



B&M

By Steve Zarick

Advisor-y Board

Well folks, pre-registration time has just past as of this writing. I have found, through some crack, investigating reports, that some very interesting conversations go on. These conversations typically follow this sequence.

A. "I Dunno" — As the name of this category implies, no one knows what's coming off. For example:

Advisor: What d'ya want?

Student: I dunno.

Advisor: What d'ya want?

Student: I dunno.

Advisor: What d'ya need?

Student: What d'ya have?

Advisor: Ah, well?

Student: Well?

Advisor: I dunno. What do'ya want?

B. "Advisor Advantage" — This is where the advisor takes control in the "I dunno."

Student: What d'ya have?

Advisor: What d'ya need? Arts? A science? Well?

Student: I dunno.

Advisor: How many credits do you want?

Student: How many do I need?

Advisor: (Grrrr!!) (regains composure): Take twelve! Courses A,B,C,D! OK?

Student: I dunno ... yea, sounds good.

Advisor: You sure you can handle course D? It's tough. How 'bout the rest of the courses?

Student: Ya, sure ... I guess ... I dunno. Looks OK.

C. "Tailor Made" or "Student Surprise" —

This is where the student finally decides to act like a student, grapples with the situation, and takes control!

Student: But wait! I want Tuesdays and Thursdays off. I don't want a class earlier than third period! I need another gym! I don't need course C! I don't want course B. I want a different section for course A!

Advisor: (GRRRRR!!!) O.K. then. What do you want!

Student: What do you have?

Advisor: What do you need?

Student: I dunno ... Courses A,X,Y,Z.

Advisor: This sounds O.K. Are you sure you need them?

Student: Ya, sure ... I guess ... I dunno ... Looks O.K.

Advisor: You're positive now?

Student: (grrrr!) Ya!

Advisor: You know how to fill out the cards

Student: Yes! (student exits to fill out cards)

D. Revisit A — Student returns about twenty minutes later ...

Student: How d'ya fill these cards out?

Advisor: I thought ya knew how. (shows student the proper method of filling out cards) O.K.

Student: How 'bout the rest of the courses?

Advisor: You sure you can handle course D? It's tough. How 'bout the rest of the courses?

Student: Ya ... I guess ... I dunno ... Looks good, O.K. (student leaves)

E. "Revisit II" — This visit takes place a week into the new term.

Student: My God! I don't want this section of course A! I don't need course X. I have too many phys eds! I can't

handle course Z! Help! I need course B,C, and D and I want a different section of course A! Get me out'a this. You got me into it.

Advisor: (GRRRRR-RRR!)

Well it's time to close up shop for this year. I hope you have enjoyed reading B&M (which, in case you're wondering, stands for something that rhymes with ditch and groan), and I look forward to writing next year. It is my sincerest wish that no one has taken anything appear-

ing in B&M too seriously, as it is written in jest and with the hope that at one time or another, a reader sees a little of himself and realizes we are all fallible. Id like to say farewell to many of the sophomores with whom I had the pleasure of knowing and working with, and I certainly hope our paths cross again (soon)! And to the frosh — behave, because I'll be stewwing all summer and ready to B&M next year! Meanwhile, have an easy work/hard party summer.

Working at the Commons' Snack Bar can be an enjoyable experience, as Debby Gorman tells us in this month's "On The Job."

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On the job

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A look at the past

The nearby town of Jim Thorpe is famous for many things, among these the burial place of the town's namesake athlete, and the home of the founder of the Lehigh Valley Railroad and Lehigh University, Asa Packer.

Another famous attraction to that town, once known as "Mauch Chunk" was the Switchback Railroad. This railroad is considered to be one of the very first railroads in America, and has been proclaimed to be the official first

roller coaster in America by the Smithsonian Institution. The reason that the railroad carries the distinction as a roller coaster revolves around the fact that the railroad ran on the principle of gravity.

The primary function of the railroad was to haul coal from the coal towns of Summit Hill and Lansford to the canal port town of Mauch Chunk. Here the builders of the Switchback, the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, constructed a canal that

followed the Lehigh River to Easton. That canal, also known as the Lehigh Canal, extended up to Penn Haven, where coal was loaded from trains that brought the coal from the Hazleton area.

The Switchback was constructed in 1827, and operated as a coal transport system until 1844, when it converted its operation to a passenger and tourist business. The 18 mile ride on the Switchback (round trip from Mauch Chunk to Summit Hill)

was one of the largest tourist attractions in the northeastern part of the United States.

The cars had no engines on them, and no electric current flowed through the tracks; the trolley-like cars ran solely on gravity. Most methods of transportation were rather slow as compared to now in those days, and the 65 M.P.H. rate of travel over the line was considered to be a "thrill."

Peak periods of activity for the railway were the summer and fall

season, especially the fall season since the leaves were changing color during that period.

The Switchback operated as a passenger operation until 1933 when it lost much of its business to the Depression. The entire line was torn up and sold for scrap to Japan for a cost of about \$1.00 per rail.

Currently, the right-of-way of the former attraction is used as a hiking trail, and each October, a 10 kilometer run is held following this path.