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Penn State Homecoming Hosts 7th Annual Legacy Celebration

Students celebrate the completion of another great school year Nittany Lion style

UNIVERSITY PARK, PA. (Apr. 27, 2017) — Student's gathered in the HUB-Robeson Center on Wednesday April 26, 2017 and joined Penn State Homecoming during their 7th annual Legacy Celebration. The event is traditionally held in the Spring and celebrates the end of another great year at Penn State. This year's event was held on the last Wednesday of classes between the hours of 11 AM and 3PM.

Taking place throughout the ground and first floors of the HUB-Robeson Center, the 2017 Legacy Celebration was filled with a variety of activities. Students could stop by any of three prize-filled game tables, which included a multi-leveled Penn State Trivia, a game of Penn State themed Headbands and an Alma Mater sing along challenge. If part of a pre-registered organization, students were able to not only test their Penn State knowledge but also earn valuable Spirit points for their organizations. Pre-registered organizations compete throughout the Homecoming season to earn these Spirit points for their organization. These organizations also participate in several Homecoming events, such as the Homecoming For the Glory Talent Show held during Homecoming Week.

During Legacy Celebration this year, students were able to enjoy live student performances from groups such as the a cappella group Blue in the Face, the band TV Dinners, the rap group Stuart Little, and Whiplash Dance Team. Also featured were members of the THON 2017 Dancer Relations Committee to lead the HUB-Robeson Center in a performance of the 2017 THON line dance. While watching these performances students snacked on treats such as cotton candy, sno-cones and popcorn served by Homecoming student volunteers.

Homecoming Emcees Emily Chertow and Stevie Sievers both shared their excitement to host their first Homecoming event. They loved interacting with the crowd and watching the performers.

“It was really fun to see people engage with each other. The DJ was great so being able to dance around with everyone to really good music was a lot of fun,” said Chertow. Sievers agreed that the DJ and performers undoubtedly brought a vibrant energy to the HUB-Robeson Center. Sievers said, “Getting everyone hyped up for Homecoming was an awesome experience.”

As a freshman, Merchandise Committee Member Mikeala Axman had never participated in a Legacy Celebration before this year's event. Working the merchandise table, Mikeala was busy much of the day due to Legacy Celebration being the first opportunity to purchase merchandise featuring Homecoming's new logo, which was revealed during the 2017 Blue and White football game. Axman said “I was very excited for everyone to see and buy the new 2017 logo merch.”

When students weren't eating, dancing, participating in games or buying merch, they also had the opportunity to visit the Royalty table and submit nominations for the 2017 University and Student Courts.

Legacy Celebration is a fun-filled event used as a means not only to commemorate another awesome Nittany Lion school year but to also excite students for upcoming Homecoming festivities. Executive

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Director, Jillian Susi, said “Legacy Celebration is a great reminder that Homecoming is a yearlong celebration not only a week in November. It’s also a good way to get everyone excited for Homecoming!”

Each year the Legacy Celebration is organized and run by the Homecoming Pride Events Committee. Pride Events Director Matt Monaghan emphasized how much committee collaboration goes into making a large event, such as Legacy Celebration, a success. Monaghan said, “I would like to thank the Homecoming volunteers for all the work they put in to run this great event.”

When asked about his favorite part of Legacy Celebration, Monaghan was quick to answer that it is the Honorary Grand Marshall reveal. Scott Shirley, founder and Executive Director of Uplifting Athletes as well as a former Penn State football player, was announced as the 2017 Honorary Grand Marshal during this year’s event.

“It’s great to see Penn State come out to see and honor awesome alumni,” said Monaghan. “I unfortunately missed the reveal this year, but I was still following along through the Homecoming social media accounts.”

The entirety of Legacy Celebration was livestreamed on all Homecoming social media accounts as a way to interact with all Penn State students and alumni, even those who were unable to attend the event.

About Us

Penn State Homecoming is a student-run organization with aims to celebrate tradition and instill pride in all members of the Penn State family through active engagement of students, alumni, faculty and staff across the community. Our organization is comprised of many student volunteers who donate their time to creating a multitude of events that make the Homecoming celebration a yearlong event.

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