

IAA sponsors free sampler in dorms

Lawrence Bates
Capital Times Staff

An international experience invaded the Penn State Harrisburg dormitories on the evening of April 7.

The Food Sampler, sponsored by the International Affairs Association (IAA) and the Resident Life Program (RLP), bombarded Wrisberg Hall's first floor lounge with an orgy of various tantalizing Mediterranean foods as the lounge was filled with curious and anxious onlookers.

The sampler, a part of the Spring International Festival (April 6 to April 10), featured foods common to the countries along the Mediterranean Region.

An assortment of different aromas lured

unsuspecting students away from their daily activities, such as studying and watching television, in the lounge. Some students were lured by signs advertising free food.

Foods such as fettucini from Italy, honey spiced chicken with orange sauce from France, and North African beef and rice, led the attack on students' unsuspecting appetites. Other foods, such as stuffed grape leaves from Lebanon, orange and olive salad and Serbian flat nut roll from Yugoslavia, also were on the menu.

Ed Shedlock, SDCET junior, said he liked the Peta bread most, but did try the grape leaves with a Lebanese hommos spread. Shedlock said the leaves were

better with the spread, then by themselves.

Kirk Smith, a public accounting junior, tried the fettucini made by Mike Hermick, president of the Student Government Association.

"It's good," he said, "but no better than grandma's."

Chelle Baker, IAA treasurer and math science senior, said "The club has sponsored this program for five years. Each year a different touch of culture is brought to the students, at no cost to the students living in the dormitories."

After choosing their samples, the residents socialized in the lounge or outside the lounge, while others chose to return to their rooms after filling their plates with food.

Bill Stoner, IAA member and a graduate student in psychology, said the sampler was "one of the most successful programs with the campus residents."

Most students in the dorms felt the same way.

"The program is a good idea because it is both a social and educational program," said Barb Turk, a resident assistant and communications senior. "It provides more diversity to the campus and gets everyone together to sample foods from other cultures. It also gets more people involved, thus making it an excellent program for the dormitories."

By about 10 p.m. most of the food was gone, the aroma slowly subsided and life returned to normal in the dorms.

Faculty Womens Club continues aid for students

Maryann Harpin
Special to the Capital Times

The Faculty Women's Club celebrated its 20th anniversary of helping financially strapped students on campus last year, and will be awarding yet another \$500 scholarship later this month.

Initially, the club was formed to provide social fellowship for female faculty members and wives of faculty. Later, membership expanded to include all female staff personnel. Its focus changed from social to service when the members founded the scholarship and loan fund, which provides monies to students in need.

"We used to pay a student's entire tuition but as the tuition increased, we began to offer \$500 scholarships and loans up to \$1,000," said Joanne M. Smith, retired faculty member of the Humanities department, former director of the Writing Lab, and current chairperson of the Scholarship and Loan Fund. "We provide short term loans, which are paid back within the semester, and long term loans, which the student pays back after graduation."

The memorial scholarships are awarded in memory of a recently deceased faculty member or spouse, "when a student has a need and when we have the money," said Smith. "These monies are grants and are

not repaid."

The recipient of a memorial scholarship typically has a "B or better average, a financial need and displays good character, providing letters of recommendation and examples of work experience and/or service to the community," said Smith.

The Faculty Women's Club, whose current membership numbers approximately 26, has awarded two scholarships this year and has contributed \$250 to the Dr. Micha Dordevic scholarship fund, which is sponsored by the Humanities department. Dr. Dordevic was a senior member of the Humanities department through the 1970's and into the mid-1980's.

The next scholarship, the Rudy Jones Memorial Scholarship, will be awarded on April 26th. Rudy Jones was an Engineering Technology professor who specialized in computer sciences in the early '70s.

In October of 1991, the wife of the former provost and dean Dr. Theodore Gross, Selma Gross, was memorialized with a scholarship in her honor. In all, the Faculty Women's Club has given

\$1,250 this school year to students in financial need.

Members of the Faculty Women's Club earn money by catering receptions on campus and by holding bake sales. At a bake sale held on April 13th, the club raised over \$400 to add to its fund. They will be working at the library book sale this week, April 21-23, contributing those earnings as well.

Over the last 20 years, the Club has awarded 21 scholarships, totalling approximately \$11,000 and provided over \$24,000 in loan funds to over 100 students. As of February 10, the loan fund had an approximate available balance of \$3,000 which could be tapped by students.

Valerie Duhig, administrative assistant to the provost, is the Faculty Women's Club co-president along with Sylvia Shoup, wife of Dr. Jerry F. Shoup, CMPET, EET Program Chairperson. Duhig believes that the objective of the club is "to do good while enjoying each other's company, a felicitous combination. The members care about this college community and work hard to provide loans and scholarships for students in financial need."

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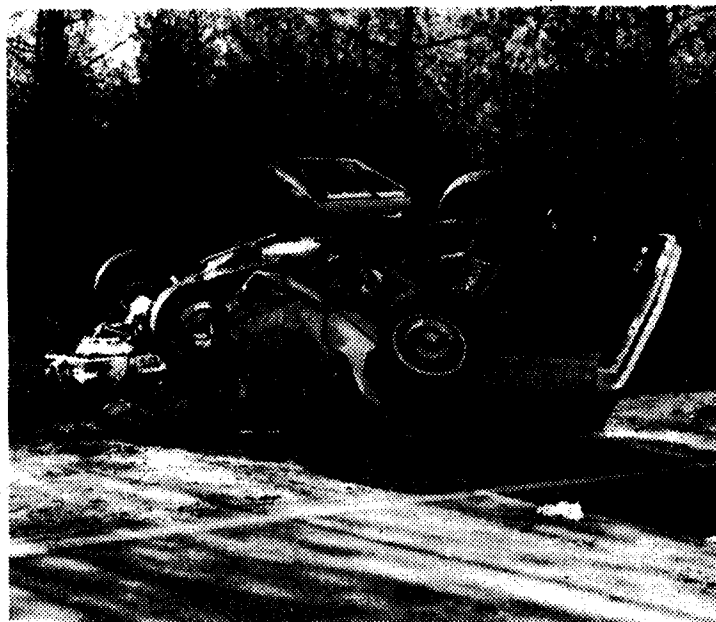
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