

# The Rocket

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## Cell phone hoax leads to lingering questions

By Amy Kelly  
Rocket News Editor

A cell phone ban led to many concerns with students at Slippery Rock University before learning it was all a hoax.

An e-mail written by an unidentified source was spread statewide stating that effective Nov. 10, motorists in the state of Pennsylvania will be prohibited from using handheld mobile telephones while operating a vehicle.

Further in the e-mail, it describes that the bill states, "No driver shall operate any moving vehicle on a highway of this Commonwealth, which shall include Federal, state, and municipal highways, while using a handheld mobile telephone."

However, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives has not yet voted on the bill.

"Even if the bill would pass, it still wouldn't stop people from talking on their cell phones,"

said Brittany Black, a 19-year old sophomore biology major.

Black said that students would still talk on their phones because people will talk when and where they want.

"I sometimes talk on my cell phone while driving, but I try not to," she said. "People shouldn't if they want to live a long and prosperous life."

If the use of cell phones while driving is banned, some students think such a

measure would encourage more texting while driving.

Texting is a brief electronic message sent via wireless networks.

Tony Horniacek, a 21-year old senior finance major, said, "It would be easier for people who don't want to hold their phones up to text below the dash."

Horniacek also thinks a cell phone ban

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## Temporary faculty: Benefit or burden? Profs share mixed feelings of short-term colleagues

By Lexxie Shiring  
Rocket Assistant News Editor

Slippery Rock University professors share mixed feelings about temporary faculty on campus.

SRU President Robert Smith does not have any intention of having a lot of temporary faculty.

"There are two reasons why we have temporary faculty. The first reason is failed searches conducted by academic departments where they are unable to find a person in a timely fashion," Smith said, "so we have to fill the class with temporary faculty."

The second reason is to have highly specialized areas where we want an expert in the field for a short period of time, so we will hire someone because they will provide the particular expertise."

Smith said SRU does its best to hire full-time faculty members whenever possible.

"Our bias is to hire full-time faculty who are on a 10-year track so that they will have a long-term commitment to the students and university," Smith said.

Wendy Stuhldreher, assistant to the dean of the College of Health, Environment and Science, has

mixed emotions about the 23 temporary faculty members within that college.

"Temporary faculty fills a need right now, when we are having growing pains, but are not always helpful when you are trying to build a department," Stuhldreher said. "It is a solution to growing pains and sabbaticals, but we hope it does not become a permanent solution."

Jace Condravy, president of SRU's APSCUF chapter and an English professor, thinks temporary faculty plays an important role at the university.

"I think it is very helpful to have temporary faculty when regular faculty members retire or resign suddenly and there is not enough time to search for and find a fully qualified 10-year track member," Condravy said.

Condravy thinks that although temporary faculty can cover a temporary gap, it is not in the best interest of the students.

"Having full time or 10-year track faculty in the classroom is best for students because temporary faculty find it difficult to make the commitment to the university and

SEE SEARCHES, PAGE A-2

## Colorful customs



Christine Simms, a Cherokee Seminole and a member of the Council of Three Rivers American Indian Center Inc., performs a customary dance Thursday for an audience in the University Union Multi-Purpose Room.

ANDREW DONOFRIO/THE ROCKET



Business major Addison Legere visits Boozel Dining Hall where worker Judi Bell serves him his food.

JOEY KENNEDY/THE ROCKET

## Meal plans too pricey for quality of food

By Amie Rodriguez  
Rocket Contributor

Slippery Rock students are not satisfied with meal plan options on campus.

Rebecca Carnahan, a 21-year-old community health major, thinks that the cost of food on campus is way too high.

"If the food is not good, then why should the cost of the meal be as much as it is," Carnahan said, "if you could go to Eat 'n' Park for less?"

Meal plans range from the White Membership, which costs \$617

and \$50 in flex to the Premier Gold Membership, which costs \$1,294 and offers 15 meals per week and \$150 flex.

Meal plans cost a lot because the dining halls and Rocky's Grille are auxiliaries, said Debra Pincek, assistant to the vice president of Student Life Administration.

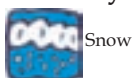
Pincek explained this means the campus does not fund the dining halls: The money brought in by the dining halls covers all expenses, from the machinery to the food and cost of

SEE WEISENFLUH, PAGE A-3

### WEATHER

Forecast from National Weather Service

Friday



Snow

Saturday



Cloudy

Sunday



Snow

High: 47; Low: 30

High: 51; Low: 31

High: 53; Low: 38

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