

This Week's Top Stories
National

Hewlett-Packard revealed a plan Wednesday to purchase Palm for the price of \$1.2 billion (\$5.70 a share). HP is already the world's largest computer maker, but this deal would give H.P. access to Palm's homegrown software that can run phones as well as computer tablets. HP has built itself a reputation for this kind of partnership strategy.

Arizona has passed new immigration legislation which prompts the Mexican government to issue a travel alert warning that "any Mexican citizen could be bothered and questioned without cause at any moment." Though this new law is meant to deter illegal immigration, many say it is nothing compared to what immigrants endure crossing the border.

Wind patterns threaten to push the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico to the Louisiana coast as early as Friday night. This particularly threatens coastal wildlife. Approximately 100,000 feet of protective booms have been laid down to protect the shoreline and in-situ burns have begun, but part of the slick has been reported less than 16 miles offshore, closing in on the Mississippi River Delta.

International

In Chile, a 16-year-old boy has been charged with killing his elder brother in a fight over the use of a PlayStation, according to Police. The boy was angered when his 18-year-old brother turned on the games console without his permission. He allegedly grabbed a knife from the kitchen and stabbed him in the chest. Police said the youth had told them that "things got out of control". He could face five years in prison under the charges filed.

An official report has concluded that the 2007 crash in Cameroon of a Kenya Airways flight was caused by human error. According to flight records, there was a miscommunication between the pilot and first officer when attempting to stabilize the plane which resulted in the plane flipping over and crashing into a swamp. A total of 114 people died in the crash.

This week's "Top Stories" were compiled by Arielle Distasio, Sean Parke, and Sarah Flynn with information from www.nytimes.com and www.bbc.co.uk.

Robert Egger returns for Class of 2010 commencement

By ABIGAIL LOVELL
STAFF WRITER

As the end of the academic year is fast approaching, the class of 2010 faces a few bittersweet final weeks as students on the Gettysburg campus. Commencement proceedings begin in the early afternoon of Saturday, May 15, culminating in a final graduation ceremony to be held the following morning. The weekend-long celebration is sure to bring a host of varied emotions made even more exceptional by the college's selection of nationally-recognized activist, Robert Egger, as the 2010 Commencement Speaker.

Egger, lauded for his tremendous work with non-profit organizations across the nation highlighted in his recent V3 Campaign, is widely commended for his efforts in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area with his D.C. Central Kitchen project (DCCK).

DCCK, founded by Egger in 1989, disperses its resources to "[build] long-term solutions to the interconnected problems of poverty, hunger, and homelessness," according to the organization's website.

"The visionary founder of DC Central Kitchen and the Campus Kitchens Project, Robert is inspiring without being preachy, as he deftly proved with his fantastic performance as our Fall Convocation speaker a few years ago," says Gettysburg Professor of English, Chris Fee, who has worked closely with Egger and DCCK in conjunction with Fee's First-Year Seminar (FYS), Homelessness in America.

"Robert's book 'Begging for Change' has been one of the most popular texts on my FYS syllabus for years now, largely because it grounds a powerful commitment for social justice in a pragmatic and often iconoclastic assessment of the institutionalization of non-profits. Students love Robert because, rock star that he is, he likes to shake things up," adds Fee.

Egger, notes Gettysburg President Janet Morgan Riggs, has "inspired many colleges and universities to establish a Campus Kitchen; of course at Gettysburg we are very proud of our own Campus Kitchen."

The college's Campus Kitchen project, sponsored by the campus's Center for Public Service (CPS), has been in successful operation for nearly three years and drew its philanthropic inspiration from Egger's DCCK.

"[Egger] has been our ally, mentor and friend in our Campus Kitchen project,"

says Campus Kitchen Program Coordinator Senior Melissa Arsenie. "He has fostered such a great connection to the Gettysburg campus, and with the students, in particular."

Campus Kitchen co-founder, Senior Cassie Sanford adds, "[Egger] is more than a social activist; he is a great friend to the College."

Indeed, Egger's presence on the Gettysburg campus echoes far beyond the stretches of the college's own Campus Kitchen project.

"I have known and admired Robert for more than a decade, and it is no exaggeration to say that he has been inspiring and empowering generations of Gettysburg College students for the better part of twenty years," comments Fee. "He consistently challenges our students to perceive and to attempt to tackle seemingly intractable social problems, and he does so with a personal touch and a humorous perspective that has endeared him to our many, many students who've had the opportunity to meet and work with him at DC Central Kitchen."

"Robert is an inspiring, world-class visionary who has been felt by presidents and popular icons alike, and yet who has remained down-to-earth and true to his mission."
~Chris Fee, Professor of English

In his convocation address to students in the fall of 2006 (the now graduating Class of 2010), for example, Egger eloquently pressed students to "change their mission," an ideology that resonates through much of Egger's past and current work. Egger's V3 initiative, launched in 2008, presents a unique attempt to "unite non-profit organizations (NPOs) [across the nation]," according to Sanford.

The campaign, which emphasizes the importance of Voice, Vote, and Value, aims to "create a voice in politics for NPOs all over America," adds CPS Program Coordina-

tor Senior Hilary Green of D.C. Outfitters. "With the V3 campaign, he's getting people to think creatively. [Egger] wants to get people to change the ways in which they see how to fix things."

Alongside the class of 2010, Egger will also receive an honorary degree of his own this May, one which he has earned wholeheartedly over several decades of active participation in the Gettysburg community.

"[Egger] knows the values of [the Gettysburg] institution," says Arsenie. "More than that, he is reflective of those values. His story is motivational and he will speak to the well-preparedness of our class to take the next step due to Gettysburg College."

"Robert is an inspiring, world-class visionary who has been feted by presidents and popular icons alike, and yet who has remained down-to-earth and true to his mission," adds Fee. "Most importantly, Robert has had a direct and lasting impact upon Gettysburg College students for many, many years, he credits a Gettysburg alumna as one of his staunchest comrades in the early days of enacting his vision, and he remains a loyal friend to and vocal fan of our graduates."

As if Egger's striking philanthropic endeavors did not amass to an exceedingly impressive resume, talk-show personality Oprah Winfrey commended Egger's work, naming him one of "The Real Sexiest Men" in 2006 and noting that "self-confidence is sexy, but instilling that quality in others is even sexier."

Accolades from Oprah aside, however, Egger graciously accepts the opportunity to speak to the Class of 2010 and their families as one of the great honors of his career.

"I've been very lucky in my life and career. I've been to the White House for dinner and hosted Presidents for lunch here at the Kitchen. I've been on Oprah and flown to Paris in a private plane to go dancing. I've been married for 26 years and I've been deeply in love each and every moment of those 9,490 days. But seldom have I been as excited and honored as I am to be speaking to the MIGHTY class of 2010," says Egger. "Gettysburg has been our longest running collegiate partner, sending volunteers down to D.C. for close to 15 years. We owe you, and your generational peers, serious props for all you've done to help make our mission rock and I'm looking forward to a powerful day of celebration next month."

Professor course load reduced for greater scholarly opportunities

By KATHLEEN MULPETER
STAFF WRITER

For the past four years, Gettysburg College has been implementing a plan to move tenured and tenure-track professors from a six-course to a five-course annual teaching load. This transition will be completed in the 2010-2011 academic year. Professors can therefore teach two courses in the Fall and three in the Spring or vice versa.

The move has been accomplished by adding new faculty positions to enhance the academic departments and, in doing so, enabling professors to teach fewer courses. In the upcoming year, the Department of Chemistry, the Department of Biology and the Sunderman Conservatory will receive new faculty members, thereby completing the College's transition to the five-course load plan.

According to Acting Provost James White, the decision to reduce the faculty's teaching loads by one course was based on the College's desire to give

professors more time outside of the classroom. "What this can mean for students is that they will have greater opportunity to work with their professors on scholarly or creative projects," says White. "The faculty here at Gettysburg embrace the teacher-scholar model, which means that a professor's teaching and scholarship and creative activities enrich one another."

In hiring new professors, the College aims to strengthen its departments by choosing faculty members with research and creative pursuits that differ from those of the current faculty.

"I see a five-course teaching load as a good situation for both the student and the professor," says White, explaining that the course load reduction and the addition of new professors has helped to maintain the College's student-to-faculty ratio at less than 11:1, despite the growth of the student body. "Adding new faculty positions...has enabled the College to enrich and expand its already excellent and extensive academic program."

TKE undergoes Dean's Review

By ARIELLE DISTASIO
NEW EDITOR

"All of the fraternities and sororities are here at the college in affect by our invitation...so this is a joint partnership that we have with the fraternities and sororities based on the idea that we have mutual goals and we have a mutual mission and sometimes that's very adequately carried through on and other times not so well," Dean Ramsey said, opening Monday's Blue Crocodile Press Conference.

Last semester a fairly serious assault occurred at the Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) chapter house. The brother involved was permanently suspended from the school but due to the severity of injuries, Dean Ramsey met with chapter leadership in January to speak about the future of the organization on campus. She expressed that there could be no other acts of violence or aggression and that there would be a review conducted at the end of every semester for three semesters.

Dean Ramsey stated that "they [TKE leadership] themselves drafted a document indicating their acceptance of this and their understanding of what we were asking them to do."

The review includes a look at all the issues associated with misconduct. This includes social event issues, fights and assaults as well as GPAs, academic and philanthropy goals, and community complaints, and life safety issues throughout the last two years. Though Dean Ramsey stated that a follow up was to be conducted later in the year, another incident occurred in mid-February involving members of TKE and another student.

"There was a fight and a student was assaulted again. Some fairly significant injuries, head injuries, resulted from this fight, and so we had a college arrange for a student conduct review board hearing. The outcome of the hearing was that two individuals were found responsible for that assault," Dean Ramsey explained.

As a result of this, according to the original stipulations, the issue was looked at as an organizational issue instead of simply an individual issue. Dean Ramsey then contacted the members of TKE, stating that the review process would begin. A decision about the future of the organization was set for April 22. However, days before the decision deadline, the Alumni Association of

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