

THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN

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**LA LA
LAS
VEGAS**

L. to R.—1st row; Nancy Ancharski, Annette Bowers, Mary Rose McElwee, Bonnie Tarasevich, Eileen Gibson, Debbie Heckman, Suzanne Ferry, Maria Coladonato. L. to R.—top row; Denise Neapolitan, Mary Kapuschinsky, Sandy James, Bonnie Bangor, Jean Levkulic.

On October 18, 1968, high atop the Conyngham Valley stood a transformed building called Club Highacres. As one moved closer to the building he heard calls something like this: "An Ace and two Deuces," or "Odds are 5 to 1 over here."

Yes! It was Penn State's Hazleton Campus entertaining many students and their friends at its' annual Las Vegas Night. The evening was filled with fun and laughs for all. From tellers, blackjack dealers, dice fixers to beautiful girls and money this "Lion Casino" had all the makings of almost any casino in Nevada. The dealers of blackjack were the men and ladies with the most money although one would see a few "outsiders" with a sizeable bundle. Heading these crooks was our President of "two armed bandits" Jerry Notaro. Many left his table with less money than they had when they began playing.

Second to him was the crook of all crooks Vince Baiocco. He just sat there with that sly smile of his, cleaning up all the money he could get his hands on. Rumor has it that Frank Carpency got a job in Las Vegas. One would think that he was an expert in his field. When the house would loose, he would lower the odds and vice versa. One person was quoted as saying, "Let's stay here, this is the only game where I can win." Does this imply that the house was always loosing?

An expansion project was taken up by John Barletta where he transformed the student lounge into a one and one-eight mile super-speedway. Like most summer TV programs it was a rerun and many knew who to bet on as the winner. Rumor had it that there were some state-troopers playing at the "games" but nobody seemed to notice them. On tap, were a few kegs of beer

identical in size, color but, unfortunately, not taste to the real stuff.

Let it never be said that our campus does not have beautiful girls. Many an eye was focused on them during the course of the night. They were arrayed in cow-girl outfits and many of them were helping the dealers and dice-throwers clean-up all the money. Rarely, one would win all the money from the dealers; don't forget that he had money in the bank, backing him up.

All in all, despite the odds of going home a winner, it was a fun night. I think it is safe to say that it was enjoyed by all, even the losers. Many will be looking forward into next year, when again the Penn State Hazleton Campus brings forth its ever-popular annual Las Vegas Night.