

Collegian Personality

By BARBARA CALABRESE
Collegian Staff Writer

For those few out there in the world who haven't met Dr. Harold W. Aurand, Associate Professor of History at Highacres Campus, let me take this opportunity to introduce him to you. Since I couldn't possibly describe him in my own words, I decided to interview him and let him describe himself.

The basic questions:

Question: Where were you born and raised?

Answer: "Mt. Carmel, Pennsylvania."

Q. Where do you reside now?

A. "Drums, Pennsylvania."

Q. Are you married?

A. "Yes."

Q. Do you have children?

A. "One girl and one boy."

Q. What colleges and universities did you attend to receive your degrees?

A. "I attended Franklin and Marshall College and then to Penn State University for my Masters and Ph.D."

Q. How long are you teaching at Penn State Highacres?

A. "About 13 years."

Q. What, if any, previous teaching positions did you have?

A. "None"

Q. Dr. Aurand, you wrote a book on the history of coal mining for your doctorate degree, what are the reasons?

A. "I used to work with this old guy who used to be a coal miner. He was still paying his union dues and was going back to mining now and then. I was curious what his values were. The other reason for the book is the fact that I am from the coal mining region."

Q. If you had to do it all over again would you go into teaching?

A. "Yes."

Q. Name two things you would like to change about Highacres?

A. "No. 1, I would like to re-establish the sense of community, that pulls students and faculty together again. I can't remember the last time a student bought me a cup of coffee. No. 2, I would like to get rid of the buying of facades. I used to remember when I could throw a snowball at someone and get a laugh."

Q. What spectator sport do you enjoy the most?

A. "Football, of course Penn State."

Q. What sport do you like to participate in?

A. "Sex"

Q. Students on this campus recognize you by your original hat (off-white sheepskin, Cossack style). Where did you buy it and why?

A. "Well, it goes back years. I needed a winter hat and while looking to buy one at Cook's Department Store I tried on this one just joking. A student just happened to be in the store and saw me with it on. The student dared me to buy it. Well there happened to be two hats there exactly alike, so I bought the both of them. The one I'm wearing now is the newer one. I wore the old one out."

Q. Describe Jimmy Carter in one word?

A. "Dumb."

Q. It seems everyone today has a weight problem, what is your secret?

A. "Hard-work."

Q. There is a rumor around campus that you and Dr. Staudamirer attended the same seminary?

A. "No, actually I was joking in one of my lectures. Dr. Staudamirer did attend a seminary. I tried to enter the convent, but that was before equal rights."

Q. If you had to spend a month in the hospital who would you want as a roommate?

A. "I have to consider first how the other person is going to stand me. The only person who can is my wife."



"Most people attending Highacres associate only with university people and this causes academic isolation," Aurand said. (Photo by David Kraft)

Q. You are also noted on this campus by that black thing (about a 1964 Plymouth 'Cuda) you drive, is it still under warranty?

A. "No. I'm still waiting for the students to pitch in and buy me a new one."

Q. Do you think women's lib has helped or hindered society?

A. "In the long run I would consider it not a hindrance, but some approaches are stupid, especially the quota system. That will do harm later on. Women's lib is an interesting topic but it doesn't do anything."

Q. What was your greatest disappointment in life?

A. "Finding out George Burns is God and not me. That statement results from the time I was sitting in the Commons' Building and it was pouring rain outside. I said to some students the rain will stop when it's time for me to walk to class. Sure enough it stopped when I left the Commons and started again when I entered the classroom building."

I hope from this interview those individuals who did not know Dr. Aurand, know him now and realize there are words not yet defined to explain him.

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Movie Review Some Box-Office Flops

By CRAIG OSWALD
Collegian Staff Writer

Saturday Night Fever—Catch what fever? The only fever here is the one that accompanies the sickness that comes after you see this movie. John "sweathog" Travolta is the star... poor casting. The movie is about a teenage Italian stud who is the neighborhood disco king... poor plot. Most of it centers around a cheap discotheque, a dance studio, and a bridge... poor setting, and is poorly filmed and directed... poor audience. The only good part is the Bee Gees music. My recommendations: First, buy a Bee Gees album; second, stare at a wall; third, yawn. Viola... a replica of Saturday Night Fever.

You Light Up My Life—O.K... who gave these people a camera? To make it easier, I'll just first tell you about the good parts. The film has an excellent young actress. Second, the title song is done well. Now for the bad news... the production, direction, casting, writing, filming, plot, all the other songs, and a movie about thirty minutes too short make this one of the worst of the year. If you like the song... try the 45. Forget this one, I'm trying to.

The Late Great Planet Earth—A very interesting, captivating film. Orson Wells narrates. The film deals with the coming of the end of the world as prophesized by

the Book of Revelations and prophets of that time period. The film excellently ties together predictions of the Biblical wise men and current events that represent the beginning of the end. Also there are numerous references to such phenomenon as the Jupiter effect and swarms of killer bees. This production makes great sense and is extremely believable. After viewing all the factors that can end the world you develop a pessimistic but realistic view. And the film isn't just heresy by one author. Many scientists, most of them Nobel Prize winners or famous authors, also support these views. If you enjoy informative and alarming films, and don't mind being bombarded with pessimistic data, catch this one.

On the Horizon

Heroes—Henry Winkler and Sally Field... it might take a while for it to hit Hozeburg. I'm still waiting.

The Gauntlet—Clint Eastwood as a cop. I always enjoyed his movies. Promising.

Looking for Mr. Goodbar—Diane Keaton is supposed to be excellent, but the movie is lacking.

Telefon—Phones ring and things blow-up. Skip this one.

The Choirboys—This film is one of the better police movies.

Turning Point—A very deep, meaningful movie. For some people's taste.

Victim Of Network Control

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best overall performance is ranked no. 1 in the nation.

One of the many dissatisfied with the system is Mr. Paul Cerula, Business Manager of Highacres. Mr. Cerula has been a follower of the Lions for twenty years and describes himself as "a football nut." "Until, there's a playoff system I don't believe a bunch of writers and sportscasters can be the real judge of who is the best team in the nation," said Cerula.

Without a system the only thing the writers and sportscasters use to make their judgments are their impressions of things on the field. And contrary to popular beliefs, writers and sportscasters are human. Many people feel that personal biases influence these decisions too much. An unfriendly remark by a players coach at the beginning of a season could cost a team points in the rankings for the rest of the season. Feelings for an old alma mater may influence decisions for rankings in closely matched rivalries.

"It amazes me that the NCAA has playoffs set up for all other major sports under their jurisdiction but they haven't formulated a plan for major college football," observes Cerula.

But the writers, sportscasters and the NCAA are not the only ones responsible for the faults in the system. Most colleges fall victim to something known as "network control." Television contracts are

awarded to football teams on the basis of their "drawing capacity," the ability to appeal to an audience. A lot of money is connected with these contracts and teams need this money to balance athletic budgets. Teams will incorporate tougher teams into their schedules and delay scheduled games to a more "convenient" time. This is why the Penn State-Pitt game was delayed for a week. In other words the teams that cooperate alot are awarded the best contracts thus getting national support, and usually higher ratings. The cooperating teams also stand a better chance of going to the major bowls—the Cotton, Orange, Rose, and Sugar. Exposure in these bowls help teams in rankings the following year because they and their football skills are already known to the writers and sportscasters.

However, the NCAA has decided, because of the growing controversy over the present system, to try and improve it. The first step is a "super-Conference" that extends the invitation to help in the creation of a playoff system to the so-called super powers—the Big Eight, Big Ten, Pacific-Ten, Southeastern, Southwest, Atlantic Coast, and West Athletic Conference plus the major independents. Whether this leads to improvements remains to be seen—maybe in the upcoming football season.

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