

Nittany Lion, born and raised

August 8, 2012

I quickly lost track of how many times people have asked me why I chose a school that is only 7 short minutes away from the house I've lived in for 19 years. "Why wouldn't you want to move away? Doesn't it feel like a continuation of high school? Aren't you sick of this town?" I have no answer other than that I live next to one of the best schools in the world, so why would I want to go anywhere else? And quite honestly, I could not see myself anywhere else other than Penn State University. I have two older brothers whom had both graduated from Penn State University Park with degrees in Turfgrass Science, and whom lead nothing but successful, lush lives to this day. That's what Penn State does to people. Every single person who goes through Penn State University is prompted to be an aspiring, goal-oriented, enthusiastic individual not only in the workplace but also in life. Being surrounded by the spirit and passion of every single person on Penn States campus is simply amazing and is something I would not trade for the world. Having spirit and pride can be an aspect that many colleges seem to overlook and lack. It's rare that you come across a campus that holds so much love and pride for its university as Penn State does. I feel sorry for the many people who shake their heads in disgrace at our university because they simply have not experienced what Penn State is truly like on the inside. One mans actions will not define us, no matter how the media portrays that. We, the students, faculty, staff, alumni and the Penn State community, will set the definition straight and we will control how this affects our spirit and love for Penn State. All of these unfortunate events have been hard for me to grasp and comprehend, but I do know one thing.....that I have NEVER been more proud to call myself a 'Penn Stater.'

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