Focus On:

It’s A Great Time to be at SRU!
"It's a great time to be at Slippery Rock University," is a phrase that has been heard frequently this year. Our 15th president has been inaugurated. Our academic excellence has been nationally recognized. Our campus is more distinctive than ever. We are having a greater impact on the region. Those stories and others on these pages will bring you up to date on significant achievements at The Rock.

The Rock Magazine
Slippery Rock University publishes The Rock Magazine to keep alumni and others informed about its activities and programs and to encourage support for the University. Members of the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association receive an additional section of the magazine, The Rock Insider, which contains news and feature articles about alumni and association activities. University Public Relations, 201 Old Main, Slippery Rock, PA 16057. Editor’s e-mail is: ross.feltz@sr.edu

Vision Statement
Slippery Rock University will excel as a caring community of lifelong learners connecting with the world.

www.SRU.edu
COME FOR A VISIT

I wish I could adequately share the excitement that abounds here at The Rock.

If you know students who are in the college search stage of their life, you really should bring them for a visit.

At least point them to our website www.sru.edu to click on the Rock Videos. These promotional pieces recently won an International Association of Business Communicators Award for web-based communications.

If you visit, though, the excitement starts when you come into town from Interstate 79 and are greeted by the new waterfall welcoming you to the Village of Slippery Rock. And, when you turn the corner onto Main Street, you'll see that the downtown has never looked better.

At campus, you'll want to start at the new Welcome Center in North Hall, a magnificent place to meet and greet prospective students and their parents. It's conveniently located near the Russell Wright Alumni House.

A new pedestrian walkway has replaced the alley from Wiesenfluh to Morrow Field House. A huge rock and three spheres symbolize how our students are transformed from roughness to a polished orb.

YOU CAN HELP IN THAT TRANSFORMATION

When most of you attended Slippery Rock, the state funded more than half of the actual cost of your education. Today, however, it is the students and their families who shoulder more than 60 percent of the costs.

Our students are still like most of you were. Two-thirds of them are the first generation in their family to attend college.

However, while today's students pay a greater share than you did, they also borrow money and pay interest to do that. Eighty percent graduate with an average debt of $20,041.

So, while I write that it is a great time to be at Slippery Rock University, many worthy students struggle to afford this opportunity.

MAKE IT HAPPEN

People who work with me know that one of my favorite expressions is “Make it happen.” Collectively, Rock alumni can make huge things happen.

We need alumni and friends to help close the student’s financial gap by contributing to our scholarship fund. Our goal is to increase the percentage of alumni who contribute financially.

Alumni participation in fundraising is an important measure of the strength of a university. I hope we can do much better than our current 14 percent of alums who gave last year.

Our annual fund phonathon is one way in which you can participate. When one of our students calls you to ask for a contribution, think about how much that student is like you were. Please say “Yes” to their request, and designate your gift to our scholarship fund.

You will know that you had a role in making this a great time to be at Slippery Rock University.

by Robert M. Smith, President

It’s a great time to be at Slippery Rock University.

We continue to advance our academic mission. I am proud to announce that Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society has selected Slippery Rock University for membership. Our chapter was installed in a formal ceremony in November (see pg. 7).

The Princeton Review, for the second consecutive year, ranks us among the best colleges and universities in the Mid-Atlantic. Additionally, CosmoGIRL magazine rated SRU as one of the top 50 “female friendly campuses” in the nation, along with such prestigious higher education institutions as Amherst, Brown, Kenyon, Middlebury, and Pomona colleges as well as the universities of Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Michigan, Virginia and Duke, Berkeley and Stanford Universities.

Make it happen
The oldest university in the western world, the University of Bologna—founded in 1088, was represented by SRU faculty member Dr. Bruno Borsari, who holds a doctorate from that institution.

The newest chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest multidiscipline honor society, was represented by Dr. Ronald Johnson, northeast regional vice president who had installed the charter members of the SRU chapter the night before.

International students represented 41 countries and other students represented 28 academic departments, 67 student organizations and all 23 varsity sports. More than 100 universities and colleges were represented.

Together they formed a remarkable site as they donned colorful academic regalia and marched from North Hall, down a new pedestrian walkway marked with solid rock symbolism, diagonally across the quad, past the new Rock Waterfall and into the University Union.

To those who hadn’t visited The Rock in a while, or were new to it, the place shined of newness. Finishing work was still obvious in the downtown renovation. The construction site for the new Science and Technology Building filled in the last open part of the “lower” quadrangle. All in all, participants saw a campus that fills SRU people with RockPride.

When they arrived at the door of the Union, they were greeted with a banner proclaiming: It’s a Great Time to be at Slippery Rock University.

Our guests could tell that statement was true.

A student-centered event

“It would be impossible to describe the many ways in which faculty, staff and students came together to make this inauguration such a special day,” said Bob Watson, vice president for student life and chair of the inauguration committee. “The most important ingredient was that President Smith wanted the day to truly have a student centeredness to it. As much as possible, we wanted to involve students.”
Students played a major role and were highly visible. They engaged in planning the ceremony, selecting the music, making displays, and participating in a regal procession across campus.

A front page story in the Butler Eagle noted that parents and friends were on hand snapping photographs of their sons and daughters as the procession moved across campus.

Several students voiced their praise for President Smith to Eagle reporter Jeff Andrasovsky. “I think he’s wonderful,” said Kit Keiper, a music major education major from Beaver Falls. He helped arrange the National Anthem and the Alma Mater for the ceremony.

Michelle DiIanni, a music education major and choir member from Pittsburgh said “I think he’s going to do a really good job. I’m really excited. I saw him at concerts and was excited to see him there.”

Erika Brown, a political science major from Pittsburgh said, “You can really talk to him. If he’s walking around campus, he’ll take time to speak to you. He always takes time to come to student events.”

Students, professor forge medallion

Butler Eagle reporter Shari Berg introduced the story this way:

“Some people spent Tuesday night anxiously watching election results.

But for three Slippery Rock University students and their professor, there was something more pressing for their attention.

‘We were up all night working it,’ said SRU senior Derek Marmo.

The ‘it’ was a sterling silver medallion that hung around the neck of SRU president Robert Smith during his inauguration Friday afternoon.”

The rest of Berg’s story told how Marmo and fellow seniors Amber Stark and Sean James spent the better part of two weeks making the medallion. They are in the metalsmithing class in the art department and were asked by their professor, J. Robert Bruya, to help on the medallion.

“In talking with the president, he was really pleased because he’s interested in involving students,” Bruya said.

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Behind the scenes

The people behind scenes never get brought out on stage for a curtain call. But they set the stage, provide the lighting, check the sound, deliver the food, and do everything else that creates the environment that makes it a great time to be at The Rock.

“People went beyond the normal because they have great affection and respect for Bob Smith,” said John Bonando, assistant vice president for student life.

While Dr. Robert Watson served as the chair of the inauguration committee, his role was really to lead by giving others the opportunity to shape their contribution in their own way.

“There were numerous examples of people seeing that something needed to be done and going right ahead and doing it,” he said.

“I’ve worked on a few of these,” Shirley Jones of public relations said with a laugh. “The day we were putting up displays in the Union was great fun. Painters were touching up walls, facilities staff were putting up chairs, people were all over. Everyone wanted this place to look its best. It was wonderful.”

The Ceremony

Formal greetings and best wishes were offered to President Smith on behalf of various university stakeholders.

Jude Butch, president of the Student Government Association, represented students.

Dr. Jace Condravy, president of SRU’s Association of Pennsylvania’s State College and University Faculty, spoke on behalf of faculty.

Dr. Bob Marcus, chair of the SRU Council of Trustees.

John Thornburgh, represented the Pennsylvania State System Board of Governors.

Alan Offstein, board chair of the Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc.

Dr. Frank Pogue, president of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, brought greetings on behalf of higher education.

Ken Harris, Slippery Rock Mayor.

Bill Kirker, ’73, SRU Alumni Association President.

Charles Curray, SRU Vice President, finance and administration, representing administrative employees.

Lt. Kevin Starkey, representing the non-faculty collective bargaining units.
International students represented 41 countries.
A Regal Day at The Rock

The Celebration

President Smith celebrates with students Jude Batch (left), newly appointed member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Board of Governors, and Angele Waugaman, a member of the SRU Council of Trustees.

Students enjoyed the reception following the ceremony.

Students enjoyed the reception following the ceremony.

The fountain of chocolate was a particular favorite.

Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood cast members Maggie Smith (left) and Chuck Aber, ’67, celebrated the day with music students (l-r) Mike Sypien, Erin Hummel, Rachel Ranson and Courtney Geary, who performed in the ceremony and were part of SRU’s premiere performance of In Memoriam: A Requiem for Fred Rogers.
Gaining Ground as a Premier Institution

Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline honor society, installs chapter at Slippery Rock University

Keynote speaker David Scobey of the University of Michigan captured the significance of Slippery Rock University’s fall installation into Phi Kappa Phi.

“Acceptance as a chapter of Phi Kappa Phi is a measure of the honor society’s confidence in both the quality of the faculty and undergraduate education at Slippery Rock University, and a measure of the intellectual achievement and seriousness of SRU’s students,” said Scobey, director of the Arts of Citizenship Program.

Scobey joined SRU President Robert Smith, Interim Provost William Williams and humanities Dean William McKinney for an installation ceremony at the University Union. With their proud parents looking on, SRU inducted 40 students—all of them ranked in the top 10 percent of their class.

“It’s quite an honor,” said senior Angelé Waugaman, an accounting major from Kittanning. “It’s very hard to get into Phi Kappa Phi. It’s nationally known, and there are so many renowned people in it. For them to come to SRU and ask us to become a member is a big honor. It means a lot to this University, and it shows where we’re going.”

At initiation, new members received certificates of membership and gold pins. The top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors were eligible to join.

To become a member of Phi Kappa Phi, a college or university must petition and go through a rigorous process to prove that it provides its students a quality academic experience. Having a chapter is quite a distinction, because Phi Kappa Phi has only 294 chapters nationwide.

Five SRU faculty became first-time members as well, and joined 11 other faculty and administrators, including Smith and McKinney, as charter members. That means they already belonged to Phi Kappa Phi, the Phi Beta Kappa or Sigma Xi honor societies.

Members represent the best of what higher education has to offer

Membership is earned, not just conferred, said Dr. Ronald Johnson, Phi Kappa Phi’s northeast regional vice president, who attended the installation. The honor society evaluated SRU’s academic programs, faculty, buildings and success of graduates for a full year before approving a chapter, he said.

The primary objective of Phi Kappa Phi is the recognition and encouragement of superior scholarship in all academic disciplines, he added. The society is convinced that in recognizing and honoring those persons of good character who have excelled in scholarship, in whatever field, it will stimulate others to strive for excellence.

Students benefit in many ways:
- Membership gives them and job seekers an added element of prestige
- They may compete for scholarships and awards
- They may obtain research grants of up to $2,500
- They may compete for post-baccalaureate fellowships

Excellence is the defining yardstick between colleges and universities that merely float along with the tide versus those that excel and rise to new heights. Clearly, SRU is gaining ground as a premier institution.

“Phi Kappa Phi will make Slippery Rock more visible to people who may be looking for a place where they can find a niche,” said SRU’s Dr. Thomas Gaither, professor of biology. “It is respected in science, but it’s an interdisciplinary society.”

SRU’s Dr. Bill McKinney, dean of the College of Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts, signs the charter. He was installed as chapter president. Behind him is Dr. Ronald Johnson, northeast region vice president for Phi Kappa Phi.
Chancellor Hample, Council Chair Marcus and Members of the SRU Council of Trustees, Board of Governor Thornburgh, other members of our platform, I appreciated your kind words and testimonies. However, as I watched my mother, she was even more amazed than I.

I am so pleased that mother could be here today as well as my sister. I've been very blessed. My parents always told me I could be anything I wanted. When you grow up in a household like that, you learn to believe in yourself. As a confirmation of their faith, my sister is one of the most extraordinary persons I know.

I also want to acknowledge Ramona Smith. We have shared our lives for 40 years. Her faith and confidence has been an important part of the success of this journey.

Grateful to Friends

Many colleagues and friends are here today having traveled great distances at considerable trouble. I accept they just found this so unbelievable they wanted to verify the moment for themselves.

Whatever the reason, I am grateful for your participation. You are testimony to the power of friendship. At this age, friendship is very important. It isn't the money. After all, I am now living in public housing.

I want to give special recognition to those representing Phi Kappa Phi and delegates from colleges and universities throughout the world. You represent the collective shared purpose of the academy: To seek the truth and to advance the knowledge of humankind. The presence of our faculty and administration are here as affirmation to the academic community we are building at Slippery Rock University.

Students and Faculty Acknowledged

I particularly acknowledge that this inauguration celebrates through our student delegations the centrality our students have in shaping our shared purpose and vision. Let me also acknowledge the role students had today as members of the inauguration committee, designing the presidential medallion, arranging the musical orchestration, and sharing their talents in the performing arts.

As I approach this speech and the challenge to articulate my feelings today, I am also very aware of my mother's warning: The fact that no one understands you doesn't make you an artist.

I come to this inauguration holding the view that we are gathered here today representative of higher education in this country. This celebration at Slippery Rock University is part of a timeless tradition to recommit to our collective purpose and values.

I come mindful that no single individual manages a modern university. I have kept in my mind a story told about Harvard President Charles Williams Elliott, who once made a remark at Harvard in which he referred to "his" faculty. In the morning, he found a delegation of faculty waiting at his office door to remind him that the President at Harvard does not have a faculty; rather, the faculty at Harvard has a President. It is a lesson I try to remember.

This can be a real test for any president. Father Hesberg of Notre Dame tells the story of the college president who passed on suddenly and, as the faculty knew he would, went to Hell. But, he says, it was four days before the president knew the difference.

I come mindful that universities are very difficult to manage in the conventional sense. Robert Carothers, President of the University of Rhode Island, once said that our universities are the least efficient and most disorganized institutions in America, functionally defined as chaotic collections of eccentric people held together by a common grievance about parking.

The traditional mainstays of corporate culture, authority and power, are purely illusory. These icons given to me today (a medallion and mace- one constructed of chain mail to protect from lances thrown at my heart and the other a club meant to be wielded with great force) are entirely symbolic of the heritage of the classical university.

Today's Successful University

Yet today's successful university is not a hierarchy but a pluralistic enterprise with multiple centers of influence frailly held together by a shared vision and values. Despite the appearance of chaos, the university is a purposeful community reliant on the individual talents and motivation
of its faculty, staff and administration.

At a moment in our American history when the university is the apparent last forum for one to find free inquiry, freedom of speech, creativity, and the entrepreneurial spirit, the concepts of singular power and authority are anachronistic and antithetical to the true potential of the enterprise.

This is especially true today at Slippery Rock University. We are where we are in the 116th year of Slippery Rock University because we got here together. Because we care about what we do. We have already demonstrated the power we have when we work together.

Our vision is clear and we are focused to achieve it. Put simply, we are building an engaged intellectual community. We have staked our future on strengths shaped over the past 115 years: a residential educational experience. To that end in the past several years, we have rebuilt our campus infrastructure, refurbished and downsized classrooms, added new classroom and laboratory buildings, and invested millions in the best technology possible for our students.

Investing $100 Million

We are not through. In the next four years, we will invest almost $100 million in new and refurbished residence facilities, a performing arts center, and (hopefully) a new student union designed by our students.

We turned around an eight year decline in enrollment that culminated in reaching the highest enrollment in the university’s history. Along the way, we reached new heights in retention, diversity of the student body, and graduation rates. In the past three years, we have become one of the nation’s most honored enrollment management programs.

Our next goals are equally focused: We are working to raise the value of the Slippery Rock University degree through a more rigorous curriculum, expansion of student research and other individualized learning experiences.

We are working to assure control over our own destiny through creative development work and our innovative entrepreneurial venture at the Regional Learning Alliance in Cranberry Corporate Woods, a collaborative operation that we believe defines the future for higher education.

We are working to diversify the voices on our campus. We recognize the strength we gain from the different views and world experiences that come from a campus rich in the diversity of our people.

“*This inauguration celebrates through our student delegations the centrality our students have in shaping our shared purpose and vision.*”

Commitment as a Public University

We are committed as a public university to produce competent, civil, and caring citizens willing to make their communities better places for all people to live and work. We know that we must continue to be vigilant in asserting our role as a public university.

We have among our faculty the intellectual capital to bring a great force on finding new ways to fulfill:

*The promise of justice and dignity for all;*

*Active engagement in rational public discourse;*

*Responsible ethical citizenship;* and participatory democracy.

In short, there is no greater time than now for us to embrace, as the highest value from our degree, that each student leaves here richly prepared in the “arts of liberty.”

Regardless of our adventures and aspirations, we do not forget that at the core of everything are our students and our passionate commitment to their learning. In the past, I’ve referred to this form of teaching as “creating hope.” Marva Collins once said, “You can pay people to teach, but you can’t pay them to care.” We are where we are in the 116th year of Slippery Rock University because we care about what we do.

 Chancellor, I take the oath of this office because I believe Slippery Rock University is a place where we have demonstrated the power of working together to achieve our goals and pursue our vision by our caring people. I appreciate the confidence you have in me and Slippery Rock University.

This is not a challenge for me alone to achieve nor would I be up to the task. As I remarked in August, I am painfully aware that when Mozart was my age, he had been dead for 24 years. Instead I stand as the representative of our faculty, staff, administration, and students to affirm our commitment to continue to build a very special university based on the values of an entire community.

Because of what we have already demonstrated to ourselves, I truly believe this is a great time to be at Slippery Rock University and our greatest days are ahead of us.

Let me conclude by offering a creed to guide us for those days:

*May our lives in this community be motivated:*

*By goals that have deep meaning,*

*By dreams that need completion,*

*By truths that demand expression, and*

*By a willingness to learn that remains unquenched.*
Donors and business leaders celebrate SRU’s leadership

You have read about the plans for the Regional Learning Alliance in previous issues of The Rock Magazine. You have seen construction updates, too. You may have even visited www.RegionalLearningAlliance.com and seen the video virtual tour.

On these pages you see the reality of a new model for workforce development. Slippery Rock University is the model builder.

To celebrate this accomplishment, regional business leaders and Rock Society Members ($1000-per-year donors to SRU) gathered for an inaugural gala to congratulate President Smith, the driving force behind this accomplishment.

MSA executive, state system chancellor, praise concept

In remarks at the evening celebration, Dennis Zeitler, chief financial officer of Mine Safety Appliances and board chair for the RLA, said that the “Regional Learning Alliance is a model for bringing free enterprise to higher education.”

MSA donated the land in its Cranberry Woods Corporate Office Park for the construction of the modern, high-tech, education and conference center. It is located in the fastest growing area of western Pennsylvania.
Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Chancellor Judy Hample also praised the concept saying that SRU is a “leader in providing new resources for workforce development.”

**SRU Foundation plays a key role**

Hosting the event, was the Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc. “They have been a solid foundation for making this happen,” said Smith. “Without our Foundation, we couldn’t have done this.”

Alan Offstein, Foundation chair, led the assembled in a champagne toast that saluted both Smith and the newly opened and spectacular facility.

It was a great time to be associated with Slippery Rock University.
SRU strengthens academics, spearheads development of regional workforce development site, receives accolades from Princeton Review and CosmoGIRL!

Close your eyes. Picture the face of one person at Slippery Rock University who inspired you. Picture your favorite building, class or extracurricular club.

Whether it was a faculty member, academic program or other Rock Solid accomplishment, consider the lasting effect on your life.

SRU's investment in campus facilities, signature programs and in student-centered teaching ensures that students of today—and decades from today—will form their own cherished memories. Fall semester saw several important advances come to fruition. But if the confirmation of excellence comes from what others say about the University as well, consider nationally published evaluations by Princeton Review and CosmoGIRL!

SRU selected for second straight year
Princeton Review issued its list of “115 Top Mid-Atlantic Colleges,” and for the second consecutive year it included SRU in its rankings based on interviews with students about academics, the student body and campus life.

“Our students did it for us again,” President Smith said. “These regional rankings are considered especially important because of the influence current students have on the rankings.”

Princeton Review Publisher and Editorial Director Robert Franek told Smith by letter that Princeton Review evaluated 708 schools in the mid-Atlantic, including 102 schools surveyed for the first time. SRU is one of 115 schools to receive the regional distinction.

CosmoGIRL! lauds female-friendly atmosphere
CosmoGIRL! Magazine rated SRU as one of the top 50 “female friendly campuses” in the nation this fall.

The company is heady: CosmoGIRL! placed SRU with such prestigious higher education institutions as Amherst, Babson, Bard, Brown, Earlham, Grinnell, Kenyon, Middlebury, Oberlin and Pomona colleges as well as the universities of Pennsylvania, Indiana, Maine, North Carolina, Michigan, Wisconsin, Virginia, and Duke, Brown, Trinity, Berkeley and Stanford.

The 12-page insert “The Best Colleges for CosmoGIRLS” had students, staff and faculty alike talking. The Rocket covered it as a front-page story.

Academic advances
Aside from launching a chapter of the academic honor society Phi Kappa Phi (see page 7) admissions reported that 29 percent of new students were in the top 25 percent of their high school class—up 4 percent from just a year ago.

At the other end of the spectrum, graduates from the past year have enrolled in many of the nation’s most prestigious graduate programs, including the University of Kentucky’s mathematics Ph.D. program and the master of fine arts in dance at Smith College, to name but two. (See the college pages for more news on the achievements of students and faculty.)

Serving Pennsylvania
SRU spearheaded development of the recently opened Regional Learning Alliance at Cranberry Woods in Allegheny County, a national model for workforce development. (See pages 8 &9)

The innovative concept brings together 11 of the region’s leading education providers to serve employers and employees. The mission is clear: providing the right kinds of training to improve job skills and boost the regional economy.

Alliance officials estimate an increase of $32 million in potential wages for southwestern Pennsylvania workers in the first five years of operation.

Horses work miracles with kids
This spring, the University will consolidate its Adapted Physical Activity Program and equestrian riding team into a new facility on campus, Storm Harbor Equestrian Center. Construction began this fall on an indoor arena with 12 stalls, a kitchen, health center and classrooms near N. Kerr Thompson Stadium.

In the past, students who took a class in equestrian therapy, belonged to the equestrian team, or needed to board horses had to drive to private stables up to an hour away.

“You put a student with a severe handicap like cerebral palsy or Down syndrome on the back of a horse and a miracle occurs,” President Smith told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review for an article on the facility. “It’s a mystical relationship between horse and child.”

The heat a horse gives off warms the muscles and ligaments of a rider and the animal’s nuzzle nurtures as well.

Moving forward with new buildings
SRU broke ground on the $14 million Science and Technology Building this fall and is moving forward with fast-track upgrades including new residence halls and a new university union and performing arts complex.

Four new, suite-style residence halls will eventually occupy land between Founders Hall and Rock Apartments. Founders will be torn down.

It’s a great time to be at Slippery Rock University.
Students have reacted very positively to the pedestrian corridor, downtown work and other improvements. It is clearly a recruitment tool to have an aesthetically pleasing downtown and more appealing campus. The pedestrian corridor not only connects the older, traditional end of campus to the new, it provides a safe, well-lit environment for social interaction. The years to come will bring other exciting advances.”

—Dr. John Bonando, SRU’s assistant vice president for student services
All semester was dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding of the landmark, 50-year-old U.S. Supreme Court ruling “Brown v. Board of Education” by helping SRU students understand public school desegregation that has guided their entire education.

SRU opened its “Brown v. Board of Education: 50 Years of Progress and Struggle” series with respected National Public Radio and Fox News Channel political commentator Juan Williams who spoke before a filled Swope Music Hall audience to explain the ruling’s ramifications and detail the life of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, an NAACP lawyer seeking to end the national “separate but equal” doctrine prior to being named a justice on the high court.

Brown v. Board of Education is the 1954, unanimous Supreme Court decision that started the end to “separate but equal” education systems for whites and blacks across the U.S. The suit was brought by Oliver Brown who objected to having his 8-year-old daughter attend a black school two miles from the family home, while a white school was located just five blocks away. Brown originally sued the Topeka, Kansas, school board before the case worked its way to the Supreme Court.

In his hourlong address, Williams told how the ruling set the tone for the Civil Rights Movement that followed and of the slow change that came to the U.S. education system.

The series focused on societal changes resulting from the ruling and exposed students to the importance of diversity and equality in education, says Dr. Renay Scales, assistant vice president of human resources and diversity. “We used this opportunity to engage the campus and extended community in dialogue about race relations and the implication for the future of education at SRU.”

The series included a host of follow-up programming, including President Smith sharing the podium with Charmaine P. Clowney, director of diversity and equal opportunity at the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, in a program titled “Brown v. Board of Education: 50 Years Velocity at all Deliberate Speed: How will SRU Accelerate the Next 50?“ and a session on how the ruling affected Native Americans. In addition, Pedro A. Cortez, secretary of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, detailed his life experiences in helping implement diversity and equality across the state.

Students became involved through “Separate but Equal: A Student’s Perspective,” sponsored by SRU’s Black Action Society, by sharing their views on the ruling and its effects on them, and SRU’s Frederick Douglas Institute sponsored “The Great Debate: W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington,” in which students discussed the different educational philosophies of the two educational leaders. The Honorable Nelson Diaz, the first Latino to serve as general counsel to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the first non-majority administrative law judge in Pennsylvania, lectured on breaking barriers and his own leadership success.

The series involved faculty in “Brown v. Board: The History, Law and Impact” a panel discussion and the series ended with the newly formed Harry M. Warner Film Institute offering a series of films related to the topic.

Students had a plethora of research material to draw from following SRU’s Dr. Richard Altenbaugh, professor of secondary education, and his work as editor of the national Teacher Education Quarterly, which published a special issue of more than 50 research projects on the important decision.

Looking For Class Notes? >>>

If the next page of this magazine is the front cover of the Rock Insider, you are a member of the Alumni Association, or you have been chosen at random to preview a Rock Insider. If the next page is page 31, you’re missing out on class notes and information about Alumni Reunion Weekend, Homecoming, Alumni in the Military, Upcoming Events, Alumni Around the Globe, and other alumni news. The Rock Insider is the official alumni publication of the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association and is sent exclusively to members of the Association. To start getting your copy of the Rock Insider, call 1-800-GET-ROCK or e-mail us at alumni@sru.edu.
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announcements

Special Maryland SRU License Plates: Alumni living in Maryland can show their Rock Pride on their vehicles with a special license plate with the official logo of Slippery Rock University. The plate includes the logo (at right) and says “Slippery Rock University” on the bottom, identical to the plate designed for alumni living in Pennsylvania. We need at least 25 plates pre-ordered before the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration will process the plates for us. If you are interested please contact the alumni office at 1-800-GET-ROCK or alumni@sru.edu.

Meet Our Newest Board Member: Brad Kovaleski, ‘01, has been appointed to the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association board of directors. Kovaleski received his bachelor’s degree in Spanish and a master’s degree in student personnel in 2003. He is employed at Franklin and Marshall College as assistant director of student activities.

Invitation: Slippery Rock University Performance at the Pops with Marvin Hamlisch President Smith cordially invites alumni and friends to attend a special Pittsburgh Pops performance of the music of Irving Berlin, conducted by Marvin Hamlisch. This is a special matinee performance at 2:30 p.m., January 23, at Heinz Hall in Pittsburgh. Alumni and guests of SRU will receive discounted dress circle seating (in the front balcony) and a special “SRU Only” reception in the Mozart Room of Heinz Hall immediately after the performance sponsored by Liberty Mutual Insurance. Hamlisch will attend the reception. For more information, contact the alumni office at 1-800-GET-ROCK or alumni@sru.edu. Tickets are limited; orders will be filled in the order they are requested.

SRU Veterans Group Forming: The Office of Alumni Relations is looking for all alumni interested in being part of an alumni veterans association being formed. The group’s purpose is to recognize outstanding students, faculty and alumni who have served in the armed forces. The group would also like to create an alumni directory of all who served or are serving in the armed forces. Those interested in getting involved should contact Michael Saraka, director of alumni relations, at 1-800-GET-ROCK or michael.saraka@sru.edu.

Correction: Brent Johnson, ’73, is the principal of Greenfield School, not Carrick High School as was reported in the last issue of The Rock Insider. Johnson was an assistant principal at Carrick for four years and has been principal at Greenfield for three.

On the Cover: A copy of the football program at Homecoming 1952.

Mystery Photograph: Do you recognize anyone in this photograph? If so, contact the alumni office at 1-800-GET-ROCK or alumni@sru.edu. The winner receives an SRU alumni picture frame.

Answer to last issue’s mystery photograph: Roxann Herr Helleren, ’85, identified some of the alumni in the last issue’s mystery photograph.

The alumni in the picture included Heidi Lepley Cressley, ’84, Jim Benson, ’79, Clay Rodgers, ’79, Elaine Hozdik, ’78, and Jerry Tritt, ’76.

The ROCK INSIDER is the official publication of the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association, Russell Wright Alumni House, Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA 16057. Association annual dues are $20. A year’s subscription to the magazine, which is inserted in The Rock Magazine, is included as a membership benefit. Specific opinions expressed within the publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alumni Association board of directors, staff or Slippery Rock University.
view from the president

By Bill Kirker, ’73, SRUAA President

An Enjoyable Task

It was an honor and privilege for me to represent you, the members of the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association at the inauguration of President Robert Smith as the 15th president of the Rock.

President Smith came to Slippery Rock University as the provost and vice president for academic affairs in 1999, around the time that I was elected to the board of directors. It was at that time that the Office of Alumni Relations became a part of the Division of Academic Affairs. Since then I have had an opportunity to interact with President Smith on a number of initiatives of importance to both alumni and the University.

Beginning while the provost and continuing during his role as interim president and now as the president of our alma mater, President Smith has worked diligently to advance the University. He assembled a team to reverse the declining enrollments that the Rock experienced through much of the 1990s. He oversaw the rearrangement of departments into the current colleges and schools. Few people relish change, but he moved forward to link and group key departments and programs for efficiency and effectiveness. During this time, the Alumni Association constructed a picnic pavilion near N. Kerr Thompson Stadium and Critchfield Park that has become a popular spot for students, alumni and the community to enjoy as well as a site for various events and activities. We also were part of a collaborative effort that led to Gallery 164 on Main Street, one of the first new storefronts in what has become the Village at Slippery Rock.

When he accepted the interim presidency in December 2002, President Smith moved ahead boldly, yet in collaboration with many others, to address concerns of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and then move on to initiate capital projects. While making programmatic changes on campus, he also moved forward with the Regional Learning Alliance in Cranberry Township that has placed SRU as a leader in serving the corporate and learning needs in the north Pittsburgh corridor, as well as students from the Rock and other institutions.

In my role as president of the Alumni Association, and formerly president-elect, I have had numerous opportunities to interact with President Smith. I can assure you that he is committed to our alumni and has a passion to see that our alma mater is among the top in categories ranging from academics to community and service learning. He is a person of vision and will continue to promote excellence.

President Smith has been a supporter of our Alumni House expansion and seeks to engage you, our members, in many ways. Our board looks forward to continuing to work together with President Smith in the coming years.

A special congratulations goes out to Eric Holmes, ’93, and president-elect of the Alumni Association for receiving a Pacesetter Award as part of the activities at the Rock marking the 50th anniversary of Brown vs. the Board of Education decision.

Wrestling Alumni Update

Upcoming Events

Coach Derek DelPorto invites all alumni from these areas to the following away wrestling matches:

• East Stroudsburg University, Jan. 21, 7 p.m.
• Bloomsburg Meet - Bloomsburg University, Millersville University, Ohio University, Jan. 22, 9 a.m.
• PSAC Championships, E. Stroudsburg, Jan. 28-29
• Gannon University (coached by Don Henry, ’83), Erie, Feb. 3, 7 p.m.
• East Regional Duals, SRU, 10 a.m.
• NCAA Division I East Regionals (alumni reception after the meet), Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.

Check the wrestling web site for the complete schedule. For more information, contact Coach DelPorto at 724-738-2722 or derek.delporto@sru.edu. Please send Coach DelPorto your e-mail address so he can add you to the wrestling mailing list.

Five Coaches: Jim Harshaw, Derek DelPorto, ‘99, Fred Powell, Steve Roberts, ’83, and Chris Elliott, ‘00, represent the last five head wrestling coaches at Slippery Rock University.

REUNION TIME: Head Coach Derek DelPorto, ’99, welcomed back more than 70 wrestling alumni and friends for a reunion during homecoming. Pictured here are the alumni who marched in the homecoming parade.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>1917</td>
<td>Augustus T. Clutton '09</td>
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<td>William Barron '14</td>
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<td>1919</td>
<td>Howard Headland '06</td>
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<td>1920</td>
<td>Thomas Duff '02</td>
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<td>1921</td>
<td>William Barron '14</td>
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<td>1923</td>
<td>Claire Book '18</td>
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<td>1925</td>
<td>Beatty Dimit '11</td>
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<td>1926</td>
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<td>Calvin Hogg '08</td>
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<td>Bruce Denniston '20</td>
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<td>1965</td>
<td>C. Foster McGarvey '39</td>
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<td>2005-07</td>
<td>Eric Holmes '93</td>
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</table>
The Alumni Association at Slippery Rock University is indeed a diverse one with members from all over the country. The demographics of members in 2004 demonstrate some interesting points, namely:

1. most of our members were education majors
2. a majority of members are female
3. the bulk of our members are from the 1970s and 1980s
4. a majority of our members live in the northeastern United States

Help our numbers continue to grow. Renew your membership in 2005 and encourage your friends to join the Alumni Association.

Thank you for your support!
### Top Ten States Alumni Live In Other Than PA

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<th>State</th>
<th>Members</th>
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### SRUAA 2004 Membership

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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
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### Donor Corner

The following individual(s) have given $1,000 or more to Slippery Rock University during the period of August-November 2004:

- Dr. John Nicholas Anderson, ’69
- Dr. and Mrs. Jerome F. Bejbl, ’63
- Mr. Garry W. Benford, ’77
- Mr. Franklin M. Carr, ’50
- Mrs. Dorothy Mae Conway, ’46
- Mr. Duane Lonsdale Conway, ’56
- Ms. Sheila I. Drohan, ’74
- Ms. Elaine S. Enfonde, ’90
- Mrs. Lynne Marie Ernes, ’78
- Dr. Judith Frederick, ’69
- Dr. Robert Frederick, ’69
- Mr. John K. Gehret, ’80
- Mr. Daniel Patrick Gillen, ’78
- Mr. Harold Reyburn Grove, ’54
- Mrs. Margaret Rehm Headland, 40
- Mr. Stephen Heasley, ’73
- Mr. Darrell Hess, ’54
- Mr. S. Donald Hindman, ’57
- Mr. John Robert Kotula, ’57
- Mr. Carl L. Laughner, ’49
- Mrs. Norma Laughner, ’48
- Colonel Marjorie L.C. Maguire, ’37
- Dr. Carol J. Matteson, ’68
- Mrs. Bonnie A. McElhaney, ’63
- Mr. Stephen Medwid, ’62
- Dr. Wayne L. Miller, ’71
- Mr. James Harold Morris, ’82
- Mr. G. Patrick O’Hare, ’65
- Mr. Nicholas Jon Pici, ’96
- Mr. Gregory Thomas Policano, ’82
- Mrs. Marcie Reinhard, ’85
- Mr. Mark Alan Reinhard, ’84
- Ms. Rose P. Ricci, ’81
- Mr. and Mrs. Laurice F. Sargert, ’63
- Dr. Charles Shultz, ’54
- Ms. Susan Louise Smith, ’77
- Mr. and Mrs. William C. Sonntag, ’70
- Mr. Barry K. Thompson, ’87
- Mr. Timothy Trautman, ’73
- Mr. Jeffrey William Wangler, ’81
- Dr. Scott Allan Wise, ’90
- Ms. Judith L. Zarenko, ’71

Thank you for your contributions. Your support helps Slippery Rock University grow.
SRU’s Institute for Learning in Retirement Names New Executive Director

by Peg Sickle Stickel, '55

From its beginnings of 54 members with 13 classes, the Institute for Learning in Retirement at SRU has grown to a membership of 204 offering 74 classes and activities in only three years.

Being a member-directed organization and utilizing volunteer teachers, speakers and leaders, the ILR offers classes and events in such areas as history, Italian, current events, hobbies, basic and advanced computer, book discussion, dancing and a variety of field trips. Classes requiring hands-on participation include quilting, knitting, crocheting, furniture repair, chair caning, sailing, drawing and painting. Members enjoy 33 area day trips, as well as extended travel to Scotland and Costa Rica. In 2003, the ILR offered travel opportunities to Iceland and the Canadian Rockies. Trips to Europe are planned.

One of the popular activities is the “Lunch and Lecture” series, a brown-bag luncheon, which offers lectures on health, hobbies and activities of interest to the mature-age group. Another popular luncheon offering is “Lunch Out,” in which groups visit various restaurants in the area.

The ILR has been very fortunate in finding Ruth Hoffman, a retired English teacher from the Franklin Area Schools, to accept the challenge as executive director. “The Institute for Learning in Retirement is a vibrant, active and stimulating addition to the community and an important part of the lifelong learning goals of Slippery Rock University,” Hoffman says, adding that they hope “to increase membership and offer more courses for the community.”

For a class catalog, or to find out more information, contact the institute at learning.retirement@sru.edu or call 724-738-1604. SRU’s Institute for Learning in Retirement is located at the SRU Center for Lifelong and Community Learning, 165 Elm St., Slippery Rock, PA 16057.

DONOR FORM

Name_________________________________________ Address_________________________________
City/State/Zip Code______________________________________________________________________
Phone__________________________________________________________________________________

Method of Payment:
___ Check ___ Visa ___ American Express ___ Bill Me ___ Master Card ___ Discover

Credit Card #:_________________________________________
Expiration Date________________ V-Code________________
Name on Card________________________________________
Signature____________________________________________
Date__________________________________________________

Make checks payable to “SRU Foundation.” Please detach and mail to Alumni Relations, Slippery Rock University, 1 Morrow Way, Slippery Rock, PA 16057.
Danube River Cruise with a post-cruise hotel stay in Prague
July 9-20, 2005

The Danube River is one of the world’s most celebrated waterways. Discover its unparalleled beauty in the Wachau and Altmuhl Valleys, lined with hilltop castles and quaint villages. Call on grand cities in Austria and Germany and explore baroque abbeys and magnificent cathedrals.

Travel from Budapest to Nuremberg on the luxurious Viking Pride, which carries only 150 passengers. Taste the wines, learn the legends and folklore, savor the food, sway to the music; and see for yourself why the world continues to fall in love with this treasured river.

From $2998 per person, and includes:
- Seven-night river cruise on the Viking Pride (all outside cabins).
- Daily shore excursions.
- Round-trip air from Philadelphia and all transfers.
- All meals onboard ship.
- Folkloric entertainment, lectures and theme dinners.
- Three-night post-cruise hotel stay in Prague, including breakfast and a city tour.

A 10-Day Hawaiian Adventure
August 11-21, 2005

Do you dream in color? Emerald-green rainforests, shimmering aquamarine waters, fiery-red sunsets and black lava deserts.

Extraordinarily beautiful and impossibly romantic, Hawaii has some of the most colorful and exotic landscapes on earth. Let Norwegian Cruise Line show you this living paradise as no other cruise line can. Sailing on the new Pride of Aloha, NCL will show you a rainbow of exotic ports, beginning with a three-night hotel stay exploring the cultural and scenic treasures of Honolulu.

From $2181, itinerary includes:
- Pride of Aloha, which carries only 150 passengers. Taste the wines, learn the legends and folklore, savor the food, sway to the music; and see for yourself why the world continues to fall in love with this treasured river.

Join fellow ROCK alumni for a memorable vacation.

For information, call Tom Kepler or Craig Martin at Cruisin’ at 610-341-1979 or 800-506-7447.

Visit the Web site at www.alumnivacations.com for complete itinerary, prices and information.
**1920s**

Dorothy Keefer, ’24, turned 100 years old Sept. 11. The event was featured in a *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* article. Her advice to others on turning 100 is, “Keep busy; keep interested; keep interesting.” She started her career teaching in a one-room schoolhouse and spent 40 years teaching in the Mt. Lebanon School District. Keefer has visited all 50 states and much of western and northern Europe. She is still active in her retirement home as editor of its weekly bulletin.

Anne Dvoryak Parker, ’29, is still very active but “uses a cane to get around these days.” She loves The Rock and is interested in finding more alumni in the Farmingham Hills, MI area.

**1930s**

Dale L. Anderson, ’36, turned 94 in November. He is still very active in his community and enjoys building one-person airplanes for himself.

**1940s**

John O. Kaufman, ’40, donated Slippery Rock University memorabilia to display at the Russell Wright Alumni House, including a football program from 1937 when Slippery Rock University played Boston College at Fenway Park.

**1950s**

Chester Ambrose, ’51, and his wife Patricia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 21. He is still active in his community as a volunteer and children’s storyteller.

Phil Sheridan, ’55, is coordinating the class of 1955’s reunion activities for alumni weekend on June 17-18. All classmates are encouraged to contact Phil at PSheridan8@aol.com or 301-942-3532 for more details.

John Small, ’58, spent his career in the Upper St. Clair School District where he taught elementary for five years, was a building principal for 22 years and supervisor of curriculum and instruction for eight years. Small was also a member of the adjunct faculty at Penn State University. He was inducted to the Upper St. Clair High School Academic Hall of Fame, and has been retired since June 1993.

**1960s**

Sally Dillman Yanzek, ’67, Jeanne Grejda Schomaker, ’66, and Janet Cromie Klaus ’66, and all 1962 graduates of Shaler High School met for a 60th birthday party held by the Shaler High School Reunion Committee.


Frank Shields, ’67, is a Senator from Portland, OR, representing Mid-Multnomah County in Senate District 24. A former United Methodist minister, he has been an advocate of human services issues for many years. Before election to the Senate, he served as State Representative for District 16 from 1993-1998. Sen. Shields is married to the Rev. Becca Wenger, and has two sons, Matthew and Noel. His hobbies include long-distance running, bicycling and reading.

Tom Murdoch, ’68, is executive director for the Adopt-A-Stream Foundation in Everett, WA (www.streamkeeper.org).

John Santilli, ’68, retired from the Kane Area School District after 25 years. He coached football and American Legion baseball.

Dahlis Diess Roy, ’69, and her husband Paul live in Stevensville, MI, where she founded and operates Lakeshore Tai Chi.

John “Jay” Seward, ’69, retired after 33 years of coaching track and cross-country at Fox Chapel Area High School. Seward also coached swimming for 16 seasons. He served as the diving coach for the last 10 years. He continues to teach physical education.

**1970s**

Chester Ambrose, ’71, and his wife Patricia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 21. He is still active in his community as a volunteer and children’s storyteller.

Phil Sheridan, ’75, is coordinating the class of 1975’s reunion activities for alumni weekend on June 17-18. All classmates are encouraged to contact Phil at PSheridan8@aol.com or 301-942-3532 for more details.

John Small, ’78, spent his career in the Upper St. Clair School District where he taught elementary for five years, was a building principal for 22 years and supervisor of curriculum and instruction for eight years. Small was also a member of the adjunct faculty at Penn State University. He was inducted to the Upper St. Clair High School Academic Hall of Fame, and has been retired since June 1993.

**1980s**

Nancy DePolis, ’87, announces the birth of her son, Cole, in January.


**2000s**

Matthew, ’02, and Kelly Fleischut Amsdell, ’01, announce the birth of their first child, Lexey Ann, born June 20. The Amsdells live in Williamsburg, VA.

Jamie Dhanenes, ’02, announces the birth of her daughter, Ashley Elizabeth, April 24.
1970s
Bill Marmo, ‘70, is equity manager for LaRusse Distributing Co., in Tarentum.

John Lark, ‘71, is a foreman and estimator at Donald Lark and Sons Excavating and Grading Contractors in West Middlesex.

Dennis Rickard, ‘71, serves on the board of directors for the National Sheriff’s Association. He has also served as a sheriff in Butler County for 23 years.

Kathy Tiernan, ‘71, was appointed director of community health programs at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.

Ellen Santoliquido Aretz, ‘72, is supervisor of computerized forwarding services at the U.S. Postal Service in Alabama. She and her husband, James, have been married for 31 years.


Carl Hursh, ‘73, is chief of waste reduction and recycling for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, in Harrisburg.

Peggy Gray Rhodes, ‘74, retired from Karns City School District as the gifted coordinator of grades K-7. She was a Christa McAuliffe Fellowship recipient. Rhodes and her husband, Dusty, live in Butler.

Kurt Heinz, ‘76, is a senior analyst at Cubic Corp. in Kingstowne, VA. Heinz designs and implements weapons of mass destruction emergency response exercises in conjunction with the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security. Heinz and his wife, Annette, live in Fredericksburg, VA. Contact him at aheinz@adelphia.net.

Wendy Vogt Rusmisel, ‘78, is assistant superintendent in the McGuffy School District in Claysville.

Mike Brown, ‘79, is trying to organize an alumni lacrosse game for homecoming on October 15. All interested alumni who played lacrosse (1976-1981) can contact Mike at mbrown@execnet.net. Dr. Russell Whaley will be in attendance.

Pamela Dana Miller, ‘79, is an NCAA referee for women’s basketball, field hockey and lacrosse.

1980s
Doug Labor, ‘80, lives in Steamboat Springs, CO, where he owns a real estate company. He serves as president-elect of the Steamboat Springs Board of Realtors and is president of the Colorado Exclusive Buyer Agents Association. He can be reached at dlabor@buysteamboat.com.

John Stroup, ‘80, has been named the director of the Clarion Hospital Foundation. Stroup is involved with the leadership of Clarion Hospital, having served on its board of directors and the foundation committee.

Dr. James Zarick, ‘81, is sport management program coordinator in the Sports Management Graduate Program at High Point University in High Point, NC.

Dennis Christopher, ‘83, is a senior support scientist for NASA’s Solar and Heliospheric Observatory with L3-Communication at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD.

Diana R. Treece, ‘83, is program coordinator for lifetime leisure and fitness at the Frederick County Parks and Recreation Department, in Frederick, VA.

Brian Hutchinson, ‘84, president of Heuga Center for the past three years, has been named president of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers. Hutchinson and his wife, Jen, and two-year-old daughter, Emma, live in Eagle, CO.

Brian Meiser, ‘84, wrote a fiction novel titled “Get Out!” It is available online at www.publishamerica.com. Meiser is also president of Leighty’s Farm Market in Newry.

Mario Moreiera, ‘84, has published a book titled “Software Configuration Management Implementation Roadmap” by Wiley (formally known as John Wiley & Sons Ltd). Wiley is one of the biggest publishing houses in the world.

Stacy Schroder, ‘84, is a wellness director at Masonic Village at Elizabethtown in South Central. Schroder won the 2004 Nustep Pinnacle award for having the best senior wellness center in the nation. Her program was evaluated in areas of marketing, participation, measurable outcomes, wellness programming and customer service.

Ginny Pierson Sodano, ‘84, is an associate director with LifePath, Inc., in Sellersville. Sodano and her husband, Michael, reside in Quakertown and have three children.

Brian Smith, ‘86, is an operating room charge nurse at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ.

Nancy DePolis, ‘87, bought a new home in Bedford, OH, and works for InfoAccess, Inc., a computer software and services company.

Leann Howell Johnson, ‘88, and family have moved to Riverside, NJ. She is active with the non-profit organization Vocal Now (www.vocalnow.org).

1990s

2000s
Bethany Brosey, ‘00, married Anthony Troxel June 12. They live in Grants, NM.

Brandy M. Doerr, ‘00, married Daniel R. Moffatt April 17. They live in Portersville.

Lindsey C. Doyle, ‘00, and Christopher G. Kelley, ‘01 were married June 7, in Hatteras Village, NC. The bridal party included Charles (Chuck) Kelley, ‘99, Matthew Thompson, ‘98, Matthew Garrett, ‘00, and Jeremy Spering, ‘02. They live in Sarver.

Cynthia Fluharty, ‘01, married Troy Miller, ‘02, May 22. They live in Coraopolis.

Cynthia Jo Jones, ‘01 married Timothy Golightly June 19.

Benjamin David Klein, ‘01, married Sara Jane Smart November 20.

Hastie David LeFevre, ‘01 were married on September 25.


Zebulan Sasse, ‘04, and Kimberly Kapusta were married September. They live in Cabot.

Linsey Westerman, ‘04, married Mark Stonebraker August 20. The bride is employed at Freeport Junior High School.

Stacy Schroder, ‘04, is a wellness director at Masonic Village at Elizabethtown in South Central. Schroder won the 2004 Nustep Pinnacle award for having the best senior wellness center in the nation. Her program was evaluated in areas of marketing, participation, measurable outcomes, wellness programming and customer service.

Ginny Pierson Sodano, ‘04, is an associate director with LifePath, Inc., in Sellersville. Sodano and her husband, Michael, reside in Quakertown and have three children.

Brian Smith, ‘04, is an operating room charge nurse at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ.

Nancy DePolis, ‘07, bought a new home in Bedford, OH, and works for InfoAccess, Inc., a computer software and services company.

Leann Howell Johnson, ‘08, and family have moved to Riverside, NJ. She is active with the non-profit organization Vocal Now (www.vocalnow.org).
Michele Stefanka McGleish, '88, competed in the Mid-Atlantic Bicycle Racing Association Age Graded Time Trial (40k/25 miles) and finished with a silver medal for women (35-39).

Edward C. Prem, '88, is a major in the U.S. Army and is serving as the division automation management officer for the 1st Cavalry Division in Baghdad, Iraq.

Laurie Dominick Salem, '88, passed the Society for Human Resource Management’s exam for certification as a Professional in Human Resources in 2003. She works in human resources at WHYY, the PBS/NPR affiliate in Philadelphia. She says “Hi” to all mid-80s residents of Harner Hall.

William J. Bajcz, Jr., '89, was promoted to major in the U.S. Army. He is stationed at Ft. Leavenworth, KS, at the national simulation center.

1990s

George Sims, Jr., '90, is a senior exercise physiologist at Crozer-Keystone Health System in Springfield.

Alphonso Angeluci, '92, is an elementary school principal in the Ellwood City School District.

Robert Davidson, '92, is the director of aquatics at the Phoenixville Area YMCA.

Michelle Zanicky Jamieson, '92, is the director of alumni programs and annual campaigns at Butler County Community College. Jamieson would like alumni who attended BC3 to contact her to update their addresses; michellejamieson@bc3.edu.

Ronald Ladley, '92, won re-election as township supervisor in Lower Fredrick Township, Montgomery County. He is a software test engineer for Global Knowledge in King of Prussia.

Charles M. Velesaris, '92, received a Bronze Star for his service in Iraq with the Army 82nd Airborne Division. The citation notes Velesaris’ “outstanding performance and dedication were critical to the success of combat operations under the more extreme and austere conditions. Your efforts contributed significantly to the overall success of the global war on terrorism.” He is a major in the U.S. Army, stationed at Ft. Bragg, NC. He returned from Iraq in March. He also served a tour of duty in Afghanistan in 2002.

Robert Kilbert, '95, is a geographic information systems specialist for KCI Technologies, Pittsburgh.

Marc Cholnik, '96, teaches fifth grade at Mort Elementary in Hillsborough County, Florida. He is building a house in Wesley Chapel, FL.

Linda Scott O’Day, '96, is a special education consultant for the Henrico County Public Schools in Richmond, VA.

Joe Fullerton, '97, has been promoted at Lenape Technical School in Ford City. He left his position as mathematics instructor to become the program development specialist and adult education supervisor fr the school.

Tara Dundr, '97, teaches first-grade at the Centerville School District in Centerville, OH.

Michael Werner, '99, was promoted to an inside sales position at Marmon/Keystone’s East Butler service center. He joined the company in 2000 as a buyer.

2000s

Heather Erno, '00, was awarded “outstanding new member” of the PA Therapeutic Recreation Society. She is coordinator of therapeutic horsemanship for Hoffman Homes for Youth.

Jason D. Holbrook, '00, received a master’s of business administration degree from the University of Akron College of Business Administration and a juris doctorate degree from the University of Akron School of Law. Holbrook works for the law firm of McConnaughy, Duffey, Coonrod, Pope and Weaver, P.A., in Jacksonville, FL.

Matthew R. Murray, '01, was promoted to Captain in the U.S. Army. He is deployed in Iraq serving as the Task Force 3-8 Cavalry Scout platoon leader, 1st Calvary Division.

Monica Murray, '02, is a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army, serving as a medical services officer in Ft. Hood, TX. Both she, and her husband, Matthew, miss The Rock.

In Memoriam

Catherine Seals Lutz ’24
Elzie Kummer McKee ’30
Ruth Kilmer ’31
Gertrude McKisick Adams ’32
Bernice Magee ’32
Elizabeth McCarney McLaughlin ’34
William Cather ’35
Roe Fleming Gregg ’36
LaVone Hillard Payne ’38
John Rikka ’38
Bette Bisell Evans ’39
Robert McConnell ’39
Andrew Campbell ’41
Mary Boutwell Campbell ’41
Arthur Romo ’42
Raymond Norris ’48
Roy Bruno ’51
Barbara Lane Black ’53
Daniel Weppner ’54
Carl Bacholtz ’59
Charles Hamilton ’64
Dorothy Zischkau Daniels ’67
Robert Truxell ’68
Nancy McMillen Price ’70
Jean Cowan ’72
Paulette Wilson ’80
Carole Barefoot ’87
Roch Furguiele ’00
Christina Koke ’00
Melissa Derk ’03
Former Faculty
Dr. William H.R. Willkens
This year’s homecoming king and queen get a ride fit for royalty during the homecoming parade.

Even the runner up gets to view the parade from a convertible.

The Salvation Army in Slippery Rock sponsored a classic car in the parade. In addition to student and alumni groups, several community groups also participated in the parade.

President Smith visits with members of the Student Alumni Relations Board at the "Ghostbusters" parade float.

Dr. Renay Scales, assistant vice president of human resources and diversity, chats with Arlene and Dr. Charles Shultz, ’54, at the president’s tent during the parade.

Alumni are greeted at the picnic tent across from the football stadium. The alumni association provided hot dogs, music and games for the kids.

“Rock the 80s”
All alumni are welcome back to campus for an open house featuring faculty and distinguished alumni lectures, tours, exhibitions, picnics, parties, and the annual alumni awards luncheon. Special events are planned for the entire family. Many of the offerings are free. It’s an opportunity for you to revisit favorite memories, renew friendships, and reconnect with the intellectual and social excitement you felt as a Slippery Rock University student.

Times and locations will be added to the schedule as plans develop.

- Walking and Trolley Tours of Campus and Community
- "Weekend University"
- Certificate Courses in Microbrew and Wine Tasting
- Lecture/Discussion Groups led by faculty and distinguished alumni
- Meet President Robert Smith
- Alumni Reunions for Former SGA Officers and Residence Life Staff
- All-Alumni Reunion/Awards Luncheon
- Hiking in McConnell’s Mills
- Alumni/Faculty Sherry Reception
- Golden Grad Receptions
- Alumni Bonfire at the Ski Lodge
- Alumni Golf Scramble for Women’s Athletics
- Hospitality Suite
- Non-Denominational Chapel Service
- Class and Group Reunion Events
- Class and Reunion Photographs
- Breakfast in the North Hall Courtyard

**On-Campus Housing**

Two housing options are available on campus - The Rock Apartments and the Campground. The most popular accommodation, the Rock Apartments, are available for alumni if they want to stay on campus. With air conditioning, kitchens and living rooms, these apartment-style residence halls are a short distance from many activities but have all the comforts of a 4-star hotel. A minimum of two persons is required for these units (up to four per unit). The cost is $45/person.

An alternative option for those who enjoy "roughing it," is the SRU Campground. It is available for those who want to bring their RV, trailer or tent. Call 724-738-4801 for details.

**Area Hotels and Bed and Breakfasts**

- Amerihost, Grove City, 724-748-5836
- Super 8, Grove City, 724-748-3000
- Comfort Inn, Grove City, 724-748-1005
- Holiday Inn Express, Grove City, 724-748-5514
- Evening Star, Slippery Rock, 724-794-1844
- Apple Butter Inn, Slippery Rock, 724-794-1844
- As Thyme Goes By, Harrisville, 724-735-4003
NEW JERSEY: Michael Lacertosa, ’02, Brooke Wiker, ’06 and Greg Stroman, ’94, at Bar Anticipation in S. Belmar, NJ.

ALUMNI RE-ENACTORS: Ken Cherry, ’73, and Jason Cherry, ’04 (M), are members of the Captain William Trent Company and reenact the French and Indian War during the summers. They were featured as extras in the films “Last of the Mohicans” and “Young George Washington,” and featured on the History Channel. Jason just published his first novel, “Bloody Circles of War,” a historical fiction novel set in the 1750s in Venango County.

SOCCER ALUMNI REUNION:
Alumni spanning five decades gathered with former soccer coach, Jim Egli, and current coach, Matt Thompson, for an alumni reunion celebrating 70 years of soccer at SRU.

SEVEN SPRINGS: After celebrating its 50th reunion at SRU during June of 2004, the Class of 1954 continued its celebration at Seven Springs Resort in September. 52 class members were guests of Herman and Sis McSwigan Dupre, owners of the resort.
Slippery Rock University alumni Richard Manning, ’75, Zane Meixner, ’49, and Brent Johnson, ’73, place a wreath in front of the Alumni Veterans Memorial during the Veterans Day ceremony.

Michael Saraka, ’89 (M), director of alumni relations, serves as emcee for the ceremony.

Lt. Col. William Biolozor, chairperson of the SRU Army R.O.T.C., gives the keynote address to more than 40 invited guests and alumni.

Thomas Perry, ’02, speaks to alumni about the new SRU Veterans Alumni Chapter of the alumni association.

Dr. Robert Watson, ’70, extends greetings to all invited guests and alumni on behalf of the University.

Student members of the SRU Army R.O.T.C. serve as color guard during the flag raising ceremony.

Duane Conway, ’56, provides an inspirational message as well as the invocation for the Veterans Day ceremony. 

Veterans Remembered . . .
SRU’S LEADERSHIP COURSE PROFILED BY PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Post-Gazette reporter Jill Cueni-Cohen and photographer Bob Donaldson spent a day on campus recently for an extensive profile of SRU’s Leadership Reaction Course. The two-page article, accompanied by four photographs, noted that the course turned a group of students who didn’t know each other well into a productive team.

The 20-acre course, near the Ski Lodge, opened more than a year ago and is modeled after the Army’s obstacle course at Fort Benning, Ga. It includes more than a dozen outdoor stations, including a 32-foot tower for rappelling, climbing and rope bridge exercises.

NEWSPAPERS COVER UNIVERSITY’S RECORD ENROLLMENT

The Butler Eagle, Allied News and The Vindicator (Youngstown, Ohio) published stories about the University’s record enrollment of 7,928 this fall.

Three students higher than the previous record set in 1991, fall 2004 also marked five consecutive years of growth.

NEWSPAPERS COVER INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT SMITH

The Butler Eagle sent a reporter and photographer and several other newspapers covered the Nov. 5 inauguration of SRU President Robert Smith as well.

Dignitaries and delegates from across the state and nation gathered on campus to congratulate the University’s 15th president.

PITTSBURGH TRIB PUBLISHES NEWSMAKERS ON TWO SRU PROFESSORS

The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review published newsmaker profiles on SRU’s Dr. Ramona Nelson, professor of nursing, and Colleen Cooke, associate professor of parks and recreation/environmental education, after they received national honors.

Nelson was named a 2004 fellow by The American Academy of Nursing for her work in promoting the use of computers in nursing education; Cooke received a 2004 Certificate for Meritorious Service from the American Therapeutic Recreation Association for her leadership, published writings and teaching excellence.

‘04 GRADUATE PROMOTES PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST BY LEADING DANCE SEMINAR WITH ISRAELI, ARAB YOUTH

The Allied News published a profile of ’04 graduate Leigh Puntureri, who taught dance in Jerusalem over the summer, working with Arab and Israeli teenagers in an attempt to foster peace.

Puntureri led a dance seminar sponsored by Seeds of Peace’s Center for Coexistence. SRU graduate Tim Wilson, ‘62, founded the Maine organization to bring Israeli and Arab teen-agers together.

PITTSBURGH BUSINESS TIMES COVERS ‘GREEN BUILDING’ EXPANSION AT MCKEEVER ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

In order to accommodate businesses and groups of adults for retreats, McKeever Environmental Center added a retreat facility to the center’s campus earlier this year. The Pittsburgh Business Times published a full-page article on the expansion, focusing on the “green” design.

The retreat facility consists of two houses, each of which includes 1,920 square feet with five bedrooms, a kitchenette, dining room and living/meeting room.

The buildings feature energy-efficient geothermal heating/cooling systems, compact fluorescent lighting, carpet made from 100 percent recycled plastic bottles with a backing crafted from recycled tires, a spacious deck constructed from recycled lumber and exterior cedar siding.

One of the new “green design” housing units for retreats at McKeever Environmental Learning Center, owned by the state and administered by SRU.

JOURNALIST JUAN WILLIAMS OF FOX NEWS PARTICIPATES IN SRU’S BROWN V. BROWN RETROSPECTIVE

National Public Radio journalist and Fox News commentator Juan Williams came to SRU this fall to help launch a retrospective on Brown v. Board of Education, the 1954 Supreme Court ruling that desegregated America’s schools.

The Allied News covered Williams’ speech at a packed Swope Music Hall.

PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE PROFILES PHYSICAL THERAPY PROFESSOR

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette North profiled Associate Professor of Physical Therapy Susan Kushner after the Multiple Sclerosis Society named her to its Volunteer Hall of Fame.

Kushner, a volunteer for 16 years, serves the society in a number of ways. She volunteers at the Jimmie Heuga Center in Edwards, Colo. The nonprofit organization, named for a former Olympic skier who has multiple sclerosis, provides health education and wellness workshops for those with MS.

SRU’s Leigh Puntureri, ’04, (right) with a student in Israel.

www.sru.edu
NEWS FROM

Enrollment reaches record high: 7,928

With 7,928 students attending fall classes for the 2004-05 academic year, Slippery Rock University has set an all-time student enrollment record and continues its enrollment growth trend for the fifth consecutive year.

Based on the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education standard of setting the semester’s official enrollment on the 15th day of classes, SRU’s fall semester enrollment showed a 2 percent increase over last year. The number beats the previous high of 7,925, set in 1991.

Said President Smith, “We are especially proud that even more academically talented students are applying to Slippery Rock University, allowing us to even further increase academic rigor in the classroom, integrate the classroom with experiential learning and engage our students in individualized intellectual experiences.”

Official numbers for the year show SRU continues to enroll more women than men, 4,527 to 3,401 and the year’s headcount for African Americans continues to increase to stand at 330 this year compared to 296 a year ago, representing a 11.5 percent increase. The University’s enrollment of Hispanic students showed 28.8 percent gain this year.

SRU senior Jude Butch named to statewide board

Senior Jude C. Butch, president of SRU’s Student Government Association, is one of only three students from the 14 Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education universities selected to serve on the state system’s board of governors.

The 20-member board establishes fiscal, personnel and educational policies under which the system universities operate. The three student members have full voting rights.

Butch is a secondary education/history major from Lilly. He joined Regina M. Donato of Kutztown University and Mark Collins, Jr., of IUP on the board.

SRU in front of national movement with anti-violence campaign

Don McPherson, former National Football League quarterback and current executive director of the Sports Leadership Institute at Adelphi University, visited campus this fall to help launch “Man2Man,” a campuswide program positioning SRU as an even greater ally of women.

Man2Man gives males students, faculty and staff the opportunity to sign a pledge promising to treat women with respect at all times and to be non-violent. More than 300 students attended McPherson’s Swope Music Hall lecture.

Dr. Robert Watson, vice president for student life, developed the program. SRU sponsors a number of other programs in support of women, including the Women’s Leadership Initiative and Women’s Center.

With SRU’s enrollment at a record high, some students, faculty and staff gathered recently for a Rock Pride photo in front of the new waterfall next to Bailey Library.
Dr. Amanda Yale’s team leadership, which included attention to increasing enrollment, retention and service to students, has resulted in her being named associate provost for enrollment services and retention at Slippery Rock University.

Yale’s efforts were recognized nationally in 2004 when SRU was one of nine universities in the nation cited for an exemplary student retention program by Noel-Levitz, a nationally recognized consulting firm in higher education student recruitment and retention. The firm praised SRU for increasing its first-year to second-year retention by 3.5 percent.

The ongoing success of Slippery Rock University’s “Bridge Project,” designed to bridge the gap between cultural norms and the prevalence of violence against women, has received $266,634 in continuing funding from the U.S. Department of Justice.

The continued funding will allow enhancement of victim services, continue prevention and education programs, and develop and strengthen security and investigation strategies in order to prevent and respond to dating violence, sexual assault and stalking crimes on campus. The Bridge Project is housed at SRU’s Women’s Center.

Slippery Rock University honored 20 of its African-American alumni, faculty, staff, retirees and former trustees for their leadership and help in creating an atmosphere of diversity on campus and in organizations in a newly initiated Pacesetter Awards program.

The awards came in connection with the University’s semester-long Brown V. Board of Education series celebrating 50 years of progress and struggle related to the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling establishing the end to separate but equal public schools.

Pacesetter Award recipients were: Dr. Francis Barnes, ‘71, Pennsylvania secretary of education; Alvin Byrd, first African American trustee at SRU; Alfreda Goff, ‘65, first African-American official in the National Collegiate Athletic Association; Ronald Hunt, ‘73, catalyst for creation of the first minority scholarship at SRU; Gary Lancaster, ‘71, first African-American Western District of Pennsylvania District Court judge; Eric Holmes, ‘93, first president-elect of the SRU Alumni Association; Dr. Mabel Paige, first African-American female trustee at SRU; Vivian Stringer, ‘70, first female African American to serve as an NCAA Division I coach, now at Rutgers; Margie Byrd Walker, first African-American graduate from the class of 1954; and Timothy P. Wilson, ‘62, first African-American president of the SRU Student Government Association.

The Faculty/Staff Category saw Harry Budd, retired, honored as the first African-American faculty member in Freshman Studies; Dr. Charles Curry, University’s first African-American vice president; Eugene Franklin, highest ranking academic officer, assistant vice president; Dr. Thomas Gaither, professor of biology honored for his work as a Freedom Rider; Rev. Rev. Will Hadden, first to formalize the SRU Gospel Choir; Dwight Greer, first African-American director of minority affairs; Judith Lampkins, first African American to serve as the University’s affirmative action officer; Edward Norris, University’s first African-American faculty member; Gary Perkins, first African-American director of the Act 101 Program; and Dr. Jay Harper, first African-American academic associate dean.

SRU has opened the Center for Student Leadership, a resource room for students to explore leadership opportunities and join clubs and organizations. SRU President Smith (center) united with campus organization presidents Julie Hepner of the Association of Residence Hall Students and Jude Butch of the Student Government Association to officially open the center in the University Union earlier this fall. Joining in the ceremonies (from left) were organization presidents Ron Beitler, Young Democrats; Sara Moran, Golden Key International Honor Society; Valerie Lacy, Sigma Rho Delta dance honorary; Holly McGauff, Blue Key Honor Society; Gary Blell, University Program Board, and Stacey Szura, Panhellenic Council.
NEWS FROM

‘Rock the 80s’ homecoming draws crowd, showcases revitalized downtown

More than 500 alumni returned for homecoming this year, enjoying the newly revitalized downtown. SRU’s Marching Band snaked through town on its way to the football stadium, followed by floats and the homecoming court.

Students voted Preston Gibbs, a business major from Hermitage, king and Kristen Cannon, a resort management/tourism major from Verona, queen.

The $4.3 million in central business district improvements included new street lights, sidewalks, roadways and removal of overhead utility lines.

Junior high students to hone leadership skills at SRU

When a group of Butler County professionals experienced the SRU Leadership Reaction Course, they in turn contributed $1,500 to Butler Junior High School students could benefit. Leadership Butler County gave $1,500 to the Butler Junior High School’s Starfish Program, as well as $2,500 to sponsor the “Whale Watch” station at SRU’s Leadership Reaction Course.

The Starfish Program, run by the students, provides leadership and mentorship opportunities to promote leadership from within. Starfish students will train at SRU as a result of the contribution, said Bill Rooker, a board member of Leadership Butler County.

SRU’s course, modeled after an Army leadership course at Ft. Benning, Ga., teaches teamwork, communication and problem-solving through 14 outdoor activities.

Medical supplies drive under way for humanitarian trip to Dominican Republic

SRU nursing faculty Gretchen Schumacher and Kerry Risco and undergraduate and graduate nursing students launched a campuswide medical supplies collection drive this fall for their second visit to the Dominican Republic, where they will deliver medicine and provide health care to rural villagers.

The trip is part of classes that include an international component during spring break. Undergraduate and graduate nursing students will provide primary and wellness care.

“This trip will help students to identify health care issues in diverse populations then, upon their return to the U.S. students will have the opportunity to transfer and use this knowledge in their clinical setting,” Schumacher said.

Students of color find success through ‘Harambee Summit’

The Western Pennsylvania Diversity Consortium hosted its first Harambee Summit on campus this fall as part of an educational conference helping students of color find success at predominantly white colleges and universities.

The term “Harambee” is Swahili for “let’s pull together,” said DaNine Fleming, director of SRU’s Office of Intercultural Programs. Students came together to educate themselves on how to contribute to the well-being of their world and elevate their minds to enhance both their inner and outer world and empower them to be more proactive and strive to live in harmony with all others.

Leadership Butler County, a nonprofit organization, paid for the new “Whale Watch” station at SRU’s Leadership Reaction Course. Teams step atop a large board that teeters, then learn teamwork to avoid falling off. At a recent dedication were (from left) Dr. James Kushner, SRU’s dean of Lifelong Learning, President Smith, Ruth Purcell, director of university advancement, Leadership Butler County’s Bill Rooker and Stan Kosciuszko, president of the Butler County Chamber of Commerce.

SRU nursing instructor Gretchen Schumacher (in Dominican Republic a year ago) returns to the country in March to deliver medical supplies and provide health care in rural villages. Undergraduate and graduate nursing students will travel with her.
A show of support for soldiers deployed to Iraq

SRU’s I CARE House helps local Navy Seabees

Four months after 10 local Navy Reserves volunteered their time to help remodel SRU’s I CARE House for children and senior citizens in New Castle, center employees and residents met to return the favor.

The Seabees were called to active duty and left for Iraq and Kuwait this fall.

I CARE volunteers, community residents and the family of a departing Seabee assembled “goodbye boxes.” Not the usual care packages of toiletries and beef jerky but ones filled with items from home - Eat ‘N Park cookies, Pittsburgh Steelers paper plates, local newspapers and pens from SRU.

“They spent 100 man hours here on April 19,” said Alice Kaiser-Drobney, director of SRU’s Institute for Community Service-Learning and Nonprofit Leadership and the I CARE House. “We wanted to send them off with a goodbye party in box.”

Purple Heart recipient remains true to SRU

When former SRU student and Army National Guardsman Larry D. Vogel returned to Iraq for a second tour of duty this fall, he traveled with a sign of affection for the University - videotapes of the team’s football games.

Athletic Director Paul Lueken provided tapes of the entire ’04 season.

“I really enjoy watching football,” said Vogel, a member of the New Castle-based 28th Battalion of the Army National Guard. “I was going to school here, so it was a great opportunity for me to watch a local team, especially one I like so much.”

Vogel attended SRU in 2003 and plans to return after the Army to complete a degree in environmental and safety management. The national guardsman was sent to Iraq for his first tour in February, where he was shot in the hand.

SRU Alumni Association salutes veterans

To mark Veteran’s Day 2004 at Slippery Rock University, the SRU Alumni Association hosted a flag raising ceremony at the Veterans Memorial dedicated last year outside Russell Wright Alumni House.

The ceremony included a flag raising by the SRU Army ROTC Honor Guard and a laying of a wreath at the memorial by alumni Zane Meixner, '49, Brent Johnson, '73, and Richard Manning, '75.

The circular-brick, three-flag pole memorial was presented to the university at last year’s ceremony as a gift from the alumni classes of 1951, 1952 and 1953.

Army National Guardsman Larry D. Vogel (left) picks up videotapes of SRU football games from Athletic Director Paul Lueken. Vogel, a former SRU student, took them with him when he returned to Iraq for a second tour of duty.

Cyber café comes to Bailey Library

© The Rock is the name for the new cyber café just inside Bailey Library. The café offers coffees and pastries as well as chance to use the Internet. Housed in what was once a computer lab, the facility offers a relaxed atmosphere for students to mix and mingle. Plans to offer extended hours at the café are under way. A new computer lab with 35 laptops is also available in the library.

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The circular-brick, three-flag pole memorial was presented to the university at last year’s ceremony as a gift from the alumni classes of 1951, 1952 and 1953.

Cyber café comes to Bailey Library

© The Rock is the name for the new cyber café just inside Bailey Library. The café offers coffees and pastries as well as chance to use the Internet. Housed in what was once a computer lab, the facility offers a relaxed atmosphere for students to mix and mingle. Plans to offer extended hours at the café are under way. A new computer lab with 35 laptops is also available in the library.
SRU FINANCE CLASS GETS HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IN ANALYZING CASH FLOWS

Students in Dr. John Misner’s fall semester “Finance Seminar” course got a first-hand look at how cash flow and related business elements actually work in the real world.

The associate professor in SRU’s School of Business taught the 12-student seminar with the help of Pat Brennan, executive director of Community Care Connections, Inc., formerly United Cerebral Palsy of Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence Counties, and Lyn Goehring, CCC director and fiscal officer, providing students with an up-close and personal view of cash flow problems faced in running a non-profit organization.

Brennan, a 1976 SRU graduate and 26-year veteran at the agency, and Goehring spent class time explaining their services and outlining problems faced in receiving funding from multiple sources — some funding dependent on county, state and federal budgets, which they say are notoriously late or last minute and riddled with spending regulations.

CCC offers educational, residential, recreational, transportation and support services to infants, children and adults who have cerebral palsy and/or other physically or mentally handicapping conditions.

Misner explains the semester-long study of working capital gives students a real-life situation “and allows them to better relate information learned in textbooks to actual practice. In particular, it allows students to see many of the peripheral factors that often affect the operations of an enterprise, including politics, government regulations, special interests of board of director members, local economic conditions and even public perception of a public or private enterprise.”

“We have analyzed historical financial information at CCC isolating timing patterns of cash inflows and outflows. We are providing insight as to potential methods the agency might use to maximize and optimize its ‘working cash’ positions on a regular basis,” Misner explains. As part of the class – and the student’s grades – a report will be delivered to CCC outlining the student-proposed ideas to help deal with cash flow difficulties.

In a question-and-answer session with students, Brennan provided accounting and auditing details and told students she would welcome any suggestions. “It will be very interesting to see what another set of eyes see. We will gladly implement any ideas that will help our cash flow difficulties.”

SPORTS EXTRA GIVES COMMUNICATION STUDENTS GLIMPSE OF TV PRODUCTION

SRU communication department continues to expand its cable television programming while meeting student demand for sports information with a new half-hour program called “Sports Extra.”

Created and produced by communication majors, the program is under the direction of Dr. Ronald Davis, assistant professor of communication. “This show gives students hands-on production skills they can carry into jobs at television studios or film work,” he explains adding, “Students have creative control as well as responsibility in meeting deadlines, lining up interviews while getting detailed knowledge and understanding on how a television show actually moves from concept to inception to broadcast.”

Starting the year with a new crew, it took six weeks to get their first segment on the air as students learned the ins and outs of new digital television production equipment, digital cameras, video-editing machines and lighting in the newly renovated Vincent Science Hall Television Production Studio. Those working behind the scenes hope spring semester, which will also bring on new students onboard, will reduce the time to four weeks, with the first segment airing in mid-February.

“Sports Extra” will offer eight episodes this semester,” says Kelli Johnson, a communication major from Erie and promotions director for the show which airs nightly at 10 p.m. on the SRU cable system. “The 30-minute show premiers new once a week, then is replayed throughout the week. Our show is followed by another student-produced program titled ‘Gettin’ Later,’” she adds.

The sports production, which includes reports on SRU, regional sports and newsworthy national sport issues is a collaboration of the “Communication Project” class and those enrolled in the “Video Production” class, as well as participation and cooperation of other students, faculty, staff and alumni, says Johnson.

Highlights of the show thus far include interviews with some of the top Pittsburgh Pirate players and plans call for interviews with Steeler and Penguin players in the near future.

Bridget Kollar of McKeesport and Ben Mitchell of Homer City serve as the show’s anchors backed by student field reporters.
SPORT MANAGEMENT TO BECOME STAND ALONE DEPARTMENT

Continued interest, growth – and increased enrollment – in SRU’s sport management program has increased its stature and is simultaneously allowing it to become its own department within the College of Education.

Headed by Dr. Robin Ammon, professor, the newly formed department will be separated from its current department of physical education and sport management link with the beginning of spring classes.

Enrollment Increases

“It just made good sense, especially in light of our enrollment increases,” says Ammon, noting only a few sport management programs in the nation stand alone within their college. “Our emphasis is slightly different than that of traditional education majors in that we are not tied to a student-teacher program like other areas in the College of Education. Our students are more involved in practicums and on-hands learning at sport venues and at sport-oriented organizations.”

Mutually Beneficial

Ammon explains since the 58-core course credits focus on sport management in such areas as sport law, sport marketing, sport facility management, intercollegiate athletic administration, marketing research and overall sport management, faculty teaching such courses see their interests slightly different than faculty preparing students to be physical education, special education, or classroom teachers, thus making the separation mutually beneficial.

The 11-year veteran faculty member says the new department status will keep SRU’s program among the best in the nation, noting recent graduates have landed jobs at the Richmond Coliseum, with the Phoenix Suns, the Tampa Bay Sports Authority, the University of Cincinnati, the Arena Football League and the New Jersey Jets, among others.

200 Under-Graduates

The program has 21 graduate students enrolled and more than 200 under-graduates enrolled in the major.

RED CROSS SWIMMING MANUALS UPDATED BY SRU’S ROBERT OGOREUC

When the American Red Cross decided to revise its Swimming and Water Safety handbook for the first time in 10 years, it turned to Robert Ogoreuc, assistant professor of physical education, for editorial leadership.

Because of his 14 years of teaching water instruction at the University, the Red Cross asked him to join the nine-person editorial advisory team that worked for three years to produce the 275-page edition, just published and distributed nationwide.

Ogoreuc’s team guided content of the book, including chapters on basic aquatic skills, stroke mechanics, and disabilities and other conditions. He edited the companion Swimming and Diving Manual, the Swimming and Diving Instructor Manual and the organization’s new LEARN-to-swim videos.

“It was an important project because community centers nationwide use these books and videos for teaching thousands of children to swim,” said Ogoreuc, who directs SRU’s aquatic minor and teaches six of its courses.

“Also we restructured the Red Cross skill levels and came up with Level 6, which has a menu option that focuses on preparing students to participate in more advanced courses, including life guarding.”

BE A GREAT TEACHER: Peter W. Riffle, a 2000 Disney American Teacher Award Special Education honor winner and author of “The Cloud Chaser” and “Was Special Education Worth It?,” among others, was guest speaker for SRU special education majors fall semester and entertained and enlightened students on the importance of teaching those with special needs. In a two-hour address, Riffle told of his own learning difficulties and of his personal involvement with students as he developed ways of coaching, demanding, cajoling and helping them to succeed. He told the would-be teachers to “strive not to be good teachers, but to be great teachers.” Riffle, of Adamstown, works in special education, learning disabilities at the Wilson School District in West Lawn.

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READY TO TEACH: Education majors from SRU and other nearby colleges and universities swamped the University Union as part of the fall semester “Teacher Job Fair” at which nearly 50 school districts from across the U.S. sent representatives to pre-interview teacher candidates for both January and next fall teacher openings. Those looking to become teachers spent the day talking with school officials from across the state as well as those from North Carolina, South Carolina, Arizona, Maryland and Florida participated in the event hosted by SRU’s Office of Career Services. Here three hopefuls chat with a Daytona Beach [Fla.] School System representative.
Exercise science major carries out groundbreaking research on endurance

In what is thought to be the first study of its kind, exercise science major Valerie Williams measured the temporary flexibility loss runners experience after a long-distance race. Her groundbreaking research earned her the Undergraduate Student Research Award at the 27th annual Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the America College of Sports Medicine conference this fall.

Williams, a senior, detected flexibility loss between the knees and waist by using four motion tests on runners before and after they ran a 100-miler in Ohio.

“ar the knowledge, she was the first to measure significant decrease in flexibility,” said SRU’s Dr. Jeff Lynn, assistant professor of exercise science and Williams’ adviser on her important research project.

Williams has a 3.9 grade-point average and is co-chair of the social committee for the Exercise Science Society, a peer leader for Fyrst Seminar, a freshmen orientation program, and an anatomy tutor.

Nursing professor lauded as technology pioneer

For her leadership in promoting the use of computers in nursing education and health care, Slippery Rock University nursing Professor Ramona Nelson has been named a 2004 fellow by the American Academy of Nursing.

“The 2004 inductees are nurse leaders who have been identified by their peers as pathfinders in the nursing discipline,” Joan L. Shaver, president of the academy, said.

Nelson, a professor at SRU since 1994, is a pioneer in nursing informatics, which combines computer information and nursing science to create innovative approaches to delivery of health care.

SRU’s Colleen Cooke one of four in nation honored by American Therapeutic Recreation Association

For her leadership, published writings and teaching excellence, Slippery Rock University associate professor of parks and recreation/environmental education Colleen Cooke has received a 2004 Certificate of Recognition for Meritorious Service from the American Therapeutic Recreation Association. She was one of four recipients nationwide.

In addition, she has served as a medical staff member for the Jimmie Heuga Center in Edwards, Colo., for 17 years. The nonprofit organization provides workshops for those with multiple sclerosis.

MS Society names physical therapy instructor Susan Kushner ‘volunteer of the year’

Susan Kushner embodies the caring spirit at SRU, a character trait that did not go unnoticed this fall: The National Multiple Sclerosis Society named Kushner, associate professor of physical therapy, volunteer of the year for her 16 years of service to the organization.

Kushner has volunteered at the local and national levels, giving speeches, teaching classes and serving on numerous committees.

U.S. Phil English, R-3rd of Erie (center), came to campus recently to help launch SRU’s Center on Disability and Health. The center helps those with disabilities develop more healthy lifestyles by providing access to adapted aquatics, gymnastics and horseback riding, as well as educational materials. English helped obtain $161,000 and $125,000 grants for the center.

The Women’s National Wheelchair Basketball Association was so impressed with SRU when it hosted its national tournament on campus a year ago, it is coming back for the ’05 tournament Feb. 24-26. All games are free.
Bringing the world to SRU!

Exposing students to important voices in art, literature, culture and music has always been a priority for the College of Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts, and fall semester was especially educating. Focus on Asia week exposed students to the food, culture, art and dance of Japan, China, Malaysia, Indonesia and India. Important celebrities visited campus as well:

Acclaimed opera singer Marianne Cornetti performs at Swope Music Hall

Internationally acclaimed opera singer Marianne Cornetti, a native of Cabot, presented several Giuseppe Verdi’s opera works when she performed at the Slippery Rock University Scholarship Benefit Concert this fall.

The concert was under the direction of Dr. Colleen Gray Neubert, assistant professor of music and coordinator of vocal studies at SRU.

Those who contributed $25 or more were listed in the program and invited to an after-concert reception with the artist. Scholarships support music majors.

Cornetti has recently emerged as one of the most exciting Verdi voices. In the last two seasons, she has made international debuts at major theaters, including the Teatro alla Scala in Milan; Vienna State Opera; Teatro Carlo Felice, Genova; Teatro dell’ Opera di Roma; Teatro Bellini; Catania, at the Arena di Verona; and in Tokyo.

Humanities dean bangs drums to raise money for annual Kaleidoscope arts festival, set for April 16-24

More than 600 students and community residents packed the University Union for a fall lecture by feminist Naomi Wolf, author of a book on the cosmetics industry The New York Times called one of the most important works of the 20th century.

Wolf lectured on “hooking up” and the death of romance on college campus. Earlier in the day, she met with more than 20 student leaders, encouraging them to pursue their dreams.

“You can only change (society) if you decide to change it,” she said.

Wolf’s 1991 landmark bestseller “The Beauty Myth” challenged the cosmetics industry and its marketing of unrealistic standards of beauty, launching a new wave of feminism in the early 1990s. She co-founded The Woodhull Institute for Ethical Leadership in New York, an organization devoted to training young women in ethical leadership.

Humanities dean banging the drums for a good cause - with band mates he met in college 25 years ago.

It's not something you see often: A college dean banging the drums for a good cause - with band mates he met in college 25 years ago.

But that’s exactly what will happened this fall when Making Trax performed rock, blues and alternative music outside the Slippery Rock University Ski Lodge to raise money for Kaleidoscope, the University’s arts festival held each spring.

SRU’s Bill McKinney, dean of the College of Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts, and three friends formed the band as undergraduates at Bucknell University. They dubbed themselves “Making Trax,” since all lived in Bucknell’s Trax Hall. Later, they adopted “The World’s Most Over-Educated, Under-Rehearsed Band” as a slogan because they live in different states and the four of them hold two doctorates and five master’s degrees among them.

www.sru.edu
Arsenault earns second successive conference MVP honor

Rock women’s soccer standout SARAH ARSENAULT capped off a record-setting career this fall by earning Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference “Athlete of the Year” honors for the second successive season.

Arsenault, who also earned first-team all-conference honors for a fourth successive season, was the second leading scorer in the conference this fall after being the No. 1 scorer as a junior. She finished her senior season with 21 goals and three assists for 45 points and had six game-winning goals.

She concluded her Rock career with 70 goals, 21 assists and 161 points. Her goals and points totals are school records, while she ranks third in career assists.

She finished her career with a 40-goal and 58-point margin over her nearest competitor, 1999 third-team All-America performer SONYA MAHER.

Arsenault also holds the school record for single-season goals (23) and points (54), both of which were set a year ago when she was named to National Soccer Coaches Association of America first-team All-America honors.

The recipient of three NSCAA All-Northeast Region first-team and one second-team honor, Arsenault began her collection of awards in 2001 when she received the PSAC “Rookie of the Year” in 2001.

Since Arsenault joined the program in 2001, The Rock has compiled a 53-15-5 record, competed in three PSAC playoffs, earned two NCAA postseason berths, won two PSAC regular-season championships and one conference playoff title.

Arsenault was one of four women’s players that headlined a group of six Rock fall sports athletes who were named to first-team All-PSAC-West honors by the conference’s coaches. SRU also had 10 fall student-athletes named to second-team All-PSAC honors. (See chart on page 45)

SRU junior outside hitter LAYNA HEILMAN-HOUSER (Dayton/Shannock Valley H.S.) was named to second-team honors by the same organization.

Kirsch, a native of Indiana, Pa., and graduate of Northern Cambria High School, played in 118 of a possible 120 games this fall and averaged a team-high 11.03 assists per game. Her season total of 1,302 is the fifth-best total in school history. She also recorded 55 service aces, the second-best single-season mark in Rock history, and averaged 1.78 kills per game.

In two seasons of collegiate competition, Kirsch has accumulated 2,021 assists, which is the third highest total in Rock history.

Michaux, Green earn regional, national tennis rankings

Rock women’s tennis standouts ASHLEY MICHAUX and ASHLEY GREENE earned regional and national preseason rankings from the Intercollegiate Tennis Association this fall. Michaux, a junior from Trafford, (Penn-Trafford H.S.), is ranked third in the region and 50th nationally in singles. She and Greene (soph., Cranberry Township/Seneca Valley H.S.) are ranked third in the region in doubles.

Michaux advanced to the semifinals of the ITA East Regional tournament this fall in singles competition; she and Greene also reached the final four in doubles action.

A year ago, Michaux and her former doubles partner, JESSICA BUNGO, were the first Rock women’s players in the program’s 31-year history to receive ITA All-America status.
**Godfrey earns invitation to Cactus Bowl**

BRIAN GODFREY became the 12th player in Rock football history to receive an invitation to participate in the Cactus Bowl, NCAA Division II all-star football game.

Godfrey, who hails from Cheswick, and is a graduate of Springdale High School, received the invitation shortly after being named, for the third successive year, to first-team All-Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference-Western Division honors.

Godfrey had 25 solo and 11 assisted tackles, 6.5 tackles for loss, three quarterback sacks, one fumble recovery and one forced fumble in his senior season at SRU. He finished his four-year Rock career with 85 solo and 60 assisted tackles, 36.5 tackles for loss and 16 sacks.

In addition to his three All-PSAC-West first-team honors, Godfrey was named to 2004 first-team preseason All-America honors by the on Hansen Football Gazette and to second-team preseason All-America honors by D2football.com.

In 2003, as a junior, Godfrey was named to second-team All-Northeast Region honors by D2football.com and third-team all-region honors by the Football Gazette.

Godfrey twice tied the SRU school record for quarterback sacks in a single game with three.

The 2005 Cactus Bowl will be played Jan. 7 at Texas A&M-Kingsville and will feature the top 80 NCAA Division II players in the nation.

**Markowski earns district academic honor**

Senior midfielder JESSICA MARKOWSKI (North Royalton, Ohio/Padua Franciscan H.S.) earned third-team Academic All-District II College Division women’s soccer honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Markowski, a four-time Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference “Scholar-Athlete” and two-time Rock team captain, carries a 3.625 major as an exercise science major at SRU.

**McElhaney’s jersey #82 retired**

In recognition of his contributions to Rock Football as both a player and assistant coach, Slippery Rock University retired the late JIM MCELHANEY’s football jersey number (82) in ceremonies held prior to the Oct. 9 home game against Indiana U. of Pa.

McElhaney (Class of 1964) was a wide receiver at The Rock in the early 1960s when he set almost all The Rock’s pass receiving records en route to All-American accolades as a senior in 1963. He was also named as the outstanding offensive lineman in the 1963 All-Sport Bowl game.


McElhaney’s number was only the second ever retired by SRU. The school retired football jersey #31 on Oct. 10, 1996, in honor of DR. JERRY BEJBL (‘63), a former member of Rock football and baseball teams.

**Fall Sports All-PSAC Selections**

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Philanthropic support of higher education is a time-honored tradition - one that grows in importance with every passing year.

In an effort to increase the recognition and the involvement of its most dedicated alumni and friends, Slippery Rock University has established a Lifetime Giving Recognition Program to honor those who have demonstrated sustained and significant commitments to the University.

“It is important to realize that our alumni and friends are establishing a tradition of private support that provides resources to create innovative programs and provides scholarship support for students,” said President Smith. “We are fortunate to have a distinguished group of benefactors whose remarkable commitment to Slippery Rock University has provided outstanding philanthropic leadership,” he said.

Slippery Rock University has established a Lifetime Giving Recognition Program that includes seven levels to honor alumni and friends whose cumulative giving to Slippery Rock University totals at least $5,000.

While every gift is important and contributes to the ability of Slippery Rock University to provide an excellent learning community for students, the leadership of alumni and friends who have made significant contributions to the University is now being recognized through the Lifetime Giving Recognition Program. The true “jewels in the crown” among donors to the University, the seven lifetime giving levels are named for precious gems.

Lifetime Giving Club members will be presented with a pin and identified as Lifetime Giving Club members in Slippery Rock University publications and at University events. President Smith stated, “It will be a great pleasure to present these recognition pins to the alumni, friends and corporate donors who are leading the way in charitable giving to Slippery Rock University.”

Since 1986 more than 25,500 individuals, businesses and organizations have made gifts to the University. Donors who have contributed more than $5,000 over their lifetime to the University represent 2% of all Slippery Rock contributors - an exclusive group but one that has made a tremendous difference. These are the donors who have provided leadership for capital projects, innovative academic programs and scholarship support for talented and deserving students.

The names of those who are being recognized in this edition of The Rock Magazine reflects their cumulative gifts made from July 1, 1986 to October 31, 2004. Married couples' giving totals are combined and each individual is listed as a member of their combined giving club level. Gifts made by companies as part of a corporate gift-matching program are included with an individual's lifetime giving history.

Corporate gifts include the amount of their matching gift(s) and separate contributions that the company has made to Slippery Rock University. The Lifetime Giving Recognition Program information will be updated annually at the end of the fiscal year (June 30) and announced at the following Celebration of Giving each December.

This initial recognition of lifetime giving at Slippery Rock University acknowledges the contributions of deceased friends and alumni who have left a wonderful legacy of their generous spirit to Slippery Rock University. Their names are included and identified with an asterisk after their names.

For more information on the Lifetime Giving Recognition Program, contact the Slippery Rock University Office of University Advancement at 724-738-2004.
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Allen D. Getrig *
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Brenda C. Loube
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Cumulative totals calculated on gifts received between 1986 and Nov. 1, 2004
ALUMNI WEEKEND
JUNE 17-18, 2005

All alumni are welcome back to campus for an open house featuring faculty and distinguished alumni lectures, tours, exhibitions, picnics, parties, and the annual alumni awards luncheon. Special events are planned for the entire family. Many of the offerings are free. It’s an opportunity for you to revisit favorite memories, renew friendships, and reconnect with the intellectual and social excitement you felt as a Slippery Rock University student.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

• Walking and Trolley Tours of Campus and Community
• “Weekend University”
  Certificate Courses in Microbrew and Wine Tasting
  Lecture/Discussion Groups led by faculty and distinguished alumni
• Meet President Robert Smith
• Alumni Reunions for Former SGA Officers and Residence Life Staff
• All-Alumni Reunion/Awards Luncheon
• Hiking in McConnell’s Mills
• Alumni/Faculty Sherry Reception

• Golden Grad Receptions
• Alumni Bonfire at the Ski Lodge
• Alumni Golf Scramble for Women’s Athletics
• Hospitality Suite
• Non-Denominational Chapel Service
• Class and Group Reunion Events
• Class and Reunion Photographs
• Breakfast in the North Hall Courtyard
• On-Campus Housing

Times and locations will be added to the schedule as plans develop.

Two housing options are available on campus - The Rock Apartments and the Campground. The most popular accommodation, the Rock Apartments, are available for alumni if they want to stay on campus. With air conditioning, kitchens and living rooms, these apartment-style residence halls are a short distance from many activities but have all the comforts of a 4-star hotel. A minimum of two persons is required for these units (up to four per unit). The cost is $25/person.

An alternative option for those who enjoy "roughing it," is the SRU Campground. It is available for those who want to bring their RV, trailer or tent. Call 724-738-4801 for details.

Area Hotels and Bed and Breakfasts

• Super 8, Grove City, 724-748-3000
• Holiday Inn Express, Grove City, 724-748-5514
• Apple Butter Inn, Slippery Rock, 724-794-1844
• Amerihost, Grove City, 724-748-5836
• Comfort Inn, Grove City, 724-748-1005
• Evening Star, Slippery Rock, 724-794-1844
• As Thyme Goes By, Harrisville, 724-735-4003