



# The Rocket

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Students spend time in the Spotts World Culture Building computer lab doing homework and browsing the Web. Scott Brubaker (left side), and Travis Hockey (right) both frequently visit the labs on campus. JOEY KENNEDY/THE ROCKET

## New technology welcomed by some, doomed for failure by others

By Lexxie Shiring  
Rocket Assistant News Editor

In response to the two newest technologies that Slippery Rock University has put into action this semester, students share their views of the positive and negative effects these changes could mean.

The new technologies include the ability of students to use Rock Dollars at local establishments and the text-messaging alert system new technology being implemented on and around campus.

"The Rock Dollars Program is the most visible technology being used because of its card, the smart chip," said Vice President for Student Life

Constance Foley. "And supposedly, we are the first in the country to be using the smart chip."

Many universities across the country have the ability to use their identification card off campus, but Slippery Rock University is the first university to enable students to use the smart chip on the back of cellular phones.

"I think that the Rock Dollar system is so convenient," said senior criminology/criminal justice double major Pamela Anzur.

"Now I can go pretty much anywhere in the Slippery Rock community and use my smart chip and not have to worry about carrying money around."

Some students think the new technology on campus is right where it

should be, while others are still adjusting to the change.

"I do not think there needs to be any more spending to make us look like a technologically savvy university."

Kristen Morgan, a senior business management major, shared her opinion of new software that was installed on the university's computers.

"I think there is a good bit of newer technology on campus, but it is not the most efficient," said Morgan.

"They put new software on the computers and expected us to know how to use it."

Another new technology that was installed over the summer is on the

SEE SOFTWARE, PAGE A-3

## Union members closing in on final contract

By Amy Kelly  
Rocket News Editor  
and Caleb Pardick  
Rocket Staff

With the results of the four-month long negotiation process to be revealed this Tuesday, Slippery Rock University Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculty members are not in agreement about the contract on the table.

SRU's seven delegates voted 5-2 last weekend to recommend the tentative agreement during an APSCUF Legislative Assembly meeting in Monroeville. Overall, the state system delegates on hand voted 61-43 to recommend the agreement, with two abstentions. Thomas Daddesio, Itzi Meztli, Derrick Pitard, Wilma Cavill and Catherine Massey voted to positively recommend the tentative agreement, while Amy Walters and Mark Banks voted to give the contract a negative recommendation.

"The reason that I voted to give the contract a positive recommendation is that while there were a lot of problems within the contract, especially in terms of dealing with temporary faculty, it seems to me that a strike would be disastrous," said Pitard, an associate professor of English.

Pay raises, unlike the placement of temporary faculty, are one aspect that members are agreeing on.

"I feel that we were still able to negotiate a decent contract," said Itzi Meztli, an assistant professor of English. "It still allows us pay raises beginning in the second, third and fourth years, of at least 3 percent. Our summer pay over the four years is going up at least 11 percent, too, and healthcare costs for faculty are only going up 5 percent, and that's only in the fourth year."

Amy Walters, assistant professor of communication and Mark Banks, professor of communication, both expressed their displeasure with a few aspects of the contract's legal language.

"The 25 percent full-time equivalent cap is a

SEE CONFLICT, PAGE A-2

## University Union reconstruction progressing

By Andrew Donofrio  
Rocket Contributor

During an annual academic assembly address at Swope Music Hall on Sept. 18, Slippery Rock University President Robert Smith revealed a list of initiatives intended to improve the school's campus.

Part of the list outlined the administration's continuing effort toward a sequenced architectural facelift at the university. With a \$120 million residence hall replacement project in progress and a new Advanced Technology and Science Hall already completed, Smith told the assembly the university will meet student expectations by "creating an exceptional learning environment."

According to Smith, the next phase of reconstruction involves the design of a new student union building to replace

the more than 30-year-old University Union. Architects from two firms met with various campus organizations on Sept. 19 and 20 to add input to an initial design study completed two years ago by WTW Architects of Pittsburgh.

During the two-day visit, Phil Hundley, President of DRS Architects in Pittsburgh, along with Pablo Savid-Buteler, Nancy Harrod and Carter Reich of Sasaki Associates, Inc. in Boston, listened to the proposal needs and desires of students, faculty and staff.

DRS Architects recently designed the FBI Field Office, as well as the Student Service Building for the Community College of Allegheny County in Pittsburgh. Sasaki has designed academic buildings for more than 40 years, including the new Jamestown

SEE NEW, PAGE A-3

## Trying to find an answer



Vice President of Student Life Constance Foley talks to women during the program Rachel's Daughters. At the program, the women discussed breast cancer awareness and developed ideas to help prevent this life-threatening disease. SAMANTHA CHALMERS/THE ROCKET

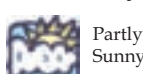
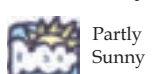
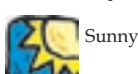
### WEATHER

Forecast from National Weather Service

Friday

Saturday

Sunday



High: 85; Low: 61

High: 84; Low: 61

High: 83; Low: 61

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