

Up close and personal with

Rula Lenska

By James Nichols and Pam Eppinger

In 1978, America was introduced to the raspy-voiced Rula Lenska and her flowing auburn locks. You may remember Ms. Lenska from her TV advertisements where she represented a brand-name hairspray while stepping off large aircraft and reclining in chauffeur-driven limousines. The commercials began with Rula looking lustfully over her mink-covered shoulder and into the camera while purring in a thick Polish-British accent, "Hello. I'm Rula Lenska . . ."

You may have asked yourself, "Should I have heard of this woman before this hairspray commercial?" Well, perhaps not. Before her whirlwind entrance into the

its purpose: to hymn her name.

Even before Rula Lenska rocked the world of hairspray with her stunning presence, she had an intriguing history. Born Countess Roza-Maria-Laura-Leopoldnya Lubien-ska, and having acquired the nickname Rula during her childhood in London, she grew up the daughter of exiled aristocrats. Ooooooh, the plot thickens, folks! Even at the tender age of 19, Ms. Lenska realized her theatrical ambitions. But it just was not meant to be; she was rejected by the Royal Academy for Dramatic Arts. So she settled for a bilingual secretarial course, (she speaks five languages), and a



exciting world of American television advertising, Ms. Lenska's credits were few and far between. She played a prostitute in Peter Seller's "Soft Beds and Hard Battles", a pop singer in the TV miniseries "Rock Follies", and was almost cast as a director in "Queen Kong", a movie which was never made due to legal problems. Other than that, though, Rula Lenska's only other claim to fame was her hair.

Within a short time after her debut on American television screens, Rula Lenska became a mock-celebrity and the butt of many satirical jokes. Like an epidemic, T-shirts and bumper stickers stamped, "Who the Hell Is Rula Lenska?" swept the country. With lightning speed, people organized cult-like international fan clubs whose sole purpose was to extol the Polish countess (really and for true!). Even a poetry competition was organized;

job in a bank. But, after what seemed like an eternity, she was released from the doldrums of a 9-to-5 job when she was finally accepted at another drama school where she eventually met her husband, Brian Deacon, who starred in the recently-released "Jesus". Rula and Brian now live in Wimbleton, England with their daughter, Lara.

But what does the future have in store for the alluring Rula Lenska? Is there a chance for true stardom or will we see Ms. Lenska doing television advertisements which would only lead to further joking at her expense? Perhaps Rula will be content to gaily flit about like a woodsprite through her modest Wimbleton residence, dusting knick-knacks, stiffening her coiffure with that brand-name hairspray which has put her into the curious eye of society, and merely being a ho-hum housewife.



B&M

By, Steve Zarick

I suppose I should begin this B&M session by welcoming back all the seasoned veterans on campus. I should also like to welcome the new freshman class to "the Berg" and show you how you got into this mess. I would like to use the rest of this column to explain some of the methods used to sucker you into coming to "the Berg" and show you how things really are.

The best place to start is the recruitment process. Do you remember the pamphlets about PSU Hazleton? They have photographs of people sitting under some tree with open books in their laps and big smiles on their faces. Another popular picture is of people happily trotting to class or something. In my little over a year here on campus, I have never seen such ludicrous sights and consequently, I still can't figure out where they take

those pictures. In fact, I am inclined to believe that the only time one would see these amazing displays of joviality would be if U-Park were to decree that scheduling and attending class would no longer be necessary to graduate with a degree.

And how 'bout those recruiters that go around to the high schools and college nights. Some of the recruiters that I have run into rival the best politicians in skilled oratory and clever evasiveness. I remember asking one such recruiter how the food was on campus. His reply was something to the tune of, "The weather is great on campus, and oh yea, food's the same." By the time this issue of the Collegian is in print you will probably see that the food and weather are about the same. (I didn't say either were good).

Finally, the day comes when one can check the campus out. A prospective student is shown the modern library, great class building, and super duper gym.

However, one is not shown the even more impressive sights. Do you remember ever visiting the South building on one of these tours. I'll bet you didn't.

And then there is orientation week. The theme always seems to be, "Get out and meet people, you're all in this together." One is inclined to think that, rather than starting school, he has just been inducted into the Marines. And while I'm on the subject of meeting people, I hope that you start using some more imaginative lines to meet people. I bet that by the time you have read this column, you have been asked "What's your name" and "What's your major" about 10 million times. Talk about original come on lines.

Well its time to close this, the first B&M for this school year. I hope that I have clarified several points about the campus and the Penn State way of doing things. And I also hope you all understand how you got into this mess.

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