

Letters to the editor

Be patient with WPSH, manager asks

Dear Editor,

Many members of the Capital College community have expressed discontent for the static in WPSH's signal in the Lion's Den. I think that if people understand our situation then they will be less likely to complain so quickly.

WPSH is an AM carrier-current radio station. Basically, that means that our signal is carried through the electrical system in the Olmsted Building and in the dorms. To receive our signal, all one has to do is plug in a radio in Olmsted or the dorms. The only place this doesn't work is in the computer labs. Computers emit radio frequencies, "RFs," which, in turn, block the signal.

Electrical systems were not designed to be antennas. Therefore, and quite frequently, static or interference is a problem. To make the situation more difficult, if rewiring is done, or more electrical equipment is added, the signal is affected.

Since WPSH has been on the air, we've faced the problem of "cleaning up" our signal. We have done everything in our power. The only step left for us at this point is to get a better "match" with our transmitter. This is going to take time and money.

We are doing the best with what we have. All we ask is that everyone try to be a little more patient with us. There is only so much a student-run organization can do. We have learned not to expect miracles with our system. We please ask everyone on campus and in the dorms to do the same.

Judy L. Hricak
WPSH General Manager

Should alcohol be prohibited?

Dear Editor,

Last week, a student approached me with a question which I believe concerns a lot of students on campus.

He asked, "Why are faculty allowed to have functions on campus that include alcohol while students are not?"

To answer this question, I went straight to the Pennsylvania State University "Policies and Rules for Students" handbook which states: "The purchase or transportation of beverages containing alcohol in open containers is prohibited except:

* Individuals who are 21 years of age or older may possess and consume beverages containing alcohol in their rooms or in the rooms of other adults in University residential units. Conduct such as disorderly parties resulting from

the consumption of alcohol or that otherwise interferes with the rights of other persons is prohibited.

* By individuals who are 21 years of age or older, at facilities which are licensed by the state.

* Adult graduate students and graduate-registered student organizations may serve beverages containing alcohol to adults in facilities owned by the University which are available for such use if, but only if, no monetary charge is made for admission to the function and the function is not open to the public. Adult graduate students and graduate-registered student organizations that serve alcoholic beverages in University facilities shall adopt procedures to prevent the service of alcoholic beverages to minors.

* By individuals who are 21 years of age or older on University-owned or controlled property when the sponsor has acquired permission under University Policy AD-18."

If you can understand this excerpt from our rule book, you will see that unless you are a graduate student or a faculty member with permission under University Policy AD-18, you have no hope of ever hosting a function which includes alcohol.

Do you think this is fair?

I have devised a short survey to measure student opinion of this matter. Simply fill out the survey, tear it out of the paper, and drop it off in the *Capital Times* mailbox in 216 Olmsted.

The results of this survey will be reported in the next edition of the *Capital Times*. There is no need to sign your name to this survey, however please indicate your sex.

SURVEY
SEX M___ F___

1. Do you feel that the current alcohol policy here at Penn State is fair? YES___ NO___

2. Do you feel that undergraduate organizations should be allowed to hold functions which include alcohol if they make sure that they do not serve minors and if their faculty adviser is present? YES___ NO___

3. Do you think that we should be able to hold an over-21 night club in the Lion's Den once a month, with alcoholic beverages and a faculty member on hand to check I.D.s? YES___ NO___

4. Do you think that drinking is already a big part of campus social life and that if it were done in a more controlled setting, such as the ones outlined above, everyone would benefit? YES___ NO___

5. What other revisions could you propose for the current alcohol policy on campus?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION !!!

Tara A. McKinstry

Holiday event scheduled for faculty, staff

By Lisa Cutler

All faculty and staff are cordially invited to the 15th Annual Holiday Dinner Dance to be held in the CUB on Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m.

The dress is semi-formal and the cost of a ticket, which will include two entrees, is \$12.50.

The occasion promises to be a joyous, festive, and eventful one.

The evening will commence with dinner -- buffet style. Stuffed breast of chicken and carved London broil will be served, accompanied by boiled red potatoes in herb butter.

An assortment of other tasty delights will be awaiting you including chocolate mousse for dessert. Tea and coffee will be served, but please bring your own alcoholic beverages.

For your entertainment, dance demonstrations of the cha-cha and Viennese waltz will be performed by Duane Crider, director of athletics.

Then it will be your turn to exhibit your talented dance steps in a series of contests. Mixers will be interspersed.

Have no fear; if the waltz is not your style, you will be able to pick up the tempo with more upbeat music such as: U-2, Hewy Lewis and the News, and Whitney Houston.

Whatever your pleasure, the disc jockey will be happy to indulge you. He will also be announcing door prizes during the evening. Don't miss it!

Ruth Heindel, committee chairman of the dance, said, "We hope all the faculty and staff will join in the good spirit on Dec. 10. It should be a great party with delicious food and lots of fun and games."

The committee dance member who sells the most tickets will be awarded two free passes to two Penn State football games.

Tickets may be purchased from the following committee members: Ruth Heindel, Oya Culpan, Valerie Duhig, Clarence Hardaway, Brad Hemstreet, Scott Huebner, Phyllis Klain, Millie Landis, Toni Leggett, Dorothy Macom, Betty McGhee, Jim Rooney, Ann Wade, and Ken Witmer.

Tickets are also available in the provost's office.

Free video tapes available for viewing

Video tapes of "Alcohol: A Special" are available to clubs, classes and RAs from Dr. Ed Beck, W-117 Olmsted, 948-6025. Two video tapes, approximately two hours each, can be used for events and education programs. They are free.

Album Review Hothouse Flowers is hot

By David A. Blymire

Hothouse Flowers may just be able to distinguish itself in the fact that it is a new band from Ireland that doesn't sound like U2.

In fact, it is virtually a polar opposite.

Hothouse Flowers
People
(Island Records)

While U2 has brought a rather sober sense of responsibility to pop music, Hothouse Flowers maintains a flirty joy; not too heavy, but not too pedestrian, either.

Hothouse Flowers spins tales of people in various circumstances, with an "up-with-people" sense of hopefulness, sounding something like a cross between 10,000 Maniacs and Bruce Springsteen; pleasant to the ear, but not lacking grit.

While singer Liam O Maonlai growls like the muscular New Jersey native, belting out the album's blues songs with unquenchable soul, the band stops well short of being a Springsteen rip-off.

The Irish quintet's reliance on rhythm and blues tinting combined with an organ, a piano an acoustic guitar, a mandolin and other strung instruments make it not only eclectic, but also (I almost hate to say this in the post-disco age) *funky*, at times.

The lyrics describe an easy-going look at people and offer hopeful messages, especially in songs like "Forgiven." Maonlai sings "We have been wrong/But the light will save us."

With a moderate tempo, "Don't Go" asks a friend not to leave while there is so much to be enjoyed. "While the sun smiles/Stick around and laugh a while."

But it isn't all roses. "The Older We Get" is about achieving greater maturity. "The older we get/The further we see/The more we mean to each other/The more you mean to me."

People is a fine debut performance, but Hothouse Flowers has not given us its full potential. This album will, I'm sure, help the band continue the development of its unique personality.

Open house held by Office of Admissions

By Christine Reilly

Students and their guests gathered Saturday, Nov. 5 in the Capital Union Building for an open house.

A representative for the Office of Admissions said that 140 students and guests participated in the event which started at 9 a.m. and ended at approximately 1 p.m.

After a short welcome, students proceeded to meet and talk with different faculty members and student activity representatives.

There were various tours available to the students and their guests.

"The attendance was very good," said a representative for the Admissions Office. "The students really expressed their interests, and I could tell that many of them had good feelings."