

From The Editor's Desk . . .

By Kimberly M. Anastas

On behalf of the entire *Capital Times* staff, I would like to say "welcome back" to all.

As we begin the Fall Semester, we are beginning another cycle; time for changes and resolutions.

Evident changes have occurred around this campus. Offices have been reorganized and renovated; walls have been painted. Classrooms have begun renovations and the cafeteria has been remodeled. The Lion's Den has been improved and student living quarters are undergoing face-lifts.

The *Capital Times* has undergone changes as well. Not only are we in a larger, cleaner, nicer office on the third floor, we are working on our appearance.

I hope you have noticed the Faculty Achievements page and the Features page. If so, I hope you have noticed the talents of the student writers and the accomplishments of our distinguished faculty and staff.

Having had the opportunity to work in the Community Relations office during the Spring Semester, I was made more aware of the talent and accomplishments that lie within our faculty, administration, staff, and students. I think the *Capital Times* has a responsibility to make others aware of the awards and scholarships being earned by faculty and students, the promotions awarded to staff members, and the papers and lectures being presented by faculty and administration.

I hope that you, as readers, appreciate the talents which surround us.

I realize that there is news and there are accomplishments which we have failed to recognize. This is where we need your help.

As always, we are open to suggestions for story ideas. Please tell us if we have neglected an issue that should have been covered. Please inform us of interesting events and people so that we may inform the rest of the campus.

Please make us aware of mistakes and feel free to make comments on our appearance.

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Now, I would like to make a plea to the student body. We need reporters and writers. We need reliable students interested in the production of the *Capital Times*. We also need a photographer, preferably one who can develop film.

The time to get involved is now. Take advantage of the opportunity to get your work published. Believe me, it will help. Our first staff meeting is Friday, Aug. 26 at 12 noon. Please try to attend.

Due to a shortage of time and help, articles for which interviews were completed did not get published in this issue. So, look for these stories in the next issue of the *Capital Times*:

- * **Workshop Held To Deal With Diversity**
- * **Student Assistance Center: What It Is; Why You Need It.**

Capital Times

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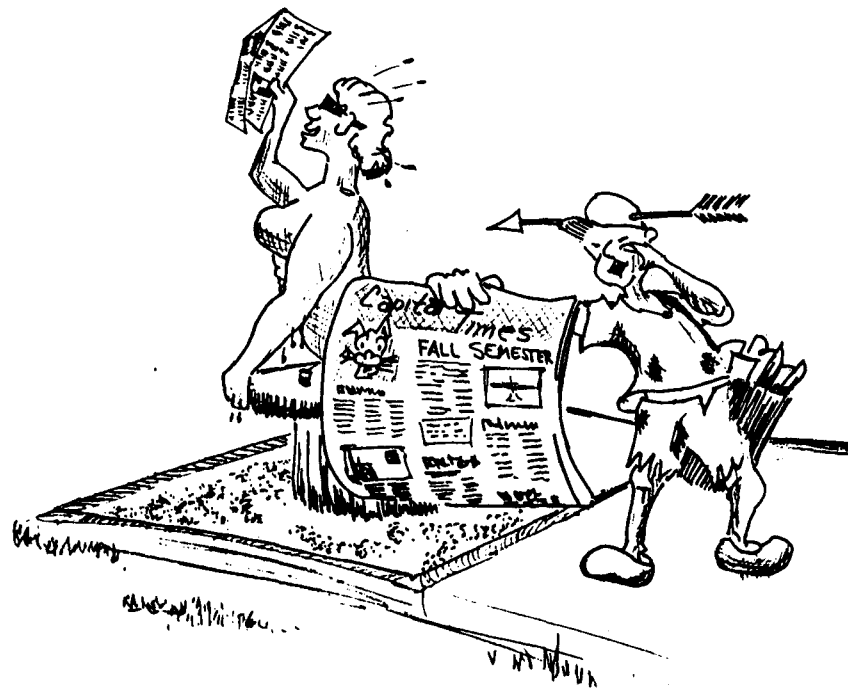
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We're Back!



Students Learn Through Travel

By Laura Karinch

Dr. Irwin Richman of the Division of Humanities certainly didn't take the entire summer off to relax. Instead, he taught two one-week American Studies courses offered through Continuing Education, and were they ever worth three credits!

His first course, held in June, was entitled "The American Country House." Students in the course had the opportunity to visit the Daisey Grubb Mansion (Mt. Hope) and other Central Pennsylvania houses. They toured Penn Manor, the 17th century home of William Penn; Van Cortlandt Manor, an 18th century Anglo-Dutch estate in New York; and an assortment of fabulous country houses in Newport, Rhode Island.

Some of the Newport homes included Cornelius Vanderbilt II's *The Breakers* and Alva Vanderbilt's *Marble House*. *Montgomery Place*, a restored country house on the Hudson River; *Hyde Park*, the Frederick Vanderbilt house; and the French estate in Milford, PA, that belonged to former Governor Gifford Pinchot were also a few of the features of the course.

The second course, held in July, was entitled "Fine and Decorative Arts in Pennsylvania," and included the study of Pennsylvania's furniture, painting, and decorative arts (pottery, silverware, textiles, etc.) since the 17th century.

Students visited area points of interest such as the Hershey Museum of American Life, the Heritage Center Museum of Lancaster, Wheatland (President James Buchanan's Rococo-revival home), and Rock Ford Plantation (the 18th Century home of General Edward Hand).

Farther from home students toured the Chester County Historical Society, the Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford, the H.F. DuPont Winterthur Museum in Delaware (a must for anyone interested in American Furniture), the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia.

Evelyn Hunt, a humanities major who took both of these courses and three other study-tour courses from Richman, said,

"Some people might never get to see the things we see on these courses. And with his contacts, we are treated better than if we were in another group or by ourselves."

The Pennsylvania Arts course ran from 8:00 or 9:00 a.m. until late evening for five straight days. An orientation/social the day before and a final exam the morning after these five grueling but enjoyable days rounded out the week-long course.

Perhaps the most onerous day of the course was the first. On this day, Richman presented lectures of all the background material necessary to take advantage of the subsequent days of travel, films, and outside lectures. This consisted of hours of lecture. Thank Heaven Dr. Richman has an interesting sense of humor!

Quite a few hours of studying on the bus were necessary throughout the week, as the final exam took place on the last day of the course at 10:00 a.m. A paper due one month following the course completes the requirements.

These study-tour courses have been praised as well as criticized. But the consensus among students that have taken one of these courses seems to be that they are definitely worthwhile. One becomes saturated in the subject matter and learns rewardingly by doing and seeing as well as by studying.

Another benefit of these courses is really getting to know other students. Spending an entire week traveling with new people is bound to be rewarded with new friendships.

Next summer, Richman will be teaching two more study-tour courses: "America's Colonial Capitols," June 18-24 and "Landscape Garden and Art in America" from July 30 to Aug. 5.