

A CONTINUING SERIES ON GREAT CITIES

Three Things You Should Know About N.Y.C.

by Ken Skuba

Recently I visited the United Nations in New York City with Dr. Miller and students from his two International Understanding Classes. Since I was going to the cultural capital of the United States, and for a mere pittance, I decided I would share my experience with my college peers.

In order to collect some research for this article I thought it would be a good idea to ask native New Yorkers what they think are three things an outsider should know about their great city.

While walking down 42nd Street, I stopped a gentleman, or rather he stopped me. In any event, I decided to interview him first.

"Sir, I'm an outsider from Hazleton, Pennsylvania and I'm writing an article on three things people should know about New York City. Can you give me some advice?"

"Shut up or I'll slit your throat, fella."

That he wasn't very polite was my first impression, but you can't judge a book by its cover. Maybe he was just having a bad day, so I thought I'd revise the question so he wouldn't have to think as hard.

"Sir, could you tell me (one) thing I should know about New York?"

"Give me your money, man, or you'll be an outsider for good!"

Vegas Night A Success

Gamblers, drinkers, and girl-watchers showed up for the annual Las Vegas Night, November 2. The night turned out to be a huge success for the Student Union Board who sponsored the affair. Students came to have fun and to get a change of pace from studying. Blackjack, poker, craps, and Hi-Lo were just some of the things that attracted them. Cowgirls were on hand to encourage gambling and to help out where needed. Door prizes were given away and free food and drink were served at the bar (that included beer for all those beer lovers). The highlight of the night was the cowgirl race at the end. Gamblers could bet money on the girl of their choice and, if their luck held true, could win a prize.

After Las Vegas Night, the fun continued. There was a convoy to U-Park for the All-U-Day football game against Miami.

All-U-Day gives the branch campuses of Penn State a chance to get to know the main campus. Special dances and events are planned for that weekend designed mainly for the freshmen and sophomores of the other campuses. At the football game, the idea is to get all the campuses to show their spirit "in numbers." Displaying banners and flags, every campus of Penn State is represented.

By now there was little air reaching my lungs and I decided to share some of my money with him.

"Would five dollars do?" I gasped.

Apparently he needed more and swiped my wallet ruthlessly. "How about 60-40?"

Conversation seemed to bore him quickly, and he raced down the street without even saying good-bye.

A little flushed but not discouraged, I continued my reporting campaign down 42nd Street. I saw movie theaters up ahead. No doubt I could find someone nice there to talk with. I stopped at the corner and waited for the walk sign to light up, and then I noticed something peculiar. In New York all the cars are yellow and all the trucks look like buses. Someone was running quite a business in yellow cars, I thought to myself. And they were all made by the same company, TAXI.

Most of the drivers of these cars are pretty nice, though. They'll go out of their way to pick up fellow New Yorkers, in busy traffic, just to give them a lift. In fact, I saw one driver come right up on the sidewalk, knock over a newsstand and then beat up the angry gentleman who crawled out of the wreckage, just to give some old lady a ride. Fortunately passers-by helped the gentleman pick up all his change off the ground, but I guess they didn't see the newsman because no one helped pick him off the ground. I offered him a hand and helped him to his feet, then he tripped me and took my watch.

By now I was forming some bleak conclusions about New York City. However, determined to find something nice about it, I headed for the theaters. Gazing up at the billboards I noticed that I didn't recognize any of the names of the films or the movie stars. "Fee Fee And The

PSU Offers Foreign Study Program

Most students at Penn State are unaware that this university offers a Foreign Study program. Depending on a student's major, the countries of Germany, Spain, England, and a nation in South America await him. This program is very beneficial to a student who desires to compare his culture with someone else's. After comparing the U.S. to a different culture, a student can realize just how systemized people become within a society. The courses offered abroad are ten week courses and are very compacted, generally geared to the understanding of the culture being visited. If anyone is interested in this worthwhile program, contact the Foreign Studies office one year prior to which you wish to leave. Also, Mark Gerhard, who is currently on campus, has studied abroad in Exeter, England, and may be able to answer any questions you may have concerning this program.

Buffaloes" starring Sheila Feetzinelli, might have been up for an Oscar, but I couldn't be sure. No one seemed to go into the theaters, either. They just stood around outside in small groups passing their money around to each other. Some of them, mostly women, just danced on the sidewalk. One gentleman, whom I chose to talk with, had his face up against one of the buildings. "Sir, Sir, excuse me Sir, but I'm from Penn..."

"Go away, don't bother me!" "Sir, uh, why do you have your face up against this wall?"

The gentleman pulled away and I saw a little hole where his face was. Then he walked away looking spiritually uplifted, just dazing off into space. What could it be? I wondered, and then I peeked out of curiosity. At last! At last, I found something nice about New York City.

CAB, HEC Plan New Front Entrance

The Campus Advisory Board and the Hazleton Education Council are currently planning a new front entrance for the Hazleton Campus. Due to be completed by the end of the Spring term, the entrance will include sidewalks, stone walls on either side of the road leading up to the campus, 2 stone Nittany Lions, lighting, and landscaping. Local architect John Miorelli, a Penn State graduate, who is working with the Board and Council, developed the plan in

consultation with the Physical Plant Department at University Park.

The last major project sponsored by the HEC was the raising of \$225,000 in 1966 as seed money to expand the Campus. This project resulted in the new Classroom Building.

No definite figures for the cost of the project have been determined, but preliminary estimates set it at approximately \$30,000.

Highacres Poll Finds Ford The Winner

In the last issue, the Collegian published the results of a poll which asked 10 percent of the student body to choose the candidate they would vote for in the Democratic primary election. The candidates were President Carter, and Senator Ted Kennedy. Senator Kennedy was the victor. In a more recent poll taken by the Collegian, 10 percent of the student body was again asked to participate. This time they were asked who they would vote for in the Republican primary election, with the candidates being Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan. The results claimed Ford as the victor over Reagan.

Five percent of the students surveyed stated they would not vote for either candidate. Most students who said they would

vote for Ford commented that he did a good job before and felt that if given the chance he would do a good job again. Other students who chose Ford felt that Reagan did not have the experience needed to pull the country out of the economical problems that we are now facing. Many students did not know why they picked Ford; they felt, however, that if they did vote, Ford would be their choice. The students who choose Reagan felt that the country is in need of new leadership and that Reagan is the one who can do the job, however, however the results of this survey clearly indicate that the Highacres campus will support Ford at the Republican primary election. Now as it stands, the big choice is between Gerald Ford and Senator Ted Kennedy.

Table 1
Results of Ford VS Reagan
Student Survey
Highacres Campus

STUDENTS	% STUDENTS FOR FORD	% STUDENTS FOR REAGAN	% STUDENTS FOR NEITHER
Freshman			
Female	72	27	1
Freshman Male	78	20	2
Sophomore			
Female	71	27	2
Sophomore Male	55	45	0

On The Way 'Home'

by Finn Petersen

After walking from the Commons, which was still crowded, I sat down in the car and pondered over the evening's entertainment: "Had it been good?"

It had. The Drama Club's performance of David French's play, "Leaving Home," was one of consistency, with acting at a high level, excepting a few instances of improper inflection.

Easily the audience's favorite character, because of the comic touch, was Jacob Mercer, the father, played by Nick Millen. Mr. Millen's performance was exemplary of good college theatre, and he is to be commended for the extra depth with which he presented Jacob: as the self-centered, dodge-all-

criticism, unable-to-have-his-way husband and father.

Playing opposite him, Martha Beharry's Mary Mercer was also excellent. Although Ms. Beharry's voice became too quiet at times, she gave the part the strength it needed to combat Jacob's tirades, confront her children's radical views and language, console Kathy's loss, and chide Minnie's wagging tongue.

The two brothers leaving home, Ben and Billy, were competently portrayed by Mark Peterson and Jeff Beach, respectively. As Ben, Mr. Peterson's disdain towards his mother, early in the first act, was inflicted with a worldly "Bogie"-esque look, as if to say, "Don't bug me, Schweetheart!" Later in the play we saw him express great love to his mother, and hatred towards his father, but in between these strong emotions, we saw actions that seemed to be pantomime: his facial asides when Billy was discussing his sex life. Going from the majority of his performance, I would have to say that this was a director's oversight.

Mr. Beach's acting, although not dazzling, was very strong in character and realism. This could be seen, felt rather, in the scenes between Billy and Kathy: a young man's indecision on committing himself to love and marriage. As in Jacob, the same trait of stubbornness was there.

Dawn Gyusek delicately played Kathy, a young girl pushed into marriage by pregnancy, then after a miscarriage, making the marriage unnecessary, wondering whether Billy loved her for herself. This was subtly displayed by Ms. Gyusek as she constantly fidgeted with her engagement ring. At times a bit on the quiet side, she was also able to command attention when she wanted.

Minnie, the "Femme Fatale", of the play, was acted by Beth Howard. Dressed to kill, she came into the Mercer household and began to take over, talking a mile a minute with respect for no one, least of all Kathy. These attributes were well carried out by Ms. Howard, but at times I felt as though she were reading instead of acting, and I also haven't quite figured out where a Newfoundlander acquired a southern drawl. Glen Puhak, as Minnie's mute "Formaldehyde Kid," provided the audience with a few comic instances along with Jacob, and through his eyes we were able to see what was really going on in the Mercer's living room.

The director, Dr. Carl Frankel, is to be congratulated on a solid production, as are Nora Reichard, the assistant director, and all the crew. The Commons is not the ideal situation for theatre, especially theatre in the round, but this event was remarkably well handled, and I am sure that the many who attended on the four successive night will agree. To those that did not attend, I can only say that they missed a unique experience.