

From the desk
of the Editor



Student processional should remain a part of commencement

During Penn State Harrisburg's (PSH) commencement, held at the Hershey Theater last month, graduates experienced another change in the graduation tradition. The student processional was removed from the program format.

The student processional refers to a segment of the commencement opening when all graduates march past their friends and loved ones as they enter the theater to the song "Pomp and Circumstance." They are led by the respective banner-bearer which designates each school/college.

The Fall 1996 graduates were denied that historic tradition. Instead, each student got to sit on his/her \$20 cap and gown and watch *the faculty* processional.

Faculty participation is important to this ceremony. But, let's face it, commencement is not a celebration of the faculty, it is suppose to be a celebration of the graduating class and the entire academic process.

Let's face it, each faculty member has had at least three graduate processions of his own. It's our turn now.

I am

sure that the Alumni and Special Events office, as well as campus administrators, had honorable intentions when they decided to remove the processional from the program.

However, before May 18th rapidly approaches, PSH administration should understand that the student processional must be reinstated in the commencement program.

The ceremony doesn't just mark our individual achievement. It also celebrates our collective accomplishments as a Penn State University campus, and more specifically, as a graduating class.

Education is not a solitary experience. By bringing our similar and opposing backgrounds and beliefs together, we have discovered an understanding of the "other" and ourselves. This element of our collegiate experience is what makes the student processional so important to commencement.

When each individual name is called, and each graduate has the opportunity to cross the stage toward his diploma, it symbolizes those goals reached by the individual.

The student procession-

al is as equally important as it symbolizes our unity as a graduating class. That part of commencement tradition celebrates that we, the graduating class, have achieved our individual goals—together.

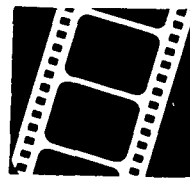
Additionally, commencement is the last time our identity as a PSH graduating class will be clearly defined. As of May 19, 1997, we will be defined within a much larger group: Penn State University Alumni.

It is essential for the upcoming Spring 1997, and subsequent graduating classes to communicate their opinions regarding the commencement ceremony to the PSH Alumni and Special Events office so that they do what we want, and not what gets them out of commencement faster.

Don't believe that graduation traditions belong solely to the University and administration. They also belong to us, the students.

Happy New Year,

Jody L. Jacobs
Editor
The Capital Times



Move
Review:

"The Relic" keeps viewers on the edge of their seats

Nicole Lynn Meck
Staff Reporter

Are myths based on fact or are they just fiction? "The Relic" is a suspense-thriller which is very dark and quick moving.

Penelope Ann Miller plays evolutionary biologist Margo Green, who happens to not believe in superstitions, myths, or legend. She teams up with very superstitious Lt. Vincent D'Agosta, portrayed by Tom Sizemore.

Together, they try to solve a series of gruesome murders.

If you are afraid of the dark, basements, and things that go bump in the night, this movie is not for you.

The story begins with a scientist in South America who is studying a primitive tribe. The tribe has quite a surprise in store for him.



Police detective Vincent D'Agosta, (Tom Sizemore), views an ancient statue that somehow seems mysteriously linked to a series of gruesome murders at a natural history museum in Paramount Pictures, "The Relic."

photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

The movie moves quickly from there.

Lt. D'Agosta finds a ship with no passengers, but it is full of dead bodies.

From there, he goes to the Chicago Natural History Museum to check the homicide investigation from there.

What could the murders from the ship and the death of the security guard at the museum have in common?

Linda Hunt plays Dr. Ann Cuthbert, whose goal is to make sure a benefit will go on. Her performance is great. Watching her entices you to pull out your checkbook and make a donation.

Dr. Albert Frock, (James Whitmore), is a believer in myths and superstitions. He is a mentor/father figure to Margo. Listening to him talk about his specialty is like sitting in the room with your

grandfather. The excitement in his eyes is contagious.

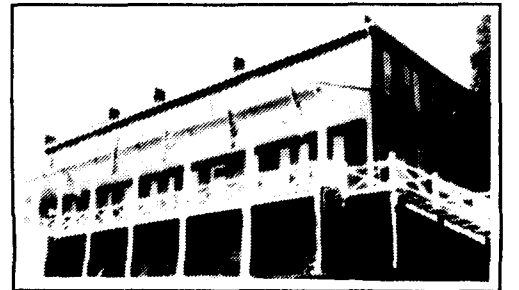
This is a good suspense-thriller movie. It moves quickly and slows only to explain the technical science aspects in the plot, just in case you don't remember your biology from high school.

The story is based on theories of actual science. You will be on the edge of your seat. I would suggest that you make a restroom stop before the movie begins.

The last half of the movie is incredible. Without telling you the ending, I will say that the special effects in the movie are spectacular. Imagine being chased in a maze of dark tunnels by . . .

Myths are based on facts. After watching "The Relic" you will believe too.

Ironmaster youth hostel provides affordable recreation to local area



Kathleen Rice
Contributor

Many travellers are familiar with the network of youth hostels throughout Europe, but few seem to know about the 150 hostels that constitute Hostelling International, American Youth Hostels (HI-AYH). For \$8 to \$22 a night, HI-AYH offers safe, comfortable, environmentally sensitive lodging across the entire United States, and as close as the mountains of South Central Pennsylvania.

Located on the Appalachian Trail in Pine Grove Furnace State Park, Ironmaster's Mansion Youth Hostel attracts travellers who enjoy the beauty and adventure of the outdoors.

The state park offers fishing, cycling, canoeing and swimming, hiking the Appalachian Trail, and cross-country skiing. Alpine skiing is less than an hour away from the hostel at Ski Roundtop or Ski Liberty.

The unique features of Ironmaster's Mansion Hostel include a baby grand piano in the common room, a jacuzzi, a recreation room for ping-pong, a pool, and a volleyball court.

The hostel also boasts a 256-square-foot outdoor chess board with giant-sized chess pieces. Dorm-style accommodations are available at the hostel, along with private rooms for families or couples. The mansion also provides a fully

equipped, self-service kitchen, dining room, laundry facilities, and a comfortable common room.

The mansion was originally built in 1827 as a home for the manager of the local ironworks. The mansion also served as a safe house for slaves travelling the Underground Railroad.

A private residence until the late 1970s, the restoration that converted the home into a hostel began when it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

The hostel is a short drive from Gettysburg's battlefields, the state capitol, Baltimore, and Washington D.C..

Other hostels in the United States are located in large cities, small towns, national parks, and cultural centers. Hostels can be found in a variety of settings such as light-houses, historic homes, ranch bunkhouses, or even teepees. Each has a personality all its own.

The unique features of each hostel provide opportunities for travellers to enjoy local activities and outings, including mountain biking, skiing, white-water rafting, and horse back riding.

They also offer programs and activities such as architectural and historic walking tours, environmental programs, cultural events, theater

outings, and even baseball games and barbecues.

Hostels are able to provide low-cost lodging in a friendly, cooperative atmosphere by operating on a self-help system. Guests are encouraged to help in maintaining the cleanliness of the hostel by cleaning up after themselves and by participating in a small housekeeping chore.

"Hostlers" traditionally bring their own food to prepare in the self-service kitchens and also provide their own towels and bedding. However, linen rentals are available at Ironmaster's for \$2.

HI-AYH members stay at the Pine Grove mansion for \$12 a night. The non-member rate is \$15, which includes the introductory membership card fee.

HI-AYH memberships may be purchased at the hostel, where information is available about the 5,000 hostels worldwide.

Ironmaster's Mansion Hostel is open year-round from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and from 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

For more information about Ironmaster's Mansion AHY Hostel, call (717) 486-7575.

Kathleen Rice is a Dickinson College intern.

MEET PROVOST AND DEAN JOHN BRUHN AND STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4,
MONDAY, MARCH 24,
AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

LIVE
MUSIC

STOP IN
DROP IN
ANYTIME

REFRESHMENTS

7 TO 8:15 PM IN THE
MAIN LOBBY



"Hip hop" dance troupe to perform

To celebrate Black History Month, Penn State Harrisburg is sponsoring an appearance of the Project Concern dance troupe. This Massachusetts-based dance company which has 60 members will perform on Feb. 5 at noon in the Gallery Lounge of the Olmsted Building. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.