

## Warning protects cigarette companies

Mike Givler  
Capital Times Staff

Have you ever wondered why cigarette companies allow the Surgeon General warning on their labels? This was but one question answered by Dr. A. Lee Fitschler during his April 11 lecture in the Black Cultural Arts Center.

Fitschler, the president of Dickinson College, wrote a book on government regulations and smoking, and said there are three reasons why cigarette manufacturers allow the warning label.

According to Fitschler, the first reason for allowing the labels was

because the manufacturers believed that the health warning labels were "benign."

"The companies believed that no one would read them anyways," Fitschler said.

The second reason was to protect themselves from lawsuits. The warning labels, Fitschler said, would allow cigarette companies a fighting chance in court cases.

Fitschler believes the third reason was credited to saving the tobacco companies money.

"State legislatures were ready to make a law to put different labels on the

packaging anyways," he said.

Fitschler added that cigarette companies would save a lot of money by having one standard warning label, instead of printing different labels in different states.

He also said the courts are much more narrow in their interpretation of the warning labels on cigarettes than they are with other warning labels. He said that a case could be made for someone who reaches down on a lawn mower and loses a limb, despite the many warning labels on the mower. This isn't the case for cigarettes.

"If cigarette companies were held responsible," he explained, "there would be no more manufacturing due to the many lawsuits."

Fitschler said this would be bad because the cigarette companies would go out of business and cigarettes would become a black market item. Other results would include prices going up and a loss in control of distribution.

Fitschler also said cigarettes are a major export item for the United States, and if there was a prohibition period declared on cigarettes our trade export deficit "would sky rocket."

### Saddam's terror...

## Professors concerned about Kurdish future

Pat Byers  
Capital Times Staff

Penn State Harrisburg engineering professors Alireza Rahrooh and Alhmdoullah Ansary say they fear that unless the U.S. keeps its Gulf War promises, millions of Kurds will die at the hand of a dictator.

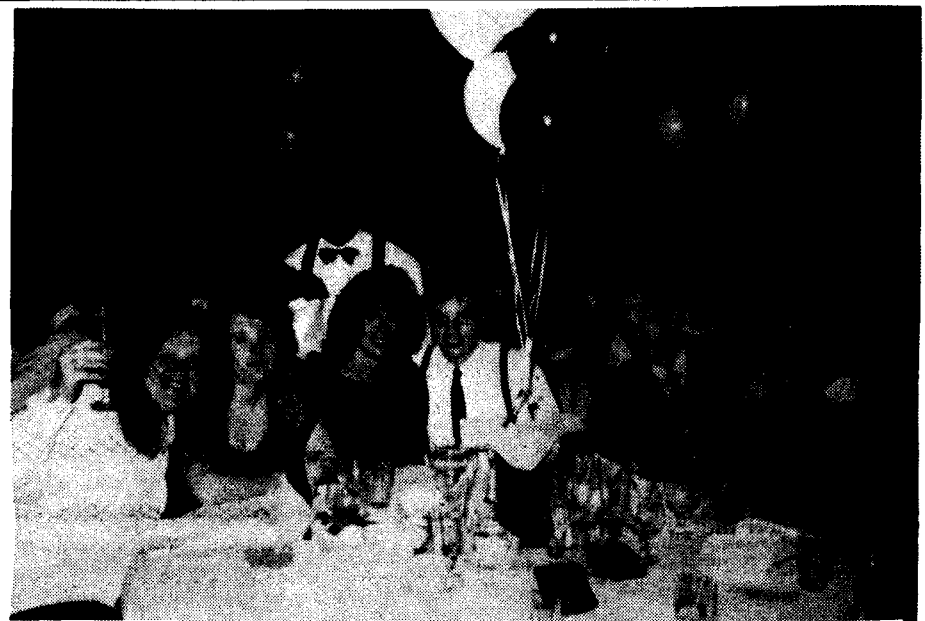
Rahrooh, a Kurdish-Iranian, finds it difficult to understand why the United States and its allies did not finish the job they started during the Gulf War. He said the whole idea of going into Kuwait was to "go in and get rid of this guy [Saddam Hussein], but they didn't finish the job. Rahrooh said that another six hours could have completed the mission. Instead Saddam was left to kill again.

Rahrooh said that claims made by the United States that Saddam's army is destroyed is false.

"He still has chemical weapons capability," Raroooh explained. "As soon as the United States pulls out, Saddam won't hesitate to use them again on the Kurdish people."

Ansary said that Kurdish activist groups springing up throughout the United States and Europe will be ineffective against Saddam Hussein without international support, and without that support the Kurds will face death and destruction from a self-imposed exile in the desert or a pseudo-autonomous existence within the borders of Iraq.

See Kurds, page 3



A group of students enjoy themselves at the annual spring semi-formal.

Over 250 Penn State Harrisburg partygoers, faculty, staff and guests attended the annual spring semi-formal at the Sheraton East Hotel which also acknowledged the college's 25th Anniversary celebration.

Peg O' Hara, who will be retiring in June, said the semi-formal was the "best" she attended in four years. In addition, a collage of photos represented

Penn State Harrisburg's past 25 year's of activities.

"It was a great social gathering for students and faculty to celebrate together," said Robert Sandrock, a public policy major.

Suzanne Rosenblatt seconded Sandrock's comments, and said the evening was "very enjoyable as everyone was looking their best."

## Leggett receives teaching award

Maria "Toni" DuPont-Morales Leggett, Instructor of Criminal Justice, has won the James A. Jordan Memorial Award for excellence in teaching.

Leggett, who joined the university in 1988, has research interests in policy, program formation and strategic planning in the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, drugs in society, mandatory testing of sexual

assailants and health issues in correctional settings.

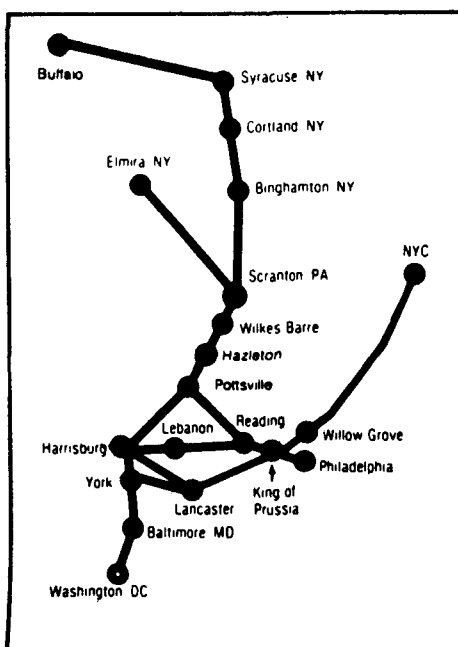
Leggett holds B. A. and M.S. degrees from the University of Arizona.

Nominations for the award are made by the entire senior class during the spring Student Government Association elections. A committee of students interviews the finalists and selects the winner.

### PAPER DUE YESTERDAY?

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