

Campus Forum

Where's the crowd?

Every year it's the same old story: the most vocal sector of the student population on campus starts spreading that nasty rumor that there is nothing interesting to do at Capitol Campus.

You've heard all the lines by now. "I'm bored." "This place is dead." "I had more fun back home." "Nothing ever happens around here."

It is interesting to note that while the perception of Capitol Campus as a suburb of Dullsville seems to prevail, a frighteningly low number of students have been showing up at campus events.

That's right. Events. Pre-planned, scheduled, funded events designed for the entertainment of the campus community. Activities that have been under-attended by the students of Capitol Campus.

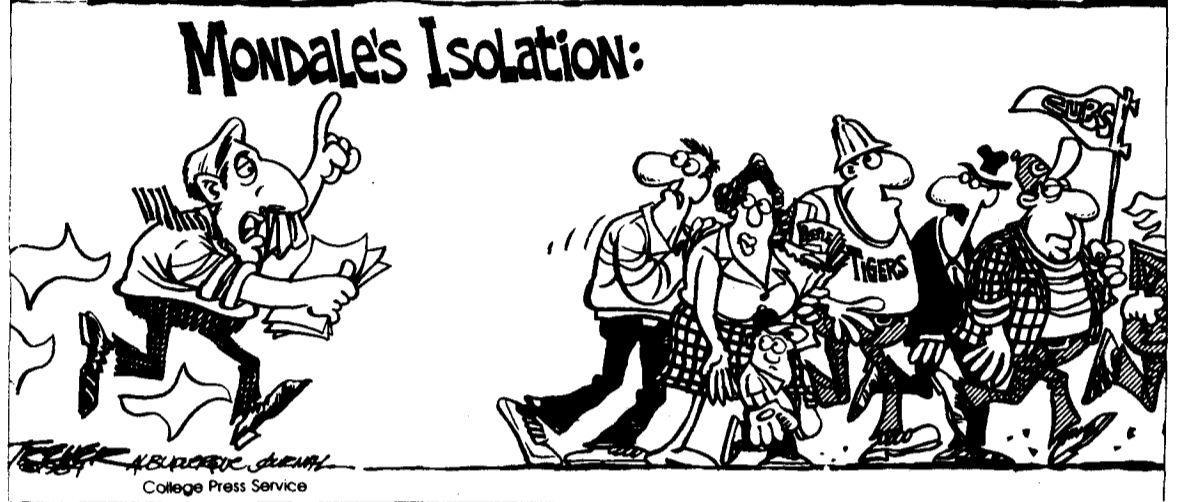
Could it be that everyone simply has much better things to do than attend a dance on campus or a lecture series or even a film?

When the first episode in the "Ascent of Man" film series was shown last month, 11 people showed up. Where were all those who think there is nothing to do? More likely than not, the people who complain the most are probably people who have never attended the Brown Bag Film Series or the First Thursday talks in the Gallery Lounge or any of the dances on campus. For the most part, these events are publicized on bulletin boards all over campus, and leaflets are left around at many appropriate places.

Alas, the complainers say they don't have the time to read bulletin boards or pick up flyers in the Lion's Den. If that were the case, they wouldn't have time to complain about non-existent events that they don't have time to attend. If that were the case, there would never be a repeat of the first evening of school this year, when literally hundreds of people showed up at a Meade Heights party while a scheduled band performed for a handful of students in the Student Center.

There are many interesting activities scheduled for the near future and it would be pitiful if some of them were ultimately canceled because of lack of interest. The Student Union Board of Governors has a series of activities planned as do several organizations on campus. But what good are dances and bands and films if the intended audience doesn't bother to show up? It's time for the complainers to take some time out of their kvetching sessions to participate in the activities of this campus, to become an active part of this campus.

People who don't bother participate have no right to complain.



Letters

Dear Editor,

The time to provide affordable Day Care for the children of PSU - Capitol Campus students is here and the demand will only increase with the coming years.

One-third of PSU - Capitol Campus students live on campus. According to the survey conducted by the Residence Living and Services staff, 24 of the 31 children on campus are preschool age. The majority of parents responding positively to the need for an affordable Day Care at PSU - Capitol Campus. If the remaining two-thirds of the student body living off campus and commuting were to respond with only half the interest of the on-campus students, there would be a waiting list for any proposed Day Care on campus.

Sagging enrollment numbers could be checked and increased by meeting the needs of the growing number of adult learners showing interest in obtaining college degrees and participating in continuing education courses. An affordable Day Care would definitely make the PSU - Capitol Campus more attractive and accommodating to this growing population for student recruitment.

The successful Day Care programs at Reading Area Community College and Harrisburg Area Community College should indicate the response and support available for affordable on-campus Day Care. Our unique Upper-Level Undergraduate/Graduate School would only increase its appeal with the addition of an affordable on-campus Day Care to meet the needs of the adult learner.

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