceiling means women in a male-dominated field often hit a hidden barrier that hinders them on their way to the top. The glass escalator is the idea that a man in a women-dominated field smoothly makes his way to the top leadership role. In today’s world women are not facing the same issues, but there is still a lack of equality in the workplace when it comes to the pay.

Women have the right to vote, they can work the same jobs a man can, but many still struggle with being treated equally in other aspects of today’s society. Cassie R., 20, education brings up a very sensitive point about how women are treated physically and emotionally. “I don’t agree with people that say women that dress “slutty” deserve to be raped. A woman has every right to dress how she wants without being violated,” she says.

Layne Alexandria, 18, theatre also added, “I think that women are judged too much on their outward appearance. Femininity is seen as a weakness. Women are judged on their appearance, their sexual orientation, their gender identity and expression. Women are not only equal to men, but to each other as well.”

Not only do many female students at HACC feel that women are still not equal to men, but they feel that growing up they did not learn enough about important women figures that shaped American history. Madeline Brenner, 18, theatre, said, “Any women who’ve made history, I’ve learned about through my own research.” Heather Linebaugh felt that she did not have the opportunity to take a course that focused specifically on women’s history.

Throughout the past century women have attained many goals in the process of gaining equality, but there is still much to be accomplished before men and women will be truly equal.
HACC has taken a hit over campus safety, or more precisely, lack thereof. With two incidents locking down the campus within a three month period, it has been a wake up call to students to be on their guard. How safe is HACC, really? On December 3, an 18-year-old young woman was abducted from the HACC parking lot during the morning hours, driven at gunpoint in her car, and sexually assaulted – all admitted by the abductor, Clarence Shaffer. He said that he was trying to get back into prison and his choice of victim was random.

On February 13, a 34-year-old woman was abducted from her classroom in the evening and though more could always be done to keep people out of harm’s way, HACC is as safe as any college out there, even with the recent abduction and domestic dispute on campus. In the most recent release of the Clery Act Crime Statistics, the numbers for HACC Har- risburg are low. Since 2009, on campus there have been 2 aggravated assaults, 2 robberies, 2 non-forcible burglaries, and 3 motor vehicle thefts. That doesn’t sound like a hotbed of criminal activity.

By comparison, from 2009 – 2011, Bucks County Community College’s Clery Act Crime Statistics had 9 assaults, 103 thefts, 1 robbery, 2 vehicle thefts, 121 acts of vandalism, and 30 acts of disorderly conduct listed.

Dr. Ski said the college’s safety and security procedures were reviewed in light of what happened, in February, going so far as to contact students by email with updates. Mainly, “increased dispatch manpower, more visibility of armed and trained officers, and more patrols on campus, which includes the parking lots.” Another safety precaution encourages to students to make security staff aware of possible domestic situations, protection from abuse or restraining orders.

As a Patriot News Editorial posted online February 20 on Pennlive.com said, “HACC eliminated 78 positions last year in the face of declining enrollment and increased tuition.” Yes, HACC has had some restructuring, but how much did that impact security? How many of those cut positions were from the security department? The directors of security for each campus were cut, a total of five, with one director of safety services assuming their duties.

The editorial also said, “Neither incident ended disastrously.” What’s considered disastrous? Abduction and abuse are traumatic enough without saying to these women that their experience was not deemed catastrophic. They didn’t die, and both are back home, but what about their mental state? Traumas leave scars that take time to heal.

Everyone gets scared when first hearing upsetting news – we all have a fight or flight response. Our sense of survival kicks in, our adrenaline rushes, so it’s no surprise students were afraid the day of the domestic dispute, especially with the lockdown and so few facts in place, only rumors swirling around. Gun? There was several news stations, including ABC 27 and CBS 21, that reported erroneously that a gun was used in the kidnapping. Who doesn’t think the worst when a gun is involved? Could more be done? Probably. That doesn’t mean we up and quit, we fight back. HACC is not only taking steps to rectify any holes in security, but going beyond by listening to our constituents. Several forums are to be held at each campus to get feedback from both students and employees.

So, just how safe is HACC? Pretty damn safe.
Sony details their next generation PlayStation 4

Dual Shock controller, social media sharing, and increased storage are just a few enhancements Sony Computer Entertainments has added to the mix.

By Leif Johnson
Staff Writer

On February 20, Sony held their press conference to detail and define their vision for 2013 and beyond. Andrew House, the C.E.O. of Sony Computer Entertainment, greeted an enthusiastic crowd and talked about the future of electronic gaming. Mobility, connectivity, and pushing the limits of the PlayStation Vita (Sony’s handheld system) were the focus of Mr. House’s address. Mr. House announced that the PlayStation 4 would be the next console in the Sony family and would work in tandem with the PlayStation Vita to bring a full range of gaming options to the consumer.

Mark Cerny, lead system architect for Sony, introduced the PlayStation 4. Mr. Cerny began by defining the goals in creating the PlayStation 4. First, the programmers wanted to make sure that the audience would still have fun with the games they made. Second was to make connectivity more fluid to all the services the PlayStation has to offer. Third was to make sure the game developers were happy and that their opinions were heard in the development process. This third goal was what Mr. Cerny seemed the most proud of as he called the PlayStation 4, “A system by game creators for game creators.”

To show this, Mr. Cerny broke down the specifications of the PlayStation 4.

The PlayStation 4 comes packed with the X86 CPU, the CPU commonly used by game developers.

The PlayStation 4 comes packed with the X86 CPU, the CPU commonly used by game developers to support a wide range of games. An enhanced PC GPU (graphics processing unit) is easy to use, and become familiar with, for game developers. But it has the potential to create the next generation of games. One new feature is an 8 GB memory processor. This is more impressive considering the PlayStation 3 only had 256 MB of memory. This feature allows for more memory and content to be added to games.

The next item on Sony’s agenda was showing off the new controller. The Dual Shock 4 (shocker of a name) was debuted. The first improvements were tighter controls and enhanced rumble features. Enhancements to the controller include a touchpad on the front of the controller, a headphone jack, a dedicated share button for improved social connectivity, and a light bar used to track the depth and movement of the controller. The light bar is used in tandem with the new stereo camera to track the depth and position of the controller.

Mr. Cerny then expanded upon what exactly all the technology updates mean for the gamer. First, loading times will become almost non-existent as game data can be saved on RAM and simply turned on and off at the gamer’s leisure. Second, downloadable games can be instantly played while being downloaded. The last interesting feature is download predictability of games you want to play. This is to say that the more you play the PlayStation 4, the more it will become familiar with your gaming choices. The system will then predict the next game you want to play and download it for you, and you make the choice to keep or delete it.

Mr. Cerny concluded his section with excitement about the future of gaming and the future of Sony.

Next, David Perry, CEO of GENKAI, a social networking and mobile gaming company that was acquired by Sony last year, came up to the stage to expand on the social connectivity and mobile gaming options that will be available with the PlayStation 4. For social connectivity, the gamer will be able to upload segments of their gameplay for others to see as well as watch other player’s games live. For mobile gaming, the goal for Sony is that every PlayStation 4 game will be playable on the PlayStation Vita. Finally, the games. A great piece of hardware doesn’t mean anything without its software. The first game revealed was an original IP from Sony and Japan Studios called “Knack.” “Knack” is an action platformer that seems similar to the “Ratchet and Clank” series of games. The next game revealed was “Killzone: Shadow Fall.”

“Infamous: Second Son,” the third title in the Infamous series. “Second Son” follows a new protagonist that utilizes the power of smoke. The plot is still a mystery at this point; however, if it will be anything like the first two games, it will be great.

Other games of mention were “Drive Club,” a racing simulation; a work-in-progress title by Capcom that seems to be a fantasy RPG title; a Final Fantasy title was mentioned by SquareEnix; “Watch Dogs,” a very sci-fi game being developed by Ubisoft that was announced last year at the E3 conference; and Blizzard announced that they will be porting Diablo 3 over to the PlayStation 4. To conclude the conference, it was announced that the PlayStation 4 will be released this holiday season. Since the conference, more information has been released about the PlayStation 4. First, the PlayStation 4 will play pre-owned games. Second, a constant internet connection will not be required but highly recommended. Third, all PlayStation 4 games will be downloadable.

Nintendo got the head start in the next generation consoles by releasing their WiiU system last holiday season. Now that Sony has announced their system for this year’s holidays, we are anxiously awaiting Microsoft’s announcement of their next generation console. The final judgment of the PlayStation 4 will be held until the E3 conference in June of this year, where everything will be revealed for the holiday shopping season.

Loading times will become almost non-existent as game data can be saved on RAM and simply turned on and off at the gamer’s leisure.

The new Dual Shock controller for the upcoming PlayStation 4 will feature components to enhance a social gaming experience.
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