



Fourteen sisters of Delta Gamma sorority performing the Good Ship Lollipop sang their way into first place in the

originality division of the fourth annual Greek Lyre Sing benefiting Cystic Fibrosis.

Scale complaints rare Bureau inspects weights

By ANDY RÄTNER
Collegian Staff Writer
Unfortunately for consumers, what they see is not necessarily what they get. With the human eye as their only aid, most consumers cannot accurately determine if the pound of hamburger that they are buying is actually a pound or if the gallon of gas is really a gallon.

The man to contact when detecting any faulty measurement of products is Richard Smead of the Centre County Bureau of Weights and Measures.

Smead's department is responsible for testing everything that weighs or is weighed — scales, packages, gasoline pumps, even car washes.

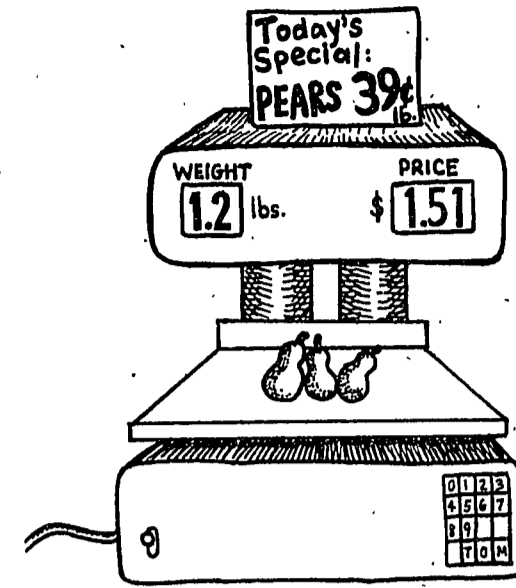
He said that most inaccurate measurements stem merely from carelessness. The margin of error for scales is one-half of one per cent, a fairly large mistake, according to Smead.

If the scale is brand new, though, one-fourth of one per cent is the largest discrepancy allowed.

Depending on the degree of error, Smead has the authority to shut down the measuring or weighing device immediately or give the owner 30 days to correct the problem.

Smead said complaints about the weight or measurement of a product are rare, averaging about two a month. Only one gasoline pump was discovered to be inaccurate last year, and that resulted from petroleum leakage.

Scales and pumps are



checked at least once annually and in some cases, there is a need for two or more inspections during the year.

Smead is experimenting with the inspection process by examining the county's measuring devices several times a year, to further benefit the consumer.

Faults that Smead looks for include hidden windows on the scales, which obscure the consumer's view of the weight of his purchase, and unlevel scales, which can disrupt the balancing mechanisms.

"Scales are extremely sensitive pieces of equipment," said Smead, "and there are several things which could cause a scale to measure inaccurately."

"The newer electronic scales in many supermarkets can be thrown off by the electric-eye operated doors. A

lot of grocers also have their scales located behind the meat counter and the accuracy of these apparatus can be upset if the compressor is turned on."

Smead has many devices with which he measures the accuracy of a scale. His arsenal consists of a 31-pound test weight kit for grocery scales, four 50-pound weights which are used to check doctors' scales, five-gallon and one-gallon devices to measure gas and kerosene and a stop watch, with which Smead tests timing devices.

The State Bureau of Weights and Measures, part of the Department of Agriculture, is located in Altoona. According to Smead, the state department regulates everything from yard sticks to fuel trucks to packaging.

The state department's

measuring equipment includes moisture meters to check grain, 20,000 pounds in weights, scales for testing propane and liquid gas, and devices for testing fabrics.

Smead said the conversion to the metric system will take a long time but the system itself will be a lot less complicated for the consumer to understand and utilize. He added that the metric system is also more precise than the standards of measurement used in the United States today.

"I really don't understand the system myself," Smead said, "but we'll just have to start thinking in metric terms."

"People won't have to worry about making the conversion themselves. We'll just have to get used to buying in metric terms — when to buy two liters of milk or a kilogram of chicken."

Smead said that there is no definite time set for the metric conversion, but many manufacturers are now labeling their products with dual declarations, using both measuring systems. In December 1975, President Ford set up the Metric Advisory Board to assist industry with the conversion.

Smead reminds consumers to look at the little window on the scale which gauges the weight of the product. The consumer should also look for the white inspection date sticker that Smead puts on the scales, gas pumps, etc. after checking the equipment.

For questions about weights and measures call Smead at 355-2342, at his office in Bellefonte.

Greek Sing raises almost \$200

Two sororities sang their hearts out, right into first place finishes yesterday at the fourth annual Greek Lyre sing, sponsored by Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority captured first place in the traditional song event, with its rendition of "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do." Delta Gamma sorority won the originality division, with its production of "On the Good Ship Lollipop."

In the traditional category, second place went to Delta Sigma Theta sorority, while Acacia fraternity captured the third place trophy.

In the original song competition, Kappa Delta sorority took second place and Phi Kappa Psi fraternity picked up the third place trophy.

All proceeds of the Sing went to Cystic Fibrosis, the sorority's philanthropic project. Sorority spokesman, Robin Krevolin, said the sorority raised close to two hundred dollars from the event. "While people might not think that's a lot of money," Krevolin said, "we think it's great." She explained this was only the fourth year of the Sing, and this year was the first time there was a sizeable turnout to watch the event.

Groups recommend replacements

18 USG senators quit since fall

By JOHN DRUGA
Collegian Staff Writer

Since the beginning of Fall Term, 18 USG senators have resigned — 13 resignations coming during Fall Term and five this term.

Joe Aloia (10th-biology), a town senator, gave several reasons for the resignations. "There were four or five senators who resigned because they had practicums to take care of. Another four or five senators resigned because they had become disenchanted with the way we were handling things," Aloia said. "They didn't think we were doing anything constructive."

Aloia said that there were also some senators who resigned because they couldn't keep their grades up and serve as senator at the same time.

Pam Mayer (8th-psychology), who had been a senator for two terms, said

she resigned this term because the tests were piling up and she could make only about half the meetings. "I resigned because I couldn't give my full attention to the meetings," Mayer said.

Another senator who resigned this term, but for a different reason, is Bev Richards (4th-science). She said none of the constituents she served in North Halls cared about USG.

"When a senator resigns, we usually try to fill a vacancy within two weeks," Aloia said. "Instead of us trying to find replacements, we let the area governments, fraternities, and OTIS (Organization of Town Independent Students) make recommendations on who the replacements should be."

"We do that because they know more about the people in their areas than we do," Aloia said. It turns out that USG always accepts students as senators,

who are recommended by the different organizations.

Aloia said that he feels that the senate lacks the power it could have because of the apathy of the students.

"We don't have the support of the students," he said. "The average student doesn't even know one senator and he doesn't care if he knows one or not."

There is a total of 35 USG senators, with the town area having the most, with 16 senators. Aloia said that students living in town are apathetic toward the senate because they moved to town to have privacy.

If the senate doesn't have any real power, what good is it doing? "If there wasn't a senate," Aloia said, "the students wouldn't have a lot of the things that they have gotten."

Study says rural crime rising

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new study reports that crime is increasing in rural areas, and while it may not be a pitchfork jungle, the tradition of unlocked doors is coming to an end.

Though vandalism is the most prevalent rural crime

reported, the researchers noted that all types of crimes in all of rural Ohio rose 305 per cent from 1965 through 1974.

That includes only the crimes reported to police, and the researchers said many other crimes, particularly

vandalism, are not reported to authorities.

The three-year project was conducted by Ohio State University's College of Agriculture with \$170,119 from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

Correction

In a story on page 19 of Friday's Daily Collegian, it was reported incorrectly that a sorority member of Alpha Chi Omega has cystic fibrosis. The sentence should have read, "... a younger sister of a sorority member has cystic fibrosis."

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Amy Gedrich
Cheryl Haywood
and little Sisters Andrea Matsko, Donna Venturino, Cheryl Baxmeier, Nancy Baron, Rosa Clark, Candy George

(answers to page 4 puzzle)
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HEARTBEAT MYHEART
EER REST HERA RAE
THERE HELD ETTTE
ASWEET HEAD ASSAM
LEHAR DEAR TSS
ILOT HEARTTOHEART
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