

The Highacres Collegian

Volume III Issue II

November 1992

Penn State
Hazleton Campus



Pro-Choice or Pro-Life

By: Michelle Lake

The world we live in today is full of controversial subjects. One of the major issues argued over is abortion. Opinions on abortion vary from the feminists and the Pro-Choice movement, to the churches and the more conservative people and the Pro-Life movement. Both sides have legitimate arguments when personal views are set aside and an objective look is taken.

According to the State Health Data Center, there are 1,600,000 abortions every year. Since the 1989 case Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services, states have been free to set individual laws concerning a woman's access to abortion. One argument probably agreed upon by both sides of the abortion debate is that these issues, including the woman's reproductive rights, are restricted by the state legislatures where women are a minority. This also means that the laws concerning abortion may change radically from state to state.

The state of Pennsylvania bans abortion after six months, requires spousal notification, requires a twenty-four hour waiting period, and mandates a list of information that must be shown to abortion patients regarding risks and alternatives to the procedure.

The Pro-Choice movement goes along with and has been strengthened by the feminist movement and the fight for

women's equal rights. People who are "Pro-Choice" believe that women control their bodies and therefore should make all decisions concerning them, including whether or not to carry a pregnancy to full term. One Pro-Choice slogan says "Not the Church, Not the State, Women Should Decide Their Fate."

Some people who consider themselves Pro-Choice do not agree with the idea of abortion—it is the freedom of choice they agree with. Some have never had abortions and say they never will. They are not Pro-Abortion, just Pro-Choice.

Alternatives to abortion such as giving the child up for adoption or trying to raise the child do not always seem for the best. There are so many unwanted children who are put up for adoption. Probably the biggest case is of young, unwed teenagers who have unexpected pregnancies. These teenagers are not ready to settle down and raise a child.

The Pro-Life movement is often considered the more conservative view. It is also the view of almost every church or religious organization. These people believe that the baby is "alive" from the moment of conception; therefore, abortion is simply murder. Some Pro-Life slogans are: "Abortion Stops a Beating Heart" and "The Most Dangerous Place to Live in America is in a Mother's Womb." People who are

December Reminder

Winter Semi-Formal only weeks away!

By: Erin Ann Keane

Before final exams and the end of first semester, we again have been offered the opportunity of attending the winter semi-formal. Once again, the formal will be held at Genetti's Best Western. Once again, King Sound Productions will be D.J.'ing. Among all this familiarity, however, there has been a change. A new addition to the usual semi-formal preparations has surfaced. That new addition is, "Where Everybody Knows Your Name", the theme song from Cheers which has been adopted as the theme for this year's semi-formal. Instead of using the proverbial love song as a theme, the semi-formal committee has chosen to emphasize friendships with this song choice. The committee is encouraging stag people to attend with friends, thereby taking the emphasis off of finding a date. I think we should thank the semi-formal committee for making such a decision. It is about time that people realized that dances do not always necessitate a date. A good time can be had by a group of friends who choose to attend without an escort. Even with this positive reinforcement, however, I have overheard several conversations in which a person has stated that they wish to attend the semi-formal but will not if they do not find a date. To these people I can say only this, do not compromise a night of fun

just because you can not find anyone to go with. Get a group of friends together, kick up your heels, and have a ball! If you don't, you may end up regretting your decision when friends that went return with stories of mayhem, madness, and fun. So, don't miss your chance for a night of fun with friends at the winter semi-formal, "Where Everybody Knows Your Name".

What's on T.V.? Star Trek: The Next Generation

By: Ben Turano

It has been called the best directed, best acted, most inventive, and most morally righteous television program produced today. It is celebrating it's sixth year on the Fox Network this season and in the tradition of it's predecessor, this Star Trek is every bit as in touch with today's problems as the original series was, to many extremes even more so. In the mythos of Star Trek, we are able to view our own social, ethical, and economical problems in a new light, and through the eyes of innocence. Many times one must view an episode several times before realizing that they are actually seeing an episode about AIDS, nuclear war, gay rights, abortion, euthanasia, drug abuse or any number of controversial poignant issues we face everyday.

The main message behind

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