

High school students start college early

By Debby Schott

Some of you may be wondering who the new faces are that are roaming the campus. Well, the fact is that there are fifty-two new students that have joined our Highacres community as of this spring term. The newcomers streamed in from local high schools and took on the role of college freshmen, even though they had not yet officially graduated!

While talking to Carol Yupko from Southern Columbia Area High School and Lisa Wondoloski from Our Lady of Lourdes Regional High School, I tried to find out exactly what change in the social security act forced them to enter college so early. According

to the dormitory roommates, any high school senior who was receiving social security benefits and was not enrolled as a full-time college student by May 1 would have their funds cut completely! The old policy, which states that anyone 18 years of age and not furthering his education beyond the twelfth grade will not be supported by the government through the social security program, does not seem to apply any longer.

For Carol and Lisa, taking the step from high school into college was not difficult at all. "Everyone was very friendly, and took us in like any other person that would have moved in to start the new term," commented Lisa. "Besides," added Carol, "we knew a few people that introduced us to

everybody and also showed us around."

The application process for Penn State SS incomers was no different than any incoming freshmen, excluding one minor detail. Upon acceptance to the University, the seniors were referred to the campus located closest to their hometown (for their first term) whether it was one of their choices or not. After their first term is completed, they can transfer to the campus of their acceptance or remain at their present campus if they agree to take night classes until their third term, unless informed otherwise.

Like all new freshmen, they soon realized that class assignments require a lot more of one's time, especially lots of reading, in comparison to high school work.

Carol told me that the basic difference is the freedom you have at college. "You have to more or less 'train' yourself to go to class," she said. One thing, however, that separates the SS students from actual freshmen is their scheduled classes. Since they still aren't considered "official" freshmen, they can only engage in night courses. But night courses do consist of a large percentage of regular pupils, so the SS additions are just intermingled with everyone else and not kept in specific groups.

When I asked them what they thought of dormitory life, Lisa exclaimed, "We love it! It's like one big house, and very convenient because everyone is here to do things with." She continued, "There is always

something going on and when there isn't, you can always make something." Because of 'particular' social activities that occur off-campus, meeting non-dormies poses no problem. Although certain groups may tend to stay together, the Hazleton Campus as a whole seems to be quite unified, and the fact that some students live on campus and others do not makes no difference. This, of course, was their impression of the student body. The two also agreed that the social atmosphere is very lively because the majority of students seems to be especially close. Whenever you want to do something, you can because "everyone is here."



Inside the SGA...

By Alita Rovito

were on campus to exhibit their crafts.

The 12th Annual Awards Banquet was a success, with approximately 130 people in attendance. Several awards were given by the SGA. Judd Buskirk presented Gary Strausser and Sue Kostenbader with plaques representing the school participation and spirit in the IFC Dance Marathon at University Park. Gary and Sue raised over \$1000.

Chris McNab presented Nadia Puhak with the HCAC award for outstanding attitude and participation. Alita Rovito and Chris McNab presented certificates to SGA senators and club officers. Miss Rovito, Miss McNab, Lori Folk

and Dee Hartman were presented Nittany Lions for their work all year.

Jim Bagely was recognized as the SGA's outstanding Sophomore senator and Mike Moyer was recognized as the outstanding Freshman senator.

As was mentioned in the last issue of the Collegian, the SGA presidential elections were re-held. Alan Smith and David Barchik were again voted into office. Smith was sworn in at the Awards Banquet and has officially taken over the position. SGA Senatorial elections were also held and five new senators have been elected; they are Laurie Shea, Cathy Szido, Sue Hower, Dave Thomsen, and Andy Villaruz.

