

**Presenting . . .**

**Miss Loretta Westler**  
(As Interviewed By  
Frances Pannulla)



"The life of a professional dancer is not always filled with glamor, tinsel and ballyhoo," Loretta Westler, a first-semester Highacres bacteriology major, who is also a dancer, said during her interview. "It involves careful preparation, scheduling, practice and strict discipline, where one must be aware of the principles of morals, self-respect and dignity (for no matter what a person has achieved in life, wholesome personal values must predominate, or all is lost in the end). Nor is a dancer made overnight. One usually begins during the flexibility of childhood when muscles and stage poise can be more easily developed. It is usually hard work, involving the old slogan, 'The show must go on.' Philosophically, it has to do with 'appearance and reality.' By this comment is meant that even when one is tired, unhappy, moody, and feels least like performing, this reality must be ignored, and an energetic, entertaining and vivacious appearance must be substituted," she continued.

Loretta gave the following account when asked when and how she became interested in dancing, and why she gave up her full-time career for a college education:

"My life as a dancer began at the age of eight, at which time I immediately developed aspirations to be a famous dancer. The following years were characterized by much hard work, with hours of practice and exercise; however, I did love every moment of it. My first real engagement was at the age of eighteen and was a very trying experience. During the next few years my dancing career continued on a part-time basis, for I held a secretarial position full-time. I was not satisfied with this, for my aspirations in dancing were still with me, and last October, I managed to obtain contracts in New York which enabled me to begin as a full-time entertainer.

"Thus, I was faced with the decision to make a complete change in my life: I decided to take a chance at a full-time dancing career, realizing that many insecurities, hardships and other problems might result. The following months, up to the time I started college, were spent traveling from state to state, covering the area from Canada down to the Carolinas. Traveling around as a dancer proved to be exciting and rewarding in certain ways at first, but later all this became comparable to a commonplace job held by any average individual. Moreover, it lacked the more important things in life, such as home life, permanent friends (not just casual acquaintances whom you would meet here and there). Most important was the realization of the necessity of a college education to broaden my outlook on life, as well as to help raise my social status. Consequently, I began college in February with the aid of my parents, together with the money earned on week-ends through dancing jobs."

I asked Loretta this question: Now that she is in college, how

**Our Versatile Professor Steel**

(By Don Spina)

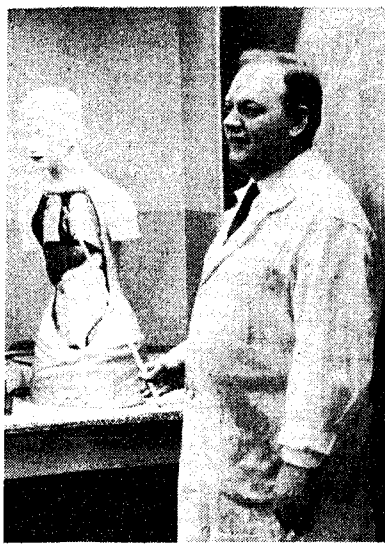
During these last few weeks of the spring semester, one may have observed the outdoor classes held by one of our distinguished professors, James R. Steel, Jr. Students have had the opportunity to see him teach in the classroom, but few know much about his other numerous activities.

Professor Steel received his B.A. at the University of Pennsylvania, and went on to receive his Master's Degree at Duke University, North Carolina. This year marks his sixteenth year as an instructor for the Pennsylvania State University. During this time he has taught physiology, botany and zoology, and has been the advisor of the Highacres' Natural Science Department.

One of his main hobbies is music. He has a serious, enthusiastic interest in the composing of music. Professor Steel's great interest in this art can be exemplified when we remember the "Evening of Tropical Music" which was held in the Student Union Building, during this spring semester. Because of stormy weather on the evening scheduled for its presentation, very few people were able to attend, but this did not stop Professor Steel's desire to satisfy those few who did attend. He ran a complete program, and at a later date, he held the entire show over again. (How much more conscientious can one be concerning the students' cultural interest!)

His subtle, droll wit has brought many a chuckle from his students and colleagues. One of his colleagues has mentioned that Professor Steel should run for a political office because he knows so many people and is so popular.

Many alumni drop in on the third floor, where Professor Steel's office is, for a chat on the old "Mummy Club" (which formerly was a club where ancient Egyptology was discussed). Feel free to visit, on the third floor, for anything that has to do with music, flora and fauna, old cars, or railroads.



**PROFESSOR JAMES R. STEEL, JR.**, teaching a Zoology class while he uses a structural model of the organs of the human body as an aid in teaching.

**Final College-Community Chorus Concert to be Held**

The Pennsylvania State University College-Community Chorus of Highacres will present (date to be announced later) an Annual Spring Concert, conducted by Miss Pearl Garbrick.

The selections are these:  
Sacred Service by Ernest Bloch; The Main Deep by A. Gordon Wilcox; Chorale on Wisdom by A. Gordon Wilcox; Madrigals; The Silver Swan by Orlando Gibbons; Welcome, Sweet Pleasure by Thomas Weelkes; Your Beauty, It Allureth by Thomas Weelkes; Now Is the Month of Maying by Thomas Morley; To Thee the Holy Ghost by Wasner.

The members are as follows:  
Soprano voices—Edwina Roland, Cathy Clyde, Antoinette Curcio, Margaret Lloyd, Mrs. Stanley Lloyd, Grace Purdy. Alto voices—Elizabeth Esher, Elizabeth Bodenstein, Jeannette Feldman, Charlotte Phillips, Susan Schwartz. Tenor voices—Edward Davis, Joseph Jumpeter, Richard Allison, Ronald Rickert. Bass voices—Gordon Wilcox, John Schmidt, Basil Augustine.

**Highacres Associate Degree Students Available For Employment**

In June, approximately twenty engineering associate-degree graduates from the Hazleton Campus will be eligible for employment with various industries.

During their final semester, students were interviewed by personnel representatives of various companies in a program set up by Mr. Richard H. McKinstry, assistant professor of psychology. Some cooperating companies that have conducted interviews with our students are these:

Sandia Company—Albuquerque, New Mexico. Babcock and Wilcox—Barberton, Ohio. Potomac Edison Co.—Hagerstown, Md. Federal Aviation Agency—Jamaica, N. Y. New Jersey Zinc Co.—Palmerton, Pa. Landis Tool Co.—Waynesboro, Pa. I.B.M.—Paughkeepsie, N. Y. U. S. Naval Weapons Plant—Washington, D. C. Hazeltine Corporation—Great Neck, L. I. Penna. State Univ. Ordnance Research Lab—University Park, Pa. Bell Telephone Lab—N. J. Dorr-Oliver—Hazleton, Pa.

The drafting and designing technology curriculum is intended to prepare detail or layout draftsmen and junior designers for manufacturing industries as well as for the many concerns engaged in installation or erection work.

The electrical technology curriculum is designed to prepare graduates for technological service with electrical utilities, manufac-

does she find time for her studies and still accept part-time work as a dancer? To this she responded, "Being an academic student as well as an entertainer means planning and organizing my life according to a rigidly disciplined schedule. It means utilizing constructively every possible moment that is free, even limiting my social activities." She concluded by adding, "I am convinced that no success that I may attain as a dancer will ever compare in importance with the achievements that I will make in my college life."

**Hazleton Campus Salutes Its Alumni Association**

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Tamaqua, John P. Donald, engineering aide with the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company in Hazleton, Nicholas Grazio, engineering aide also with the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company, Dominic Landro, engineer, with Landro and Company, Hazleton.

Charles F. Gallagher of Hazleton, a "graduate" of the earliest class when our Hazleton Campus was founded, left us in '36 and went on to get his B.S. degree in Education at the Main Campus. Mr. Gallagher writes: "I was a member of the first undergraduate class when classes were held in the Markle Bank & Trust Building." Mr. Gallagher is now a Special Agent with the Prudential Insurance Company.

Two former students are in communication work: Paul Cerula, '48, is WAZL News Director and Director of Public Relations in Hazleton; Ramon S. Saul is Sports Editor, Standard Sentinel in Hazleton.

Two other former Highacres students now on the Main Campus were heard from. They are Carol Mastroianni and Al Hinger. Carol writes that she has just finished student teaching in the third grade. Al, who is holding a job as engineering aide with the Ordnance Research Lab at PSU, is continuing his education towards a B.S. in mechanical engineering, and raising a family, writes that his is a busy life.

From Albuquerque, New Mexico, came news of John A. Smith, '58, who is working as a staff assistant with the Sandia Corp.

Ted Minor writes from Long Island, New York: "I am employed as a staff assistant by the New York Telephone Company. I am also teaching evening classes in marketing at the Nassau Community College on Long Island."

The response of Highacres graduates to the Hazleton Campus Alumni Association's membership drive has been tremendous. Former students, also heard from are Carl Dragonette '57, Joseph Ondo '58, Robert Ulrich '57, David Kashner '59, George Mishkin '59, Thomas Dougherty '56, William Halcovage, Jr. '56, Ronald Stauffer '59, John Roland '57, Joel Hoffman '59, Francis Bodnar, William Smith, John Martini, Don Billig, George Lucas, Joseph Zoba '58, Thadeus Jaworski '58, James Deebel '59, Max Hartman '58, Salvatore Matsuk '55, Joseph Fetter '58, Eugene Yachera '59, Robert Gritter '58 (now in Biloxi, Miss.), and Robert Hnat '59.

Mr. Leonard Tyahla '58, staff assistant with the Sandia Corp., Albuquerque, New Mexico forwarded this suggestion to the H.A.A.: "I suggest you might complete a file on past graduates of Highacres consisting of their present positions and locations. With such a listing, future grads may contact an alumnus regarding details of a specific corporation or location." This suggestion is well worth noting in connection with obtaining a better job.

The officers of the H.A.A. extend their greetings and best wishes to all alumni everywhere. Officers are William E. Kahler '56, President; Andrew Kavalecs '59, 1st Vice President; Joseph Lona '57, 2nd Vice President; Remo Molino '59, Secretary; William Mace '59, Treasurer. The Faculty Committee members are Andrew Kafka (chairman), Frank Defina, Frederick Esher, and Thomas Kidd.

P.S. To those who have not replied we ask this:

**WHERE ARE YOU NOW?**

**GREETING FROM THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

The leaders of health and health education within a few years will come from our college students of today. Are you helping to make a better community life since your leaving college or your completion of your course?

Our great reward is to hear of your success and achievements. We like to see your continued interest in us, wherever you are, to greet you any time you can return.

Leah Kostenbauder

**An Alumnus Reminisces**

(Continued from Page One)

Hazleton area. Jim Kennedy, after his two years at the local center, continued his education in the field of medicine and is now a pediatrician, with offices in the Northeastern Penna. Nat'l Bank Bldg. Donald Carter is a member of the local Social Security office. His wife, formerly Alice Itter, also a member of the first class, is an instructor of the handicapped children in Carbon County. Frank Mondick is employed in the engineering department of the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company. Tommy Pugliese is on the teaching staff of the Hazleton City Schools. (See some of these alumni in the old basketball team's picture.)

Personally, I have been employed, since 1951, as a Special Agent with the Prudential Insurance Company.

It is my intent to contact the members of the first class of the Pennsylvania State University in Hazleton and try to have as many as possible attend the Alumni Dinner-Dance on May 28. I would, and I feel the rest of the members who can attend, look forward to the opportunity of making a visit to the various buildings and seeing the classrooms and the facilities in general.

This visit would enable us to better appreciate the vast progress made at Highacres in contrast to the rather primitive facilities we found when we first entered the classrooms of the old Penn State Center so many years ago.

In addition to the serious aspects of our initial college training, we enjoyed many experiences of a humorous nature. The instructors in our early years were well qualified in their respective fields, and all of us considered ourselves very fortunate to have teachers of their caliber to give us a good start in our educational career.

The many stories of the fabled "absent-minded professor" are familiar to all. We possessed such an instructor whose antics, on many occasions, provided the humorous aspects that added a note of lightness to our daily classroom experience. The instructor referred to had the responsibility of teaching both the chemistry and algebra courses. Quite often, the professor would forget that the class in session was algebra and discourse on length on the field of chemistry. In reverse, in the chemistry class, he would elucidate on various algebraic problems. We, the students, perhaps unfairly, would allow him to continue these erroneous discussions, then, would advise him that he was presenting his material to the wrong class.

In dress, he was the stereotype of the absent-minded professor. He was advanced in years and very proper in his demeanor. Yet, he wore a cap (rather unconventional at that time.) As previously mentioned, the classes were held in the old Markle Bank Building. On many mornings, the professor would board the elevator with the students, very politely tipping his cap to the ladies present. When the elevator stopped at the floor on which our classes were held, the students would get off, the professor would again tip his cap to the girls leaving the elevator, and continue on upward. He later would appear, apologizing for his lateness in getting to class.

I remember especially a test in chemistry conducted by this professor. We had an idea of one of the questions that in all probability might be asked. It required a long discussion. Some of the students, not having prepared too diligently for the exam, figured out a solution; they had one of the students well versed in French write the answer in this language on the blackboard on which the exam would be written. Of course, those who were familiar with French had an easy time on this question; those who did not, including me, were at a loss.

Finally, may I convey my best wishes to all alumni and to the present Highacres student body. I enjoyed sharing this bit of nostalgia with you.

"Easy come easy go" is a saying as applicable to knowledge as to wealth."

—Herbert Spencer.