TODAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

OPEN ENROLLMENT: The “Flexible Spending Account Open Enrollment for 2010,” offered by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, closes today. The plan, which covers the 2010 calendar year, allows PASSHE employees to set aside tax-free money for medical and dependent care for out-of-pocket expenses. Monies earmarked for the account may be used to cover office visit co-pays, prescription drug co-pays and many over-the-counter medications such as pain relievers, antacids, allergy medication and cold medicines. A flier and booklet have been sent to all eligible employees. Those needing additional information should contact Marcia Kotek, benefits and transactions manager, at 724.738.2204.

PIANO DATE: Pianist Amber Shay Nicholson’s guest recital will be at 7:30 p.m. in Swope Recital Hall.

WITHOUT A PADDLE: The Robert N. Aebersold Student Recreation Center will offer a “Kayaking for Kids” session from 9-11:30 a.m. Saturday in the ARC pool. The program is open to those in first grade through senior in high school. Cost is free for ARC members; $5 for non-members. No experience is needed, but pre-registration is required. Enrollment is limited to 20. Call 724.738.2883 for more information.

WATCH YOUR FEEDER: The McKeever Environmental Learning Center at Sandy Lake offers Project FeederWatch, a national volunteer activity involving counting birds at home feeders by Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Bird Studies, at 10 a.m. Saturday. The center will host “Bring Your Child to Nature” at 2 p.m. Sunday. Call the center at 724.376.1022 for details.

ALWAYS REMEMBER: The Chad Williamson Memorial Scholarship Competition will be at 4 p.m. Saturday in Swope Recital Hall and will showcase the talent of Slippery Rock University’s vocal students.

INTERNATIONS WEEK: The 35th annual International Dinner is at 7 p.m. Saturday in the University Union. Tickets to the dinner, sponsored by the SRU Internations Club, are sold out. Those with questions should call 724.738.2057.

MEN’S SOCCER: The Rock men’s soccer team earned the top seed and host role for the first two rounds of the NCAA Division II playoffs. SRU, which won the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference championship last Saturday, will take a 17-3-1 overall record into its 5 p.m. semifinal game today vs. Mercyhurst (14-5-1) at N. Kerr Thompson Stadium. Millersville (17-2) will meet Charleston, W. Va. (17-3) in the opening game at 2 p.m. Friday’s winners return for the regional championship game at 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are $7 for adults and $5 for students and will be on sale at the gate. The SRU Sports Information Office will provide live stats and live audiocasts of all The Rock’s games in the NCAA playoffs via links on the athletic Web site: www.rockathletics.com.

MEN’S BASKETBALL hosts Ohio University-Eastern, 3 p.m., Sunday, Morrow Field House. There will be no admission charge.
SAVIN’ OF THE GREEN: Print e-mails only when necessary. Save paper and toner. GO GREEN!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GO COMMERCIAL: The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education is seeking system faculty members interested in commercializing their existing intellectual property, including demonstrated technology, inventions and creations. Examples include: research summaries, reports, demos and prototypes. Intellectual property involving software will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Funding is available through a Keystone Innovation Grant to support faculty in their commercialization efforts through June 30, 2010. Typical support will range from $2,500 to $10,000 for projects. Preference will be given projects that involve a corporate partner. Proposals are due by 5 p.m. Dec. 4. For more information, contact the SRU Grants Office at 724.738.2045, or visit: http://www.sru.edu/pages/4958.asp to view the complete RFP.

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH: The Faculty Professional Development Council of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education has released a Request for Proposals to provide funding to faculty members for professional growth. Proposals are sought for projects in the following categories: Joint Faculty-Student Basic or Applied Research; Scholarly Research: Basic or Applied; Joint Faculty-Student Public Service; Creative and Performing Arts; Individual Faculty Projects in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Group Projects (two or more faculty) in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Academic Department Projects in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; and, Individual Career Enhancement in Off-Site Settings. The maximum amount of the request is $8,000. The deadline to submit proposals is 4 p.m., Jan. 25. For more information, contact the SRU Grants Office at 724.738.2045 or visit http://www.sru.edu/pages/4958.asp to view the complete RFP.

ON THE HORIZON:

HOW SMART ARE YOU? The SRU Health Center’s peer educators will host “Are You Smarter than a Peer Educator” at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday in the University Union.

HEADED NORTH: The SRU Compass Leadership Program hosts “Compass Level 3 Summit” at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the University Union.

WITH SUGAR AND CREAM: The University Program Board will present a coffee house featuring Javier Colon, Crissy DePaux and Jon Goode, in the University Union at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

CYMBALS AND DANCE: The SRU dance department presents a Dance in India Concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Pearl K. Stoner Instructional Complex, West Gym. Admission: $5 general public: $3 SRU students.

SAXY: SRU’s Saxophone Quartets, directed by Jason Kush, instructor, perform at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Swope Music Hall. Admission: $3, general public; free for SRU students.

SHOO FLU: H1N1 shots will be given to students only from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Nov. 20 in the University Union Multi-Purpose Room. Students must be in good health and have read the vaccine information sheet for shots prior to their inoculation. For more information, visit: http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-inact-h1n1.pdf.

DON’T FIGHT: The SRU Women’s Studies Program hosts Valena Beety, former Washington, D.C., prosecutor, for a lecture on domestic violence, at 12:30 p.m. Thursday in Spotts World Culture Building Auditorium.

FUN FOR ALL: The SRU women’s lacrosse team will host a “Kid’s Fun Night” from 6-9:30 p.m. Nov. 20 at Morrow Field House. Children between the ages of 5-12 are welcome. Events include a movie, various sports activities and other non-athletic activities. Cost is $15 for the first child, $10 for siblings who pre-register and $20 for walk-in registrations. The event will be chaperoned by the SRU women’s lacrosse coaching staff and student athletes. For more information or to pre-register contact Mariah Casserly, assistant women’s lacrosse coach, at 724.738.4219.
CLIMBING THE WALL: The Robert N. Aebersold Student Recreation Center will host a “Climbing for Kids” session teaching basic indoor rock climbing and knot tying skills from 9-11:30 a.m. Nov. 21. The program is open to those in first grade through senior in high school. ARC members are admitted free; non-members pay $5. Call 724.738.2883 for additional information.

AMERICAN CELEBRATION: In honor of Veteran's Day, the Slippery Rock University Brass Ensemble will present a program of music about America written by American composers at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 22 in Swope Music Hall. The program includes works by John Williams, Charles Ives, James Curnow, Morton Gould and Pittsburgh-area composers Robert Bernat and Drew Fennell. The ensemble is directed by Brian Meixner, assistant professor of music.

POWER UP: The annual University and community “Light Up Night” celebration, titled “Miracles on Main Street,” will be at 6 p.m. Nov. 23 starting at 107 Franklin Ave. A downtown walk will be followed by refreshments and entertainment at the Russell Wright Alumni House and Conference.

STRINGS AND ALL: The Slippery Rock Symphony Orchestra performs under the direction of Warren Davidson, instructor, at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 23 in Swope Music Hall. Admission: $3 general public; SRU students, free.

SUCCESS STARTS HERE: Joe Finney, a 1986 Slippery Rock University graduate and president and chief executive officer of Tire Centers LLC, will highlight his personal path to success when he joins Slippery Rock University’s “Success Starts Here” speaker series at 12:30 p.m. Nov. 24 in the Advanced Technology and Science Hall. The free, ongoing series spotlights successful western Pennsylvania business leaders as a way of showing students and others opportunities for businesses in the region.

SPORTS:
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL hosts Seton Hill, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Morrow Field House.

MEN'S BASKETBALL hosts Bloomsburg, 3 p.m., Nov. 21, Morrow Field House.

ON GOING:
NO PARKING: The campus is reminded that no overnight parking (2 a.m. to 5:30 a.m.) is permitted from Nov. 1 to April 1 in the Russell Wright Alumni House and Conference Center Commuter Parking Lot, the staff and commuter McKay Education Building parking lots, the University Union Commuter Parking Lot, Founders Hall Lower Commuter Parking Lot, the Swope Music Building Commuter Parking Lot or the Physical Therapy Building staff and commuter parking lots to allow for snow removal.

HOLIDAY LEAVE: Slippery Rock University will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26, and Friday, Nov. 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday. The day after Thanksgiving is designated as a “floating” minor holiday for AFSCME represented employees only. AFSCME employees will not be charged annual or personal leave for this day if absent from work, however, they must complete a leave slip indicating “H” for holiday. AFSCME employees who work Nov. 27 must take a day off within 90 calendar days. All other employees must use available personal or annual leave for the day after Thanksgiving. Employees planning to work Nov. 27 must make prior arrangements with their supervisor so work assignments may be made.

The University will be closed Dec. 25-Jan. 1, with employees using major and minor holiday leave earned during 2009. Employees are reminded that because the 2009 Martin Luther King Jr. holiday was celebrated as a major holiday, employees must submit a leave request or request leave without pay for Dec. 28.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Institute for Community, Service-Learning and Nonprofit Leadership is seeking volunteers to work with children at its I Care House in New Castle as part of its Fabulous Fridays program. Call the institute at 724.738.2273 for details.

SIGN UP: Spring class registration is open.
SAVE THE DATE: The President’s Scholarship Gala, presented by the Slippery Rock University Foundation Inc., will be May 15 in North Hall. For more information call 724.738.2004.

SISTERS UNITE: The Sisters in Healthcare Project, organized by SRU’s John Bavaro, associate professor of professional studies, will be displayed in the Martha Gault Art Gallery through Nov. 20 during regular gallery hours noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The project consists of a traveling exhibit featuring stories, photos, documents, artifacts and historical clothing that showcase the significant contributions made by 16 orders of Roman Catholic sisters to the healthcare history of western Pennsylvania from 1847-1969.

REGALIA SALE: The SGA Bookstore, located in the University Union, is offering Oak Hall Cap and Gown regalia at a 10 percent discount through Nov. 30. Faculty and staff may receive the discount on regalia purchases. The advantages of owning commencement regalia include no longer having to order and return items, custom tailoring service and tax deductions for the purchase price.

WEB TRAINING: Seats are filling quickly for Microsoft SharePoint training sessions that are necessary for posting to the new SRU Web site planned for 2010. Training is available from 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays and 9-11 a.m. Fridays (except Nov. 27) through Dec. 4. To sign up visit: http://administration.sru.edu/webcomm/sharepoint/.

APPLICATIONS GONE GREEN: The application process to become a community assistant in the Office of Residence Life for the 2010-2011 academic year has moved online. Applications may be accessed via the MYHOUSING portal on the Residence Life Web page at http://www.sru.edu/pages/5877.asp. The application process opens Friday and ends at 4 p.m. Dec. 4. Applicants must upload their resume and provide the name and e-mail addresses for two references. Questions may be directed to Justin Kleemook, assistant director of Residence Life Staffing and Summer School, at 724.738.4237.

MASS E-MAILS: The campus is reminded that all mass e-mails (sent to faculty, staff or students) must be processed by University Public Relations. Requests for such mailings must be made as far in advance as possible to avoid multiple e-mails. Emergency requests should be immediately followed up by a telephone call to 724.738.2199, and because of vacation and days off to 724.738.2091. All requests should be e-mailed to karl.schwab@sru.edu. Attachments and photos may not be included, but should be posted on the appropriate Web site and then linked within the e-mail.

IN THE KNOW: In the event of an emergency, natural or man-made, the campus will be notified as soon as possible via the SRU emergency alert system, e2Campus. Those not registered for e2Campus should do so immediately by clicking on the emergency alert icon found at: http://www.sru.edu and following the simple instructions. Emergency information is also posted on the SRU homepage, sent via campus e-mail and shared with the regional media.

FRAUDULENT E-MAIL: The Slippery Rock University campus community is reminded to be vigilant about ongoing fraudulent e-mails. Anyone receiving a suspect e-mail should immediately delete it. No further action is necessary. Do not respond to the e-mail. All Slippery Rock University approved mass e-mails have “SRU Communication” or “Office of the President” as the sender. E-mail users will never be asked to provide passwords or other personal information via e-mail response. The same applies to banks, credit card accounts, utilities and every other legitimate e-mail user. Caution should always prevail when being asked to provide passwords or PINs to outside sources via e-mail.

TOP OF THE ROCK SUBMISSIONS:
Those with briefs related to upcoming campus events, programs and activities may submit items for consideration via e-mail to: toptopoftherock@sru.edu. All submissions must be received by noon the day prior to distribution and must include what the event is, who is sponsoring it, where it will take place, when it will take place and a contact number for additional information.