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Students Elect Scopinich SGA President

By: Janice D. Hayes

Last week Penn State Hazleton students elected Dave Scopinich, president of the Student Government Association for the 1994-95 academic year, along with running mate Jackie Hamilton. Scopinich is a freshman at the Hazleton Campus majoring in Mass Communications, and lives in South Hall at the campus.

Though an large amount of campaigning by his campaign manager, Eric Carlson, and loyal supporters Scopinich received the largest voter turnout in about 15 years. He says this success is due to the popularity of all the three candidates. Also this turnout shows how each candidate was very qualified and that anyone of them would do a good job.

Scopinich plans to implement a variety of new and innovative things, such as, a weekly newsletter for off-campus students, which will include a survey to see if their SGA is dealing

with the things that are most important to the campus. For the residence hall students he plans for the former residence hall club to become more active by utilizing the floor governors more and having frequent hall meetings in each residence area. Scopinich also plans to have a student suggestion box located outside the SGA office in the lower commons.

In the past year a heavy issue that has struck the student body is academic advising. When asked if he planned to keep the issue going Scopinich said yes. Another problem that he will attack is the problems with the Hazleton campus being the center for sophomore communication students being that they only have one class. He feels that since it is supposed to be the hub for communication students they should offer more than one class. He said he will soon be meeting with Dr. Aurand to discuss the situation.

Scopinich wants to work with the faculty, staff, and administration and get some positive things going for the campus. He wants the students to become more involved with the community and plans to work with the University Relations office in achieving that goal.

When Scopinich supporters were asked why they voted for him they said because they thought his ideas were clear and realistic for the campus. Janel Murphy, student said, "Dave shows alot of promise and even though I won't be here next year I wish him alot of luck, I have fait that he will do a great job."

Scopinich would like to thank Erick Carlson, Dave Ledbury, and Roger Andras for their support and helping him hang up signs at 4:30 in the morning. He also thanks Slushie and Turk for their continuous support, and most of all the campus for their continuous support.

Future Leaders Prepare For Next Semester

by: Jovina Johnson

April 9 and 10 marked another year in a more than fifty year tradition; the Split Rock Leadership Conference. Representatives from most of the twenty-six clubs participated along with the Counselor Education class. Speakers included Dwayne Hilton, Cy Falatko, Paula Callery, Dan Darrow, and Director of Student Affairs Dean Joseph McCallus. Student Government President Joe Spado also spoke on two pertinent subjects.

Students departed the campus at 8:00 and arrived at the resort at around 9:00. After a short introduction by Hilton and Falatko, the conference then begun. From 10 in the morning to 9:30 that night, students learned how to build teams, raise money for their clubs, etc. Students were given the opportunity to participate in workshops that allowed them to invent clubs and then advertise them.

A few of the workshops were transferred into feedback discussions and the students then expressed their concerns on campus. For example, one of these concerns was funding for varsity sports. Many questions were answered and the workshop ended with students feeling they had influence on the student body.

The next to the last workshop was a presentation on the "hassles of leadership" by Joe Spado. During his talk, the faculty left so he could talk openly. Club representatives learned a little something on each faculty member in the chain of command. They were also instructed on which route to take when they had a complaint. This valuable information is good for any student regardless of whether they are in a club or not. This ended with a conclusion by former Head of Senate Janice Hayes. She emphasized the fact that one thing that all faculties members demand is respect. This is the only way that anything could get done and plus they had earned that respect.

The final workshop that day was presented by Dan Darrow head of Residence Life. This presentation was entitled Cultural Diversity. The students were given situations about homosexuality, race, and political correctness. Eventually, it turned into a full-fledged debate with many different points of view being voiced. "I think the University should stress the individual as opposed to the grouping that political correctness causes," said Student Government President Joe Spado.

This ended around 9:30 which left the

students with an endless amount of free time. Students could be seen laughing and talking as they traveled from villa to villa. Many others took out their swim suits and relaxed in their own private hot tubs. On average, students hit the bed at 3:30. "My favorite part of free time was lounging in my own personal hot tub. It was a very relaxing and enjoyable evening," commented Collegian representative Kristen Beam.

The next day consisted of three more workshops. Among other things, students learned how to plan the events they wanted for the 1994-95 school year. The students contributed many ideas concerning such holidays as Halloween and Black History Month. The final workshop was presented by Spado and Dean McCallus. They advised the students on how to utilize the campus to their best advantage.

In the end, students evaluated the entire weekend and then departed for Penn State. "I enjoyed the exercises and I feel that everybody made a lot of new friends," said Counselor Education representative, Michelle Zagata. Hopefully, each student learned something and feel the conference was worthwhile.