

Letters

As a frequent visitor and sometime continuing education student, I have been appalled and disgusted by the various vulgarities (comments, additions to cartoons, etc.) that appear on the various bulletin boards on campus. What kind of impression does this make on prospective students, their families and visitors to the campus? Conduct of this type would be expected of eight year olds, not college students. Even at that level,

teachers and principals would not condone this behavior and allow this type of material to remain indefinitely on view.

If you students, professors and administrators have no respect for yourselves, at least have some for this institution of "higher learning" by chastising the individuals responsible and immediately removing the offending material.

Thank you

The Board of Directors of THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN would like to make the "Letters to the Editor" section, featured in this issue, a regular column in our upcoming issues.

Letters to the editor may include response and feedback from what appears in the publication, open up new topics, criticize the publication, and respond to current events both at Highacres and in the community.

In preparing letters to the editor, the following guidelines must be followed:

1. Letters to the editor must be in accordance with established editorial policy.
2. Letters to the editor would be precise and to the point, and limited to 250-300 words.
3. All letters must be sign-

ed—names can be withheld upon request.

4. From this time forth, all anonymous letters will be refused. Authorship of any letter printed will be verified.

5. Letters are to be given to any Collegian staff member or sent to the Hazleton Campus of Penn State in care of THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN.

6. Letters from the Highacres community — including students, faculty and staff members, and the Administration, and responsible comment from the community is strongly invited and encouraged.

7. The Board of Directors of THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN reserves the right to reject any letter which does not comply with established letter policy.

THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN

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The office of THE HIGHACRES COLLEGIAN is located in Room 108 in the South Building. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12:05 to 12:45 p.m. Other hours can be arranged by appointment.

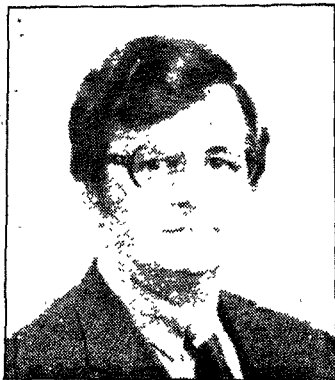
The phone number of the COLLEGIAN is (717) 454-6559. Unsigned editorials represent the official view of the COLLEGIAN. Views expressed in bylined articles are those of the individual contributor and they do not necessarily reflect the view of the COLLEGIAN. Responsible comment to printed material is invited.

Faculty forum

Is there animosity between "dormies" and "townies?"

Yes. With the exception of being brought together in a class situation dorm students and those who live off campus do not have an opportunity to meet in a non-academic situation. The problem is lessened somewhat by activity groups. This can be effective only if the individual actively seeks out a group. It seems that most students do not wish to be participants in organized activities where they would be exposed to a more homogenous group. Individuals have a tendency to establish an invisible defense mechanism which Pink Floyd calls "The Wall" when he or she is brought into a new situation. Meeting and getting to know new people raises the anxiety level concerned primarily with acceptance. Once an individual feels that he or she is accepted, the "Brick Wall" is relaxed somewhat in stages. Eventually most of this "wall" disappears and one sees the true individual for what he or she really is. It is a very private and personal thing. It can only be accomplished in a

relaxed non-hostile atmosphere. This atmosphere is what most of us call "our circle of friends." It is almost impossible to infiltrate this circle without putting the "wall" into action. The beginning of each school year is probably the best time to do something about the problem since there are no "circles." However, within a matter of days the circles begin to form and if an attempt to con-



Dr. Joseph Jumpeter

stantly expose individuals to one another is not initiated, these circles become solidified and we end up with "dormies" and "townies."

On a positive note, there are a great many individuals who do not fit into the mold which my statement portrays and I say "Thank God for that."

"all alone, or in twos
 The ones who really love you
 Walk up and down outside the wall

Some hand in hand
 Some gathering together in bands
 The bleeding hearts and the artists

Make their stand
 and when they've given you their all

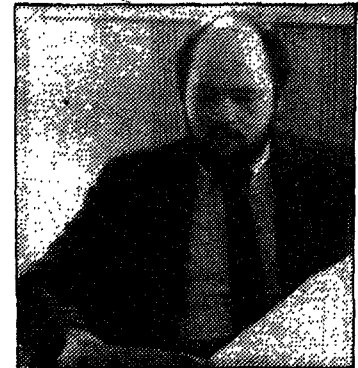
Some stagger and fall. After all it's not easy
 Banging your head against some mad

buggers wall." Pink Floyd
 Dr. Jumpeter; 13: 137-399

Given the three different living options of the Hazleton Campus student, it is inevitable that there will be some degree of "disunity" among resident students, commuters, and a group that hasn't been mentioned, the off-campus student (apartment dweller). Each of these groupings has its own particular problems, concerns, and issues to which it seeks solutions, or at least alternatives. Organizations such as the RHC, SUB, OTIS, SGA, have the responsibility of addressing these problems by providing appropriate activities and programs on campus.

One of the important aspects in addressing the "unity" problem involves maintaining an open line of communication among student leaders representing each group. (It goes without saying that there must be strong leadership within each group as well.) While there is always room for improvement, I do believe the various organizations (RHC, SUB, OTIS, etc.) have a good understanding of the needs of each of the above-identified groups and they have attempted to plan activities and programs to meet those needs. It is obvious that some of these ac-

tivities/programs have been more successful than others. The organizations themselves can do little about the "unity" problem unless the students represented by that organization respond to their efforts. Students must become involved in planning and, more importantly, participating in the various activities that are geared toward fostering a sense of community and understanding between on and off-campus (including commuters) students. Only then will the effects of a "dis-unified" student body be minimized.



Joseph Marchetti