

Editorial

Senior Petition For Graduation Is Not Practical

Last week a petition was circulated among graduating seniors to have commencement held outdoors.

The seniors had received a notice from Francine Taylor, public information officer, informing them graduation would be held indoors at the Hershey Community Theater.

The Reader empathizes with those seniors who want an outdoor graduation. We agree that the traditional outdoor commencement for June graduation is psychologically more desirable.

However, for practical economic reasons, we do not support the seniors' petition.

We have been informed by Taylor that if graduation were held outdoors it would cost four times more than it will at Hershey.

The extra costs include the rental of chairs, organ, sound system and overtime pay for school personnel. An additional cost would also be incurred for the rental of an outdoor location in the event of rain.

With the possibility of a tuition increase next year, now is the time for all students to consider the fiscal side of any issue.

Another concern of the seniors, as noted in their petition, is the guest attendance at graduation.

Taylor's office has provided the following figures: The seating capacity of the Hershey Community Theater is 2000. There are 459 graduates--412 undergrads and 47 grads.

Taylor expects 400 graduates to attend commencement.

With the three tickets mailed to each graduate, this brings the anticipated attendance to 1600. Remaining seats for additional guests would total 400.

Taylor has informed the Reader that additional tickets are available to graduates on request on a first come-first serve basis.

Congratulations To XGI's

Congratulations are certainly in order for Capitol Campus's X.G.I. Softball Team. This past weekend at University Park, the team proved to the other 31 participants that they were the best when they walked away with the "first place honors". Well done, team.

Sincerely,
The French Ticklers (5 and 0)



The Capitol Campus Reader

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Letters

to the Editor

Open Letter From Provost

For the last three years the Student Government Association and the Campus Health Service have received complaints from students concerning smoking in the classrooms. There have been many instances of smoke sensitivity, upper-respiratory infections, headaches, irritated eyes, and other medical conditions resulting from the smoke in the air.

In order to try and alleviate this condition for non-smokers and at the same time not penalize the smokers, it is requested that the instructor set aside one section in the classroom, e.g., the last two or three rows, or an area adjacent to external ventilation, as a smoking area, and all smoking be confined to that area.

It is hoped that all smokers can see and appreciate the position of those who are non-smokers, and vice versa, and that everyone will concede a little so that conditions can be a little more tolerable for everyone.

Sincerely,
R. E. McDermott
Provost

Parking Rules Unfair

I feel the rules and regulations governing the parking facilities on this campus are unfair and grossly out of proportion and unduly harsh.

If Capitol Campus was not almost exclusively a commuter campus and if bus transportation was more readily available, cheaper and within easier access, it might still be in question since employees of industries on federal/state property across 230 are able to park gratis while students (most of whom are on very limited incomes) are forced to pay outrageous fees each term or submit to the clicking heels of a "Mr. P".

The existing rules should be modified and voted on through a Student Referendum.

Car owners--WAKE UP! Stop allowing bureaucracies to penalize you for their lack of planning. I could easily find other ways to spend the money I am now forced to pay for state inspections, maintenance, fluctuating fuel prices, insurance, parking fees, etc., etc., not to mention the drain fighting trucks and elephant-sized campers on the expressway expended daily. I would be thrilled to leave the driving to "them."

"Pissed"



Spokesmen from the White Roots of Peace meet with the local media during a press conference held in the Gallery/Lounge.

photo by prouser



A reception was held for the members of the White Roots of Peace, a group of native Americans who tour the country lecturing on the problems facing Indians today.

White Roots Of War

Commentary

by James A. Ferrier

The "White Roots of Peace" brought enough red herring to Capitol Campus recently to give mercury poisoning to the entire campus population.

Coyote, a member of the American Indian group, unloaded his canned pitch by the case under the guise of a question-and-answer period with the multi-media journalism students in the Current World Events class.

The cigarette-smoking native American began the period by attacking the American form of government and what he termed the controlled press.

He lashed out at the coverage of the occupation of Wounded Knee, claiming the press was condoning a "second massacre" there rather than reporting what was actually happening.

When he asked for questions from the class, the first concerned whether the Indians and the blacks share similar problems in the United States.

Coyote said the Indians who had been "forced" into the cities had the same problems as the other minorities but the rural Indians' plight was different.

That was the only question he even half answered. For the next hour, the cowboy-booted robot spouted his well-rehearsed pitch with no regard for the questions.

He said that all the Indians want is to be allowed to govern themselves, claiming the American form of democracy is a 199-year failure because the individual does not have a direct voice.

He did not offer any way for the millions of Americans to sit down for a big tribal council.

The spokesman said he was there to offer a counterpoint to the typical Indian stereotypes and then proceeded to lump all white people into a stereotype.

He attacked the churches and schools, saying man is born with all the knowledge he needs, but the man named after a prairie wolf spoke in many technical terms that could only be learned through study.

Coyote's points about pollution and overconsumption of natural resources were well-taken but his claims that we should all return to the land were absurd. There is not enough land to support the world's population in "the natural way" he proposed.

The "White Roots of Peace" only brought war on the white man's schooled intelligence. Spewing out their memorized "inate" knowledge may have done more to hinder their cause than to help it.