

From the editor's desk . . .

By Kimberly M. Anastas, editor-in-chief

Too often we are ready to criticize, downplay and complain about anything that doesn't please us or meet our expectations. Human nature? It depends on your philosophy.

Philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche would say that whoever does not seize the opportunities he is offered is lazy. "Shyness perhaps, in a few rare cases, but in the majority it is idleness, the 'taking of things easily,' in a word the 'tendency to sloth.'" *

As college students, we all have opportunities to enhance our education through learning experiences in and out of the classroom.

Last week, Norman Podhoretz, *Commentary* magazine editor, author of several books including two volumes of autobiography, and spokesman for the New Right, lectured at Penn State Harrisburg.

Based on my own experience of attending functions at this College, the crowd was a little better than average for the 8 p.m. lecture in the Capital Union Building. The Q&A session for students and faculty in the afternoon was almost SRO.

Impressive? I think not. Some classes were required — excuse me, advised — to attend either the afternoon or evening session. Being as Thursday evenings are loaded with entertainment favorites on NBC, many students opted for the afternoon session, thus packing the Gallery Lounge.

I realize that PSH does not fit the norm, as college campuses go. Many students work, have families or attend night classes to accommodate their daily lives. Therefore, it is more difficult to have a "typical" college environment with more evening and weekend activities. But shouldn't we try to take advantage of those events which are offered?

Okay. Okay. I must admit that I am not surprised that many people never heard of Podhoretz before the Provost's Lecture Series was announced. (Not much can surprise me after learning that there were actually people who had never heard of Richard Secord.)

But whether you'd heard of Podhoretz or Secord or not, the opportunity to hear their speeches was there for the taking.

There are many opportunities at Penn State Harrisburg. That is, many opportunities if you are not too lazy to find them.

Lectures, comedians, bands and Bulava dancers aside, think about the clubs and organizations which have been established to teach us about leadership and cooperation, not to mention fun.

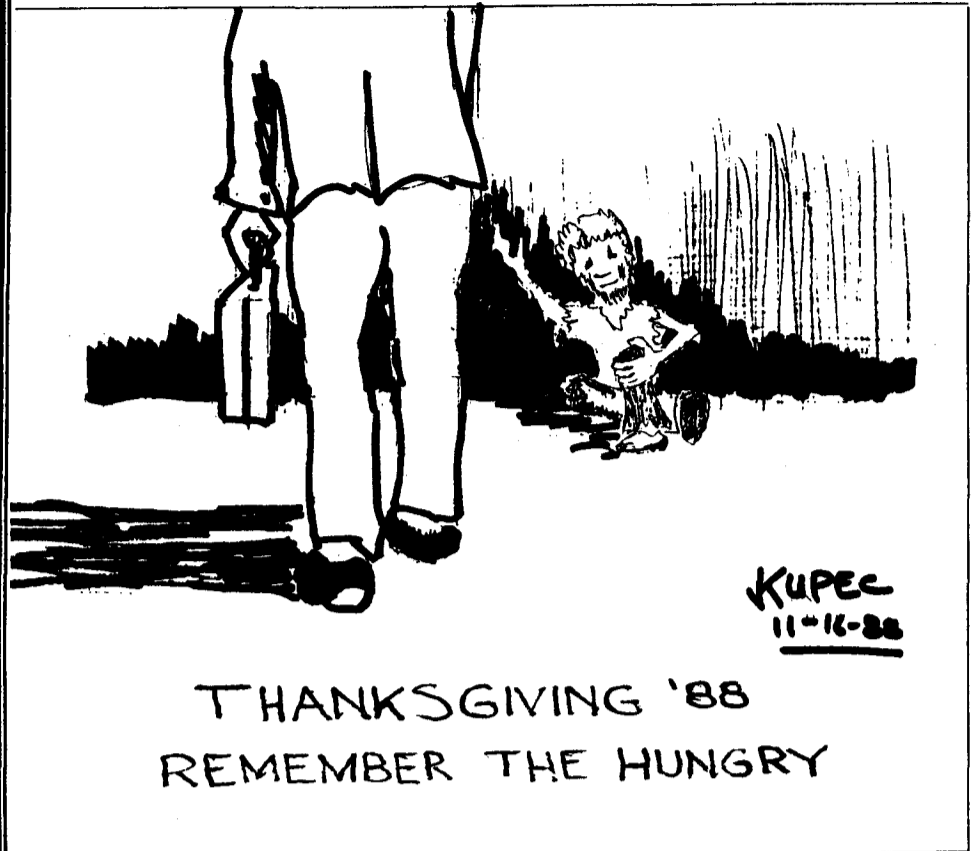
How many information systems majors are not members of DEIMA? How many accounting majors are not a part of the Accounting Club? How many engineering technology majors don't know that there's an IEEE, a PSPEC or an ASME? From experience, I know that there are communications majors who are not involved with *Capital Times* or WPSH.

Why?

Slothfulness or shyness; only you know.

"The man who will not belong to the general mass has only to stop 'taking himself easily;' to follow his conscience, which cries out to him, 'Be thyself! All that thou doest and thinkest and desirest is not — thyself!'" *

* From *Thoughts out of Season*, by Friedrich Nietzsche.



Win Money! All Students Eligible

At last, a contest everyone has a chance to win. Each semester the *Capital Times* will offer three prizes — \$50, \$25, \$10 — to the top three submissions which are printed in the newspaper. You don't have to be a staff member to win.

It's easy. Help yourself to the guidelines below.

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"Excellence in Student Journalism Award" Guidelines

1. Photos, cartoons, stories will all be considered for that semester in which they appeared in the *Capital Times*.
2. To insure suitability of your submission for printing, contact the Editor of the *Capital Times* in Room W-129, or leave a message in *Capital Times* mailbox in Room 212. If you are having trouble thinking up a topic, contact the Editor for an assignment.
3. Editor of the *Capital Times* makes the final decision on whether copy is to appear in the newspaper.
4. One prize per student per semester.
5. An independent committee of Penn State staff members will judge the work. No *Capital Times* members will be on this committee.
6. All stories must be typed and double spaced with author's name at top of each page.
7. Excellence in Student Journalism Awards are open to all student, undergraduate and graduate, of Penn State, Harrisburg.
8. Winners will be announced within 7 days of the appearance of the final paper of the semester.
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