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Hazleton Campus Video Club; Soon to broadcast on channel 13 says prez Kestenbaum

by S.R. Hnasko

Penn State Hazleton students will soon enter the world of television broadcasting thanks to the reformation of HCV, the Hazleton Campus Video club. Under the helm of Seth Kestenbaum, who serves as president, and Frank Heimbach, who serves as vice-president, HCV hopes to inform, educate, and entertain the viewing public.

HCV existed in the past to videotape special events that occurred on campus. Due to neglect, the club faltered and became defunct. This new incarnation of HCV came into being when Barry Jais, advisor of the past club and head of maintenance and operations on campus, approached Kestenbaum about reviving the forgotten organization. Now, with strong interest and new technology, Kestenbaum believes that the club will prosper in its new life.

"We're going to be broadcasting on campus on channel 13," Kestenbaum stated. "Our station will be included with every dorm student's cable television package." Channel 13, which normally broadcasts a Hazleton community calendar, will show HCV's programming with the help of a cable trap. The trap will enable HCV to broadcast to all the television sets on campus.

"As soon as Barry Jais gets the cable trap," Kestenbaum stated, "HCV will begin broadcasting."

"Movies are our main thing," said Heimbach on programming. "HCV will be able to show movies on videocassette from companies like Warner Brothers and Paramount." According to Kestenbaum, HCV can broadcast nearly any movie with

SOTA presents "The Rainmaker" to be produced by Vince Landro

The Society of the Arts, fresh from its recent success of "The Benny Velour Show," is planning tryouts for its spring production. The production will be the popular romantic comedy "The Rainmaker" by N. Richard Nash, and the tryouts will be held on Thursday, January 17, from 7:30 to 9:30 PM in the Commons.

"The Rainmaker" is a classic American romance. It tells the story of a travelling con artist who promises to bring rain to a drought-stricken Western farm. By the story's end, the con artist ends up transforming a plain girl into a beautiful woman.

There are seven roles to be filled -six men and one woman. Vince Landro, the professional director who directed last season's "Lion in Winter," will return to direct the production. Landro describes the seven roles as "wonderful characters" and the woman, Lizzie, as "the kind of role any actress would kill to play."

Tryouts for "The Rainmaker" are open to all students. Although no preparation or prior experience is necessary, reading copies of the play are available on reserve at the library and the office of the Society of the Arts. Any interested student who cannot attend the Thursday tryouts may set up an individual audition appointment with Mr. Landro by calling 454-3662 in advance.

"The Rainmaker" will have rehearsals on weeknights from January 20 through March 20, and will hold four performances in the Commons during Parents Weekend from March 21 - 24. an "R" rating or less without censorship. Anything stronger than "R," however, will not be shown.

In addition to movies, some of HCV's future projects include broadcasts of home basketball games, music video shows, a news show, and a video yearbook. HCV will offer advertising to campus clubs, students, and local businesses. Original programming done by students and club members will also be shown.

When asked about membership, Kestenbaum replied, "Any student can become a member of HCV. Unfortunately, HCV has to charge \$5.00 dues because we don't have funding yet."

Heimbach encourages all students to join the club, or at least to attend one of HCV's meetings, which are held every Thursday in the lower level of the Commons at noon. "If you were ever interested in writing, acting, or working with sound and video equipment to produce a television show, you should join HCV."

New schedule

The new schedule will eliminate the "common lunch period," which limits students to 45 minutes for lunch. According to Suwalski, "The lunch and dinner hours will [now] be extended to overlap three periods of classes instead of the traditional one class. This will reduce stress on the dining hall."

Suwalski stated that the registrar's office will do its best not to place required classes within the three consecutive lunch periods. However, Suwalski reminds students that it is their responsibility to schedule their lunch and dinner and, although arrangements can be made with Food and Housing officials to receive a box lunch, he advises students not to schedule classes through the three periods.

Any questions or comments about the new schedule can be heard by contacting the SGA office at 454-5785.