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Police raid parties in Meade Heights

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Police broke up two parties in Meade Heights on Friday, Oct. 23. Ten students will face the Dauphin County district justice to determine specific charges and fines.

As police checked IDs in a Flickinger Street house, a group of people stood on the sidewalk singing "Give Peace A Chance."

During the commotion, a Middletown police car had a tire slashed and a window broken. Middletown police refused to comment about the car.

"We received a lot of complaints, mostly from students, about noise levels and late nights," said Charles Aleksy, supervisor of safety and police services. "We noticed that there might be some liquor laws being violated."

The investigation was planned for a Friday night because that's when the most complaints are made.

Middletown, Lower Swatara, Steelton, Highspire and Airport police departments volunteered officers to assist in an investigation.

"The cops found marked bills from an undercover cop," said Ryan Crouthamel, a senior mechanical engineering technology major.

Crouthamel and John Field, a senior mechanical engineering technology major, waited in the back of a Penn State police

car for an hour while the police hit another party on Flickinger Street.

"I had to wait in the house until my friend went to my house to get my ID," said Buddy Dodson, a senior electrical engineering technology major.

People detained by police heard no explanation of what charges they would face.

"They took us to the police services building and took our names and addresses," Field said. "They told us we'd get letters in the mail with the details."

Police confiscated \$131. The money was entered into evidence and will probably go to the county when the hearings are over, Aleksy said.

During hearings with District Justice Robert Yanich, summary charges and fines will be determined.

Summary charges have sliding fines ranging from about \$50 to \$300, Aleksy said.

"It's similar to running a stop sign, you pay a fine but it doesn't go on your record," Aleksy said.

Aleksy said he's disappointed that this happened after the success of the programs during alcohol awareness week.

In the future, PSH police intend to monitor parties and problem areas in the Heights.

Police are concerned that people who attend the parties will wander around and get lost.

Some students have other concerns. "People will go to bars now," Dodson said. "And they'll drink and drive."

Students hate high prices for their unused books

Candy Franks
Capital Times Staff

Texts are just another chapter in the Penn State students' handbook of discontent.

According to a Patriot-News survey, Penn State students at University Park, hate their books. It seems Penn State Harrisburg students agree.

"Ridiculous prices," said Jeff Dobbins, a senior electrical engineering technology major. "From last semester to this semester the price of the same book went from \$50 to \$80."

"I paid \$50 for a book I only used once," said Michelle Loeper, a junior communications major.

A senior accounting major tells the same story. "We had to reorder books from University Park because there weren't enough for our class. When they came in, the price from UP was still on the book, and it was about \$3 cheaper than what our bookstore charge us for it."

Although most of the complaints focus on price, some students said professors choose

poor texts.

"The books I've had to buy usually have nothing to do with what the teacher is talking about," said Chris Vail, a junior humanities major.

Professors select books they hope will stay on students' shelves, said Dr. Simon Bronner, professor of American studies. "They're still a good buy if they're well chosen."

In an upper-division college, like Penn State Harrisburg, Bronner says, texts lack more focused topics and lean more toward case studies. His advice is to "choose books that students are going to want to read."

Bronner has written many of the texts used in his American folklore class.

Bronner said the publishers set the price of the text, not the author. The cost of the text is related to the cost of its production. Production costs increase when the content includes photos, tables, charts or mathematics, which is why many engineering and science texts are so expensive.

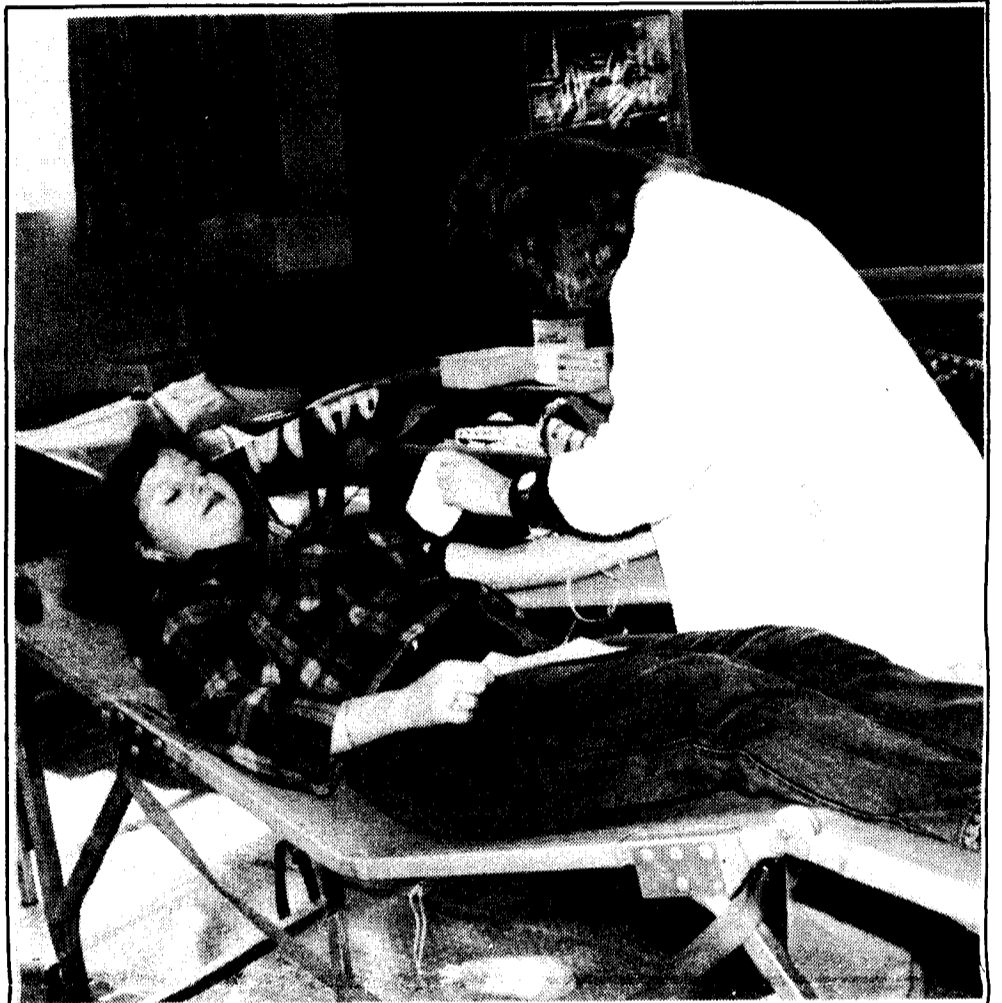


Photo by Jen Walker

A student donates blood for the XGI blood drive in the Gallery Lounge.

XGI Blood drive comes up short of goal

Sue Jones-Yurkiewicz
Capital Times Staff

Eighty-four students donated blood on October 14 during a blood drive sponsored by the XGI's at Penn State Harrisburg.

XGI, a veteran's fraternity, held the first of their two blood drives in the Gallery Lounge to benefit the Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank. This drive was the "Blood Feud" because it's a competition based on the percentage of population donating with the York and Allentown campuses.

John Bedoya, a senior public policy major, was the XGI member overseeing the drive. He said he had hoped the turnout would have been greater.

"I wish we could have gotten over 100 pints," Bedoya said, adding that 84 pints out of 1300 full-time students wasn't a good total.

Bedoya said he hoped the other campuses would also have a low turnout so that the fraternity could keep the trophy it won last year with a total of 103 pints of blood.

But not everyone was concerned with the competition. Most of the students were donating their blood for humanitarian reasons.

Jennifer Bresse Tazerouti, a junior secondary education major, was donating for the sixth time to help people.

"If I'm in an accident, I expect blood," Tazerouti said. "I expect blood, so I should give it."

"I know how expensive blood can be,"

said Barney Reiley, a senior accounting major.

Reiley, a member XGI, had been hospitalized after an explosion. The bill for the blood he received was \$1600, and said he donates whenever he can.

Most of the donors ate the food donated by local businesses or the fraternity while they filled out the donor form required by the blood bank. The form is the first step in the four-step, 45-minute-long process of donating blood. It requests information on recent illnesses or exposure to illness.

The donor would then go to a second table decorated with blue and white balloons to have their blood pressure, pulse and temperature taken.

The third step involved a confidential interview behind one of the three blue-partitioned areas. The donor listens to a tape about diseases that can be transmitted by blood transfusion. The tape is discussed by the interviewer before moving on to the final step.

The actual blood donation time is five or ten minutes.

Lying on one of the six blue cots, Mia Baturin, a senior in behavioral science, said it was her first time donating.

"I had no idea I'd be giving blood today," Baturin said. She said she was comfortable even when the needle was inserted. But, she said the tape on the diseases frightened her.

"It makes me kind of scared," she said. "It makes you think about your future behavior."