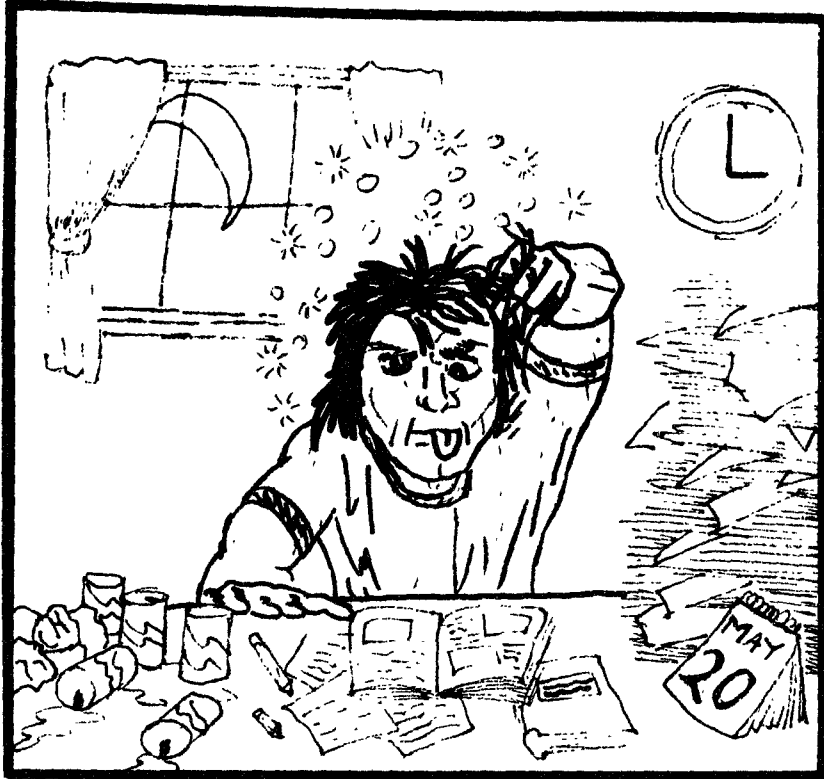


## EDITORIAL OPINIONS



### Wasted Money?

As we look back on this past academic year we ask ourselves if we have made the right choices to contribute to the development of our career. Have we made a worthwhile contribution to the Hazleton Campus? Activities have been held and complaints have been made concerning involvement. This issue has been brought up time and time again. At this point students as well as faculty and administration are tired of hearing these same old complaints. Money is spent to keep the campus functioning on an academic as well as on a social level to provide additional outlets for recreation besides the daily class routine but is it spent wisely?

The campus clubs and organizations are an excellent example of established recreational outlets but have they been used to the fullest? Student involvement is not necessarily the only problem. Clubs such as the Politics and the History Club have been inactive during the course of the year, but funds have been allocated and remain stagnant. Special consideration should be given to those organizations who are necessary for the campus to remain active.

The Student Government Organization President-elect for next year has outlined in his goals the need for campus communication. Money is planned to be spent on additional video communications equipment. What better medium to convey information to students is there than a newspaper. A campus newspaper is designed for this purpose but the students have not been using it to its fullest potential. The newspaper staff is responsible for collecting and publishing news but what good is the paper if the students will not use this medium. The clubs and organizations argue that a lack of communication exists at Highacres but they do not realize that a newspaper is that means. The campus newspaper should be placed on a higher level of the hierarchy when monies are allocated. Another commonwealth campus has received over \$4,000 for newspaper publication, while the Highacres Collegian received only \$800.

The financial problems of the University directly affect the general campus allocation but should additional money not spent by clubs be used to sponsor a party when other organizations are in trouble financially?

The campus financial allocation committee should take into consideration the importance level of certain clubs and re-evaluate the allocation procedure. A more conscious attempt can be made to excavate the campus population from a pit of apathy and eliminate the consequences felt due to decisions made without taking all variables into consideration.

Unsigned editorials represent the official view of THE COLLEGIAN. Views expressed in bylined articles are those of the individual contributor and do not reflect the official view of THE COLLEGIAN. Responsible comment is invited. Letters To The Editor should be signed and mailed or delivered to THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN office.

## Letters To The Editor

### Headline Misleading?

**Editor's Note:** According to the Random House College Dictionary, the definition of boycott is "to combine in abstaining from, or preventing dealings with a person or organization as a means of coercion." A boycott does not necessarily deal with a picket line or other means of forceful action.

To the Editor:

In reading the front page headline and story in the last issue of the Highacres Collegian, one might expect to see a picket line of sign-carrying faculty members at the next Awards Banquet. The headline and the story were incomplete and quite misleading. I am taking this opportunity to set the record straight—at least from my viewpoint.

Presently, the faculty does not have any role in the planning of the Awards Banquet. It should not expect to have one in the future. Surely, it has no desire to have such a role. The Awards Banquet is an affair sponsored by the Student Government Association in conjunction with the Office of Student Affairs and as such it is planned, rightfully so, by students. Furthermore, it is an affair for the students, and the large attendance over the years is proof of its success. Through the courtesy of the SGA, members of the faculty, administration, and staff have always been invited to attend the banquet. Certainly, there is no other obligation on the part of the students.

One simple fact is, that except for actual participants in the program, attendance at the banquet by members of the faculty, administration, and staff has become practically nonexistent. Whether this is symptomatic of a change in attitude of faculty and staff or evidence of a disenchantment with the program is not important. Let them stay home! The students attend in large numbers, they enjoy the program, they enjoy the evening—and that is what counts.

Some faculty are concerned however, with the academic awards presented at the banquet. Customarily, these awards have been a book or journal subscription. A committee, chaired by Mr. Biacchi, has recently studied the academic awards and has made its recommendations. It is unfortunate that the Collegian did not follow my suggestion and interview Mr. Biacchi. My understanding is that the committee recommendations include replacing the

book or journal subscriptions with Nittany Lion statues, a more permanent keepsake, and increasing the number of academic awards presented. One obvious problem will be the increased costs of these awards. The Office of Student Affairs has always paid for these awards in the past, but since they are academic awards it is questionable whether that practice can or should continue. The expectation, of course, is that the money will be found in some budget in some office on the campus, and that the recommendations of the committee will be adopted. What if that doesn't happen?

It is true that some members of the faculty have discussed alternative plans should the campus and university say they are unable to fund the academic awards. One of these plans calls for the faculty to finance these awards themselves, and conduct an Academic Awards Convocation on campus. If that is a plan for a boycott—so be it. At least it is a well intentioned boycott. I hasten to add, once again, that no one expects the adoption of such a plan to be necessary.

If I choose not to attend the Awards Banquet this year, it will be the first one I will have missed in my twelve years at the Hazleton Campus. I am realistic enough to know that my absence will sadden only myself. Enjoy!

M. Leonard Shaevel  
Associate Professor of Physics

### Eat And Run

To the Editor:

On the evening of April 17, the Student Union Board sponsored a free Splash Party with a Pizza Party and film afterwards in the Commons. I was unable to be at the pool myself but was told by those who had attended that approximately twenty-four students participated; the majority were my fellow members of the S.U.B.

However, when pizza was served in the Commons, a number of additional students appeared. They came to "eat and run." I had never seen many of them at any activity before, and they did not stay for the film. They just came to "pig out." The pizza was devoured and several of the

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The office of THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN is located on the ground floor of the Highacres Commons. Office hours are 11-12 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 2-3 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Other hours can be arranged by appointment. Telephone 454-6551. If no answer call 455-9597.