

PENNDOT ADVISED TO CONSIDER ENVIRONMENT

The State Transportation Advisory Committee has recommended that Penn DOT establish a concise environmental policy in connection with future Pennsylvania highway planning. The committee, in a progress report, recognized the need for such a policy to deal with the disruption of projects "by uniformed minorities and reflecting economic burdens versus ecological damage."

The report was submitted by Dr. Thomas D. Larson of Penn State University, committee chairman.

Proposed was formation of highway departments on a county level, with new operational units for highway mileage now controlled by townships and for control of the 13,000 miles to be returned. The committee also recommended adequate manning and financing to develop and improve rapid transit in areas of population concentration. Proposed was a long-range financing program for rapid transit independent of highways.

XGI NEWS
 by Bob Chaapel

"It is the consensus of this committee," the report said, "that small groups should not be allowed to stop projects vital to the general welfare of the Commonwealth." Most active public participation through the planning stages was proposed to reduce protests at the time of construction.

The recommendation came on the heels of Penn DOT issuance of a draft of an Environmental Action Plan process aimed at assuring full consideration of the economic, social and environmental effects of proposed transportation projects by influencing the methods by which such projects are developed.

In another section of the report dealing with highways, the advisory committee suggested that Penn DOT transfer back to local government approximately 13,000 miles of highways now included in the state system.

Tuesday, January 9, marked the first meeting of the Chi Gamma Iota Fraternity for the Winter term. Twenty associate members were voted in as full members at this first meeting. Congratulations to all new members!

Chi Gamma Iota would like to welcome all new students to the campus. Anyone expressing interest in the fraternity is invited to attend any of our meetings, which are held every other Tuesday, at 8:00 p.m., at the American Legion in Middletown, or to stop off at the XGI office located in room W-110D.

Turning to current events, all members are reminded that nomination and election of new officers are rapidly approaching. Let's have a 100% turnout at the next meeting.

Organization Aids Disadvantaged People

Catholic Relief Services, the official overseas aid and development agency of the United States Catholic Conference, has announced the start of an intensive campaign -- Operation: Put-It-All-Together -- to motivate the youth of America to extend a helping hand to the disadvantaged people of the developing countries.

Several thousand youth leaders and college chaplains throughout the country have already been contacted in the hope that their group or organization will actively participate in the ever-expanding work of CRS in overseas areas.

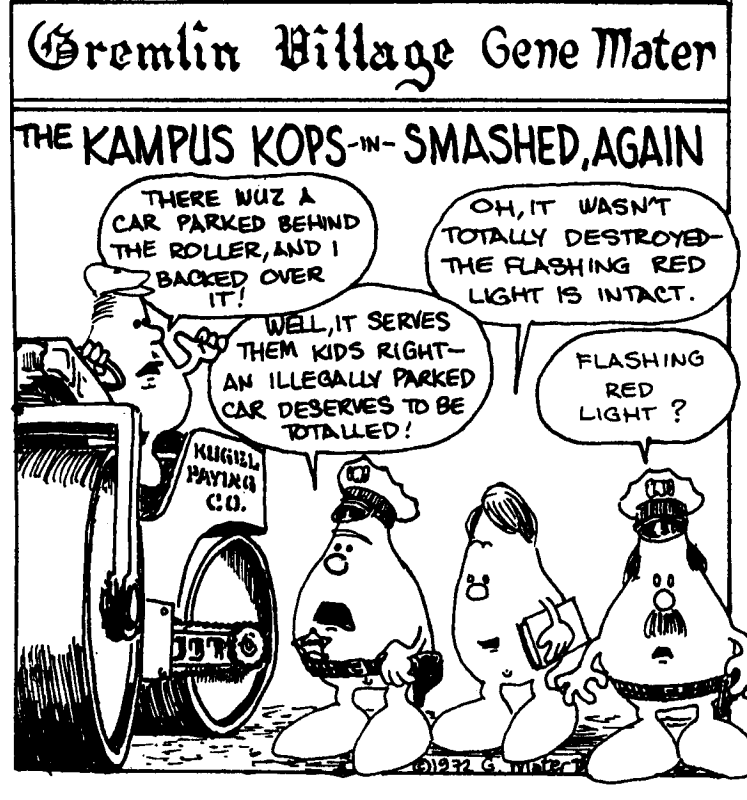
Colorful posters and a Group Activity Kit -- offering particulars about an appealing array of projects ranging from walkathons and cyclethons to hunger banquets and fashion shows -- will be made available by CRS to any interested party. A selection of prize-winning films depicting the global programs sponsored by CRS will also be loaned upon request.

In announcing this new venture, Bishop Edward E. Swannstrom, Executive Director of CRS, said: "From all indications, the young people of today are determined to do something to help make the world a better place for all men to live together in peace and dignity. We want these youngsters -- those with the vision and vigor to effect change -- to get involved and join us in helping the needy of the Third World. The socio-economic development projects CRS has

initiated in 68 countries are beginning to bear fruit. We're proving that the indigent inhabitants of the poorer nations can become self-sufficient -- they can make it on their own. What they need most is a helping hand to get them started. We sincerely hope the youth of America will answer this plea for help."

The long-range development projects of Catholic Relief Services, known as "self-help" projects, are designed to aid individuals, families and entire communities in raising their standards of living and attaining economic viability. Such projects run the gamut from simple road-clearing programs that link isolated villages, to the building of the rudimentary dams, to installing intricate irrigation systems, providing potable water sources, establishing small industries, and constructing schools and community centers. Other important facets of these projects are health and nutritional education seminars, vocational training programs, and leadership courses. These programs, coupled with the emergency relief work of CRS, have benefited millions of men, women and children of every race, creed and color.

Any club or organization interested in knowing more about Operation: Put-It-All-Together should contact the National Office of Catholic Relief Services at 350 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10001.



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NOSTALGIA WEEK IS COMING

Social Committee on the move

by Don Snyder

The Social Affairs Committee held its first meeting of the term on January 10.

The financial report revealed a loss of \$120 from the previous evening's Ski Club dance. It is important to note that Social Committee never makes money on these events. However, the organizations which sponsor the events usually depend on dances as a source of fund raising. The poor attendance at these dances (even when the groups are very good) plus complaints that "it costs too much" (\$.50-\$.75) only discourage organizations from holding such events.

Due to the lack of adequate attendance (a result of numerous meetings scheduled at the same time), the remainder of the meeting was limited to discussion of events to be held in the future.

The committee approved a motion to send two junior members to the National Entertainment Conference convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the end of February. Bob Brannan and Debra Botts will travel with Ms. Nancy Colnes to represent Capitol Campus.

The committee considered various events to be held during Nostalgia Week (Feb. 11-18). Persons with ideas to make the week more enjoyable and enriching are encouraged to submit them to any committee member.

Paul Mirable accepted the task of establishing a coffeehouse program on a trial basis. We will attempt to give the Student Center a coffeehouse atmosphere the nights of the program. However, the search is still on to find an adequate location to set up a permanent coffeehouse facility. Students interested in folk music and coffeehouse entertainment are needed.

The meeting was concluded with discussion of a spring event. Several options were available: (1) a "nonevent," continue having activities throughout the whole term as in the past; (2) one week of daily events; (3) two week-end events, such as a folk concert and a rock concert; (4) a "College Spring Week-End," or (5) Harrisburg Rock Festival III. The persons present favored a spring week-end in which events would be scheduled from Friday to Sunday, such as films, cultural events, folk concert, rock concert, crafts, etc. This would offer a variety of interests to students. Further discussion was postponed until the following meeting, in which a decision was to be made on what action the Social Committee will support.
