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Equipment theft - inside job?

By Joan H. Klein

For at least one person, Christmas came early this holiday season. A thief, or thieves, broke into the Humanities Office during the weekend of November 30 and stole recording equipment valued at \$3,000.

The equipment was purchased with a grant from the Gifts and Endowments Fund through University Park. Plans for a secure music room had not materialized and the equipment had been housed temporarily in Dr. William Mahar's office.

"Our security people feel it was definitely an inside job," said Mahar. "There was no evidence of forced entry," he said.

Mahar said obtaining a key would have presented no great problem as security personnel have admitted a lack of control over how many keys are available and who is in possession of them.

Mahar 'was told that changing the locks throughout the school would cost \$20-30,000. The money is not available.

"It is no secret that we are in financial difficulties," said Mahar. "There has been a general cutback of expenditures and part of that cutback has been the elimination of weekend security protection. The thief would have encountered no resistance from security officers," he said.

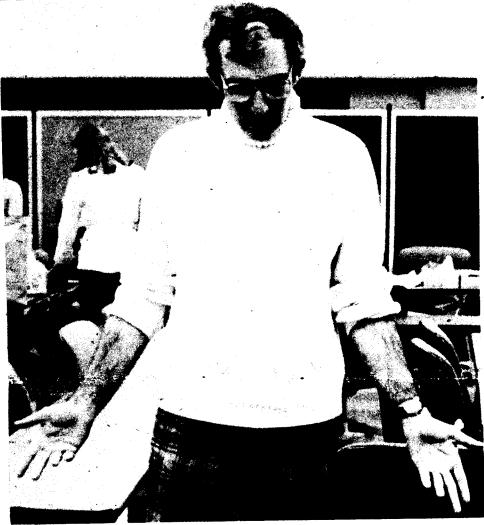
There was no insurance on the equipment. A staggering deductible clause made such coverage impractical. The Gifts and Endowments Fund, which provided the initial \$3,000, is no longer available.

Mahar's initial reaction was to consider cancellation of his proposed music courses. Soon after the theft was discovered, however, he was given permission to replace the equipment and has done

"We have no money in departmental budgets," said Mahar, "so replacement funds had to come from an emergency fund at Capitol Campus."

Mahar theorized the theft may have been the work of a disgruntled former employe, a former student, or a person who specializes in weekend jobs of this sort.

"I tend not to believe it was a student. I'm still an idealist," Mahar said.



Dr. Mahar's expression at the Western Tradition I Greek breakfast last term certainly applies to recent events.

photo by Mike Kondor

Lyda resigns

By Mike Kondor

"It's so nice to have been a part of that excitement, but I want to get excited about other things. To stay as editor I wouldn't have the time."

This is how Lyda Baker, co-editor of the C.C. Reader, summed up her feelings about her resignation, which becomes effective on January 16.

Lyda, who is a 12th term Humanities major, joined the staff of the Reader as a reporter in the fall of 1978. In an interview, Lyda reminisced about her experiences with the Reader:

"Because of my prior experience (feature editor and photographer at Millersville State College) and interest I became associate editor," she said.

She became editor in the Winter term of 1979. Another woman was supposed to be

co-editor; but she was a graduate student and she left the staff when she got a graduate assistantship in the Humanities department. Lyda searched for another co-editor, but couldn't find anyone to accept the position until the Fall term of 1979, when Harry H. Moyer took the post. On the 16th he will become the editor-in-chief.

Lyda reflected on some of the changes she made when she became editor:

"To me the feature section seemed to be the priority," she said.

She worked to have a strong feature section; and she tried to elaborate on what had been established. She also changed the way the paper looked — making the front page bolder; and changing to a bolder, more casual type for the logo. She tried to have at least one photograph on the front page, also.

When asked if she succeeded in making all the changes she wanted, Lyda said: "No, I did not succeed in doing what I wanted to do."

"There's so much frustration," she said.

Lack of people, time, money and campus interest in the paper all contributed to that frustration.

"At the time I became editor perhaps the most frustrating thing we had to fight was the image that the C.C. Reader wasn't worth it," she said

She feels that people were slow in recognizing or admitting that the paper had changed.

As for the future: "The paper was done my way -- it reflected my personality -- so I think it has a lot of room to grow," she said.

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Harry takes over

By Mike Kondor

"I think I want to do the impossible."

Pessimistic statement? Not if you know Harry H. Moyer. You see, Harry is a student of engineering. He has an analytical mind. He thinks before he speaks; and he always has a plan.

On January 16, Harry will become the editor-in-chief of the C.C. Reader. Harry is an 8th term EDET major; and while he may speak slowly, he moves quickly. Last term was Harry's first at Capitol Campus. He came here from University Park, where he was an Electrical Engineering major and member of both the Penn State Blue Marching Band and the Penn State White Concert Band. At Capitol he joined the staff of the C.C. Reader and was elected senator in the Student Government Association.

Why would an engineering student be interested in joining the staff of the newspaper?

"I was interested in helping out because it was a small paper," he said.

Harry noticed that the resident assistant in his dorm, Tony Gladfelter, was the sports editor on the paper.

Harry asked if the paper needed any help, and said, "I'd like to help with layout."

That was a slightly unusual statement, since layout is the "dirty" job on the paper. It is the tedious, mechanical construction of the actual newspaper; and no one (except Harry) has ever gotten much enjoyment from it.

"That's still the case there's no one who just wants to do layout," said Harry.

To make a long story short

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