

REAL Cities Click here to visit other RealCities sites

Centre Daily Ads Online

CENTREDAILY.COM STATE COLLEGE'S HOME PAGE



Get the news from

CENTREDAILY.COM

Our Local Channels News Business Sports Entertainment Living Classifieds

Help Contact Us Site Index Archives Place an Ad Newspaper Subscriptions

Search box with 'go' button and 'Search the Archives' link



Subscribe to The Centre Daily Times Have The Centre Daily Times delivered to your home everyday!

- CENTRE DAILY TIMES
Classifieds
Obituaries
Opinion
Outdoors
Celebrations
Real estate transactions
Penn State sports
NEW! Newspaper Ads Online

- SPECIAL SECTIONS
This is Penn State
User's Guide
Business Matters - Pt. 1
Business Matters - Pt. 2

Our Site Tools
Weather
State College
Scranton
Philadelphia
Local Events
Yellow Pages
Discussion Boards
Maps & Directions

CENTRE DAILY TIMES
Pennsylvania's Newspaper of the Year

Showdown with Iraq
Stay up-to-date with the latest on the nation's conflict with Iraq.
Follow the news

Thursday, Feb 06, 2003

Posted on Thu, Feb. 06, 2003

CENTRE DAILY TIMES

Peterson: Hydrogen researchers at forefront

By Mike Joseph
mjoseph@centredaily.com

UNIVERSITY PARK - A U.S. congressman told 200 researchers at Penn State on Wednesday that their work with hydrogen puts them in a small club of discoverers who have made big differences.

U.S. Rep. John Peterson likened the importance of efforts to use hydrogen for energy with the oil industry's birth 144 years ago and computer technology advances in the century just gone by.

"I think hydrogen has the next potential for changing the world, and the ones who get to it first are going to be out ahead," said Peterson, who lives near Oil City, home of the first commercial oil well. "I want Pennsylvania to be manufacturing fuel cells and all of the things to produce energy for the future."

Peterson spoke at Penn State's first Hydrogen Energy Day, a conference that attracted industry, governmental and academic researchers to check out ongoing university research ranging from hydrogen use to hydrogen storage to hydrogen generation.

Wednesday's conference at the Nittany Lion Inn was scheduled long before President Bush, in his State of the Union Address last week, announced plans to spend \$1.7 billion over the next five years on two projects to reduce American dependence on foreign oil:

- FreedomCar, to make hydrogen fuel-cell technology power cars.
FreedomFuel, which will research how to produce and deliver hydrogen fuel.

Fuel cells produce electricity during a chemical reaction between oxygen and hydrogen, which is the most abundant element on Earth. Cars powered by such fuel cells would produce water vapor, not a hydrocarbon exhaust, as a byproduct.

But the president's speech appeared to heighten the appreciation of Wednesday's conference-goers for the challenges and competition ahead. They took notes like freshmen as speakers pointed out new research funding opportunities.

For example, the U.S. Department of Energy two weeks ago said it was seeking applications for grants worth \$70 million over five years for research on fuel cells for automotive applications.

Matt Fronk, chief engineer for General Motors' fuel cell division in Rochester, N.Y., looked over dozens of posters depicting Penn State hydrogen research projects, many advancing chemical pathways, and saw connections to Bush's initiatives.

"There's a couple of programs going on here that are really focused on just those things," Fronk said.

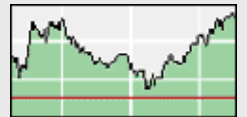
Rachel Kerekgyarto, a graduate student in environmental engineering, checked out some of the work going on and told a reporter that she did not yet understand some of the chemistry involved.

"I'm really just here to learn," she said.

Mike Joseph can be reached at 235-3910.

email this | print this | license this | reprint this

Employment: careerbuilder
Automotive: Find a Car, Sell a Car, Weekly Specials
Real Estate: Find a Home, Find an Apartment
Local Shopper: Search Classifieds, See This Week's Sales, Online Coupons, Place an Ad
Featured Services: Find a Loan, Meet Someone, Find a Hotel



Financial Markets
Dow Jones Industrial Avg. 8,000
NASDAQ 1,302.39
S&P 500 838.15
WMT 47.09
LOW 35.05
DA 24.59

Market Update: Regional Companies
View your portfolio
Stock Quote: go Symbol Lookup

BREAKING NEWS
Updated Thursday, Feb 06, 2003
Belgium Wants Urgent EU Meeting on Iraq - 01:39 PM EST

- >> **Iraq: Scientist Agrees to U.N. Interview** - 01:35 PM EST
- >> **U.N.: Iraq Must Improve Its Cooperation** - 01:33 PM EST
- >> **Russia's Space Program in Cash Crunch** - 01:32 PM EST
- >> **Trees to Be Israeli Tribute to Columbia** - 01:28 PM EST

[more](#) 



Easy as  
**DELL™**

The latest technology, customized for you.

The Dell™ Dimension™ 8250

features the latest Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor.

Order the easy way. Click here.



**SiliconValley.com**  
Your best source for Tech News

[News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Living](#) | [Classifieds](#)

[Help](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Site Index](#) | [Archives](#) | [Place an Ad](#) | [Newspaper Subscriptions](#)

[About CentreDaily.com](#) | [About Realities Network](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Press Center](#) | [Copyright](#)