

# OP-ED

truthfulness of the Bible. Nothing has ever shaken their faith. If centuries of logic, rationality, and empirical evidence has not influenced them, certainly a few minutes of film won't. (This is, of course, the intentional fallacy in any religion demanding "blind faith" -- there is no possible way to refute "belief".)

What exactly is all the fuss about? In the movie, Christ eventually overcomes "the last temptation." The fantasy or dream sequence is presented as being conjured by Satan and Christ does win out. Is it blasphemous to suggest that Satan, or simply Jesus' own mind, would play a trick on him at the moment of death? Christ is portrayed in the Bible as the Son of Man as well as Son of God. Why do so many people insist on thinking of Christ as only divine with no human qualities or frailties at all? If God had wanted to present Man with a perfect model, he could have come Himself. Doesn't it make sense that Christ would have some doubts about himself? (There is a body of evidence suggesting that Jesus spent his missing years, those not mentioned in the Bible, trying to understand who he was and what part he was to play in influencing others by studying with the great mystic thinkers of the day, the Gnostics.)

I do agree with Blymire that if you want to criticize the movie, you should at least see it first. If you are a history buff, you might enjoy it; if you are a movie buff, you probably won't. It's really not that good. By the way, I have read the book: both are thought

provoking an worth experiencing. One is good fiction, the other is not.

Robert Fellman

## Response

**Editor's note: The following is a letter from the SGA. The Capital Times has agreed to print this letter verbatim. Changes in spacing were made so that the letter conforms to Capital Times format.**

Op/Ed Page

In the October 4 issue of the Capital Times, numerous articles questioned the Student Government Association (SGA), the SGA Finance Committee, and its method of allocating funds. These articles contain factual inaccuracies, which the SGA members feel need clarification

1) Page 1 - "SGA budget method questioned by Clubs" Page 3 - "The Finance committee has been severely criticized by club presidents for their handling of student activity funds."

Reply - A total of 4 out of 25 clubs have questioned their allocation Three of the four clubs have been outspoken.

2) Page 1 - "I can't allot funds that I haven't received," finance committee member Carol Kilko said in defending the committee's newly established policy of notifying clubs of funding only as the money is received.

Reply - Carol Kilko, Judy Farina, and Mitch Sklar have served on the Finance Committee for two years. Funds this year were allocated in the same

manner as last year.

3) Page 3 - "Committee members at first said that there have been cuts in the funds they will have to work with; however, advisor Janet Widoff later said that the SGA will not receive as much money as last year."

Reply - Janet Widoff said the following in an interview with a Times reporter, "SGA initially received the same amount of funding (\$31,900.46) as last year."

4) Page 3 - "Funding problems place the future of Penn State Harrisburg clubs in uncertainty."

Reply - The Finance Committee has carefully managed all its funds, and no club is in jeopardy for lack of funds.

5) Page 3 - "Members of the Finance Committee refused to be interviewed by the Capital Times individually."

Reply - The decisions of the Finance Committee regarding the allocation of funds were made as a group. We are all responsible for these decisions and were uncomfortable placing any one in the position of defending the group's philosophy.

6) Page 3 - "Head of the Humanities Division, Dr. William Mahar, said that SGA should consider the records of performance of the Capital Times and WPSH. He called the two organizations 'educational enterprises' that provide a vital service to the school."

Reply - The SGA Finance Committee considered the records of performance of all the clubs requesting funding. We consider all the organizations to be educational

enterprises.

7) Cartoon on page 10

Reply - All budget allocations are voted on by the full Senate. Ample opportunity is given for questions before the voting takes place. SGA practices no Rubber stamping.

8) Page 1 - Gadsden said, "The Finance Committee is refusing to do what they require all the campus clubs to do--make a budget."

Reply - All SGA financial records are a matter of public record.

Mr. Gadsden requested a deadline for all first-time budget allocations. The Finance Committee is happy to comply and has set Wednesday, November 1 as the 1989 deadline for first-time budget allocations. After November 2, the Finance Committee will make additional allocations that reflect the additional allotment from University Park.

If there is anything the finance committee is guilty of, it is conservatism--keeping a tight rein on available funds. By doing this we hoped to ensure that the available funds are disbursed as fairly as possible.

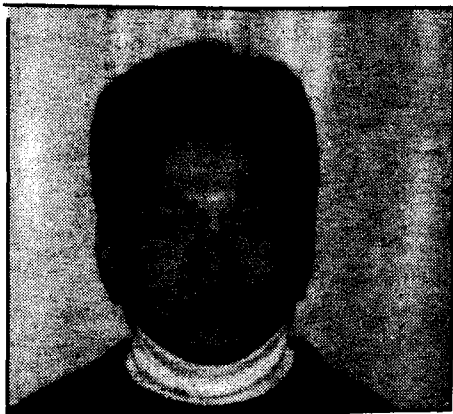
The Student Government Association  
Toni Mandronico  
SGA President

**Join the  
Capital Times  
staff, today!!!**

# Students speak out: What do you think?

**Students were asked the following questions about the issue of homeless people in America: Why do you think the United States, the richest country in the world, has so many homeless? Do you think President Bush's "1,000 points of light" is working? Is the homeless situation getting better or worse.**

photos by Denina C. Benson



Ngoc Thai, 25, Business

**United States** "I think freedom of choice comes into play. They can help themselves if they really want to but without education they don't know where to go. It leads up to the domino effect.

**Thousand points of light** "To be honest, I don't know what it is.

**Homeless** "I think people are more aware of the homeless situation, since they are more aware I think they will do something about it.



Barbara J. Soltis, 24, Communications

**United States** "The phenomenal number of homeless in this country is basically the cause of the way our government is run."

**Thousand points of light** "Please tell me where the thousand points of light are?"

**Homeless** "It's obviously getting worse! When I was in Los Angles this summer I saw people literally living out of cardboard boxes."



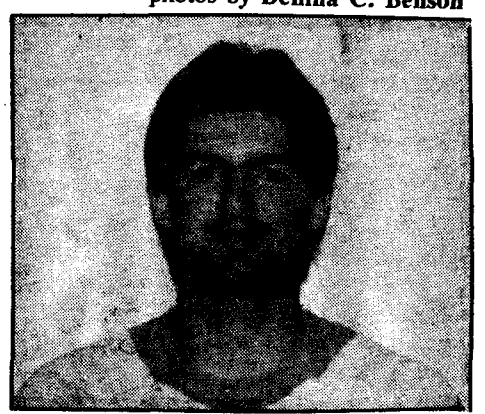
Francelia I. Arnold, 20, Sociology

**United States** "The United States is basically an individualistic nation.

They believe it is not the social structure, the economy, or the government that is responsible for the individual - but that the individual [is responsible for] him/herself.

**Thousand points of light** "As far as Philadelphia is concerned they need housing. Some of the abandoned homes could be renovated."

**Homeless** "I don't think it's getting any better."



Russel Conrad, 22, English/Education

**United States** "In our kind of society (capitalist), some people are going to get ahead and some are going to be left behind. The ones left behind are the homeless.

**Thousand points of light** "I think its more like ten flashlights than a thousand points of light."

**Homeless** "I assume its worse because I've been hearing a lot about them in the media. Before they use to only mention them when the weather was really bad."