

Tamea plans long vacation

By George P. Yanoshik, Jr.

In June, Mrs. Margaret Tamea will leave her office in the campus dispensary for a summer vacation in Texas. This may not seem unusual to most, but when classes resume in September Mrs. Tamea, the school nurse for the past 19 years, will not be returning to campus. On June 29, 1982 she will retire.

"My husband has been retired for six years and I want to spend more time with him," she said. "I have

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Margaret Tamea

three grandchildren who are living with my daughter and her husband in Texas, and it seems that I only see them on holidays. I want to watch them grow up, so this summer I will travel to Texas to do so."

Mrs. Tamea, a Hazleton

native, spent time working in a New York City hospital, and at St. Luke's Hospital in Bethlehem, PA, prior to returning to the area and working at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hazleton. She married and took nine years off work before assuming the nursing position at Penn State, Hazleton Campus in 1963.

"Many of the students now enrolled on campus were born the year I started working here," she chuckled. "I must say they keep me young. I never feel my age working around college students."

Since she began her nursing career at Penn State, Mrs. Tamea has seen the construction of the library, classroom building, and physical education building on campus. "It's hard to believe I've been here as long as I have," she commented, "but you know you've been here a long time when you have seen eleven former students become your colleagues as faculty or staff members and you see major buildings going up around you on campus!"

Besides spending more time with her family, Mrs.

Tamea says she has no immediate plans for the future. She does hope to eventually continue her education and perhaps even take some organ lessons. "I love music," she said, "and now that I will have a lot of time on my hands I'd like to get some formal organ training."

Although her nursing duties have kept her

somewhat secluded in the dispensary, Mrs. Tamea said that students have had a positive effect on her over the years. "The college students I have come in contact with have helped me to become more broadmind-

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ed," she said. "They have positively influenced my values and my way of thinking. I feel now that I am much more susceptible to changes than I have ever been."

"In my 19 years working here I have seen that Penn State students are fine representatives of the youth of today," she said. "The number of disrespectful students I have ever come in contact with here could be counted on one hand."

Mrs. Tamea will continue to serve as school nurse throughout the term. The dispensary is located on the second floor of the ad-



Photo by Tom Topoleski

Penn State will miss the presence of Mrs. Tamea, the school nurse, when she retires this year.

ministration building. Stop by and say hello if you haven't had the pleasure of doing so, as this reporter has. "I like to think of this whole campus as one big family," said Mrs. Tamea. "I have seen freshmen come to Penn State as children and emerge as adults by the end of their stay at the Hazleton Campus. It is indeed a refreshing experience."

Following her retirement in June one might expect to see Mrs. Tamea keeping herself in shape. No, not aerobics or racquetball, but perhaps in an Atlantic City Casino at the slot machines. She recently traveled there and said she really enjoyed herself!

"I'm so used to doing things for others that it will seem strange to only have to be concerned with myself," said Mrs. Tamea.

Although a Penn State education beginning at the Hazleton Campus may seem brief in regards to gaining insight and friendship of the faculty, staff, and administration, this reporter feels that Mrs. Tamea is indeed a friend to many.

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