

## H1Ed 45 Remains Popular

Jennifer Hopkins

Health Ed. is a one credit course designed to increase the students' awareness of alcohol. The alcohol awareness class was originated at University Park by Dr. William L. Eck and Dr. M. Lee Upcraft. After the success of the class at University Park, Total Alcohol Awareness Program (TAAP) branched out to the commonwealth campuses.

This year, Health Ed. 45 is being taught by Mrs. Jago and Mr. Bobby. The class is taught in an informal atmosphere and no "scare tactics" are used. Students are taught about the effects of alcohol and how the body reacts to alcohol. However, the most important part is the open discussion on use or non-use of alcohol. According to Mr. Bobby, "We don't run the class as a lecture, it is more of an open discussion." Recovering problem drinkers from Alcoholics Anonymous and Serento Gardens speak to the students themselves in the positions about their experiences of police officers, or friends concerning alcohol dependence, and their fight to regain control of their characters they are portraying. The movie "Chalk Talk" by Father Martin is shown. This movie, narrated by Father Martin, uses a chalkboard to explain the similarities between alcohol and anesthesia. According to students, the most popular part of the class is the open discussion. One student wrote, "The class is very informal. This allows students to be less inhibited to talk and share stories." The Health Ed. 45 class admits approximately twenty-five students who sit in a circle to enhance the informal atmosphere. Role playing is often used to encourage the open discussions. These skits present different points of view, and require spontaneous response from the students involved in the skits. Students place bad incidents that occur

## Skimbo Means Business

Nick Pisani



(photo by M. Vignapiano)

Seldom has one of Nicholas Skimbo's students left a class without knowing everything about what he had just taught them. To be one of his students is to learn what discipline, hard work, and aggressiveness (a favorite word of his) entail. He is a dedicated educator who seldom fails at his task of enlightening his students; whether it be about accounting principles, standard deviations of sample means, or lessons on life. He truly embodies the mind and spirit of the principles of education and enlightenment.

Skimbo was born in Hazleton and graduated in 1955 from PSU with a cum laude degree in Business Administration, and from Rutgers in 1956 with an MBA. He then began working at Merck and Company in a low position, doing menial tasks in the general accounting department. From there he moved through a variety of positions until he reached a position which carried him to London, Rome, Paris, Amsterdam, Bogota and Buenos Aires.

Business students at the Hazleton campus are familiar with Skimbo's theories on hard work and life. The trend is for students


to resent these theories while they attend Highacres and to be grateful later.

"I've seen people with talent who didn't succeed and I've seen people with less talent succeed to a high degree. The difference exists in three words... discipline, maturity, and motivation."

Such a philosophy makes for a great deal of blood, sweat and tears in Skimbo's classes, but it seems to be worth the price for Skimbo himself, and for his students. "I try to instill this," says Skimbo. "It's difficult. I know I don't always win the battle, but I do most of the time when they get to U-Park and they graduate. People may not like me, but that doesn't bother me because I know what I am doing is right."

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