

Transition session absentees discover harsh penalties

By Brad Moist

Monday, Aug. 24, marked the first run of Penn State Harrisburg's Transition Sessions - formerly called orientation. The program, in its seventh year, is required for new Penn State Harrisburg students. This year a total of 451 students attended.

But there were some students who did not attend. And those who missed the sessions will not be able to pre-register for the spring semester. A punishment that many find steep.

"I'm not quite sure what is proved by not allowing students to register for the next semester because they did not attend orientation," said Craig Donmoyer, 27, Humanities. "It's kind of like starting life without a manual and not being allowed to go through puberty because you didn't consult God for adult status."

Donmoyer continued by adding, "I've gone through two other colleges and they had no policy like this one. It's definitely one of the more inane policy requirements I've ever come across."

Patricia Bauer, 44, Communications, had

mixed feelings. "It seemed to be an opportunity to plug campus clubs and organizations," she said. "The library tour was worth while. And, best of all, my group won some free candy bars. Quick and painless."

Janet Widoff, coordinator of student services, explained the importance of the program and its advantages. The purpose of the transition sessions, she said, is "to acclimate students as quickly as we can; to acquaint students with the resources here."

Widoff strongly stated that, "We are committed to using this as a tool, because, quite frankly, people are investing two very dear commodities, time and money."

She added: "We are calling them, rather than orientation sessions, transition sessions, because we know that students coming in as a junior have had some sort of college orientation at some point or another. But there are some distinctive things here that we want students to know."

The transition sessions were offered at many different times so students could fit them into their schedule. Some students, either because of a conflicting schedule or just

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because they thought it was unnecessary to attend yet another type of orientation, did not attend.

Students who have already gone through the process have some advice for the students. "Grin and bear it," said Andrew Strong, senior, humanities. "Bend over and take it like a human being."

The Student Activities office is now in the process of scheduling the times for the make-up sessions. They are looking at the second week of October. Letters will be sent out to all students who missed the first one, informing them of the make-up times so they can attend, and thus be eligible to register for next semester.

Thefts cause concern on campus community

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the vandalized vehicles said, "Along with destroying my dashboard, the wonderful folk also made out with my \$400 cd player." The cd player was stripped out of the dash, and the perpetrators found its detachable face hidden in the glove box. "It kinda sucks," he said. "They shimmied my window and went to town."

Stoehr said the cars which were hit all had the more expensive type stereos like Pioneer and Sony, and other cars were simply passed over. "We hope people secure their stuff," he said. It's very important that we get the word out so all the students, faculty and staff are on the lookout for any suspicious activity.

Two mountain bikes were also stolen from outside a Meade Heights home during the first week of classes. The bikes were not secured with chains or locks, and police are asking students to be a little more cautious with their belongings. At this point the two separate types of thefts are not believed to be related.

Any questions, concerns or information about the recent crime spree on campus can and should be directed to Police Services by calling 948-6232 or 979-7976.

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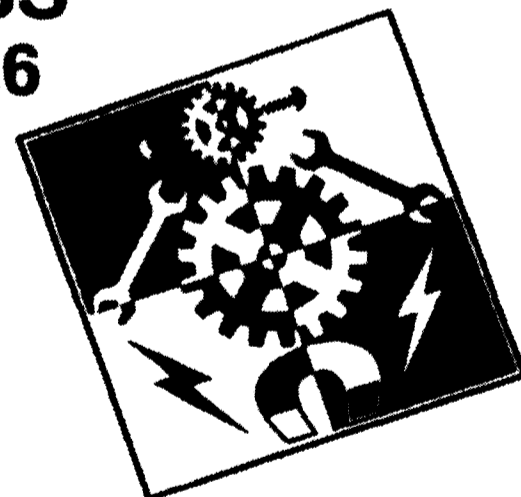
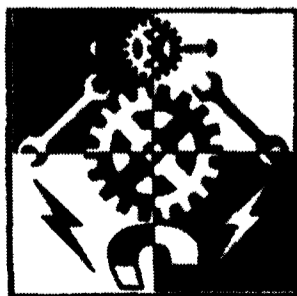
Saturday, September 26

ALL STUDENTS WELCOME

8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Student Center, CUB

Mini workshops, door prizes,
continental breakfast, lunch provided.



Theater Production

"STRANGE LIKE ME"

(isms, schisms, decisions)

12:30 p.m.

For more information or to sign up, stop by the Student Activities Office, 212 Olmsted or call 948-6273.