

OPINION and REVIEW

The Freshman Zone:

Savoring the Semester Break

By Mike Jamison

Before we forge on with this article, let me just say..... WE HAVE THREE AND A HALF WEEKS OFF!!!!!! Whew, now that I have that off my chest, let me continue.

Yes, once again, the holiday season is upon us. Like a rabid dog that won't let go of your leg, the holidays seem to sweep our society into a haze of "good cheer" and "peace on earth," only to end with one great, drunken New Year's eve party, where Uncle Phil dances in the onion dip and Aunt Phyllis drunkenly recounts how she seduced and slept with Jimmy Carter. Yes, Christmas lights blink on and off and the eggnog is always plentiful.

While we're on the subject, what is eggnog, anyway? And for that matter, what the hell is a nog?! Well, whatever the unholy concoction is, it will not dampen the excitement I feel over the almost month long vacation we have coming up.

Now, I've heard sophomores in the halls, mumbling that, "This

vacation isn't long enough!" and "This stinks." Well, to that, I must respond ARE YOU MAD!!!!!!

We have almost a month off! For college freshman, this is an early holiday gift, a license to goof off and slack off however we choose. In high school, we were lucky to get out before December 23rd, hearing hoofs on the school roof and slipping on reindeer excrement.

All I'm saying is, don't complain. We've got a good thing going for us. As your friends, relatives, cellmates, etc., trudge back to school or work on January 4th or 5th, we'll be home, sleeping off hangovers, cleaning up onion dip, or dressing Aunt Phyllis and Senator Kennedy, burning the pictures....er... you get my drift.

So have a happy holiday season. Sleep all you like. Play with your toys. Trap a girl under mistletoe. But first and foremost, keep safe and be happy. Now if you'll excuse me, Senator Kennedy needs a shower and I need some eggnog. See ya next year in THE FRESHMAN ZONE (That is, if I survive the killer eggnog).

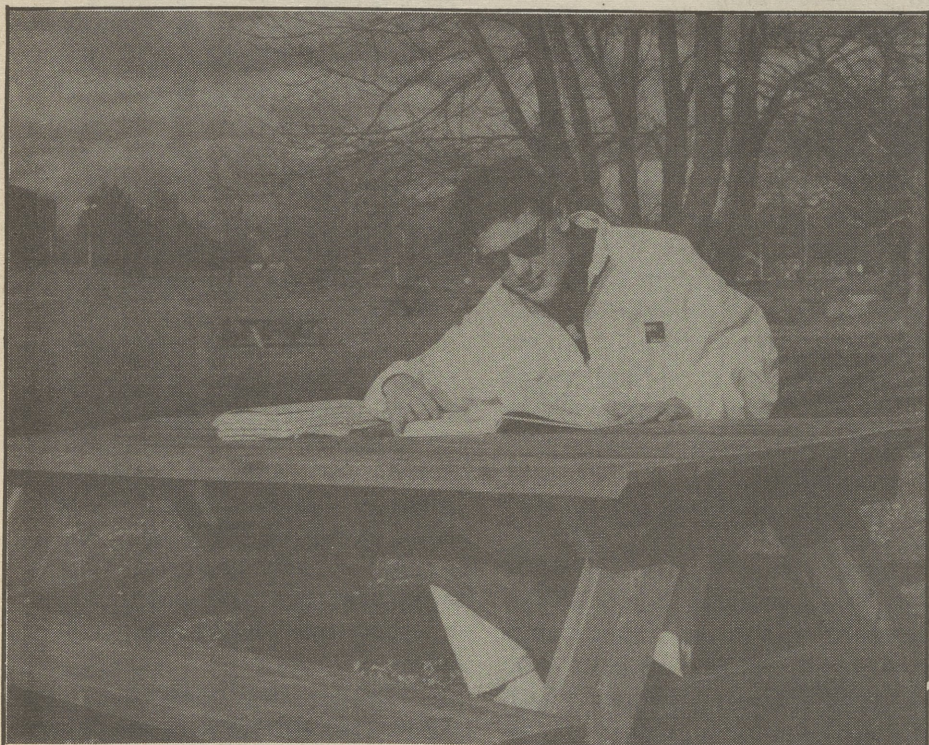
'Ethnic Images' In Library

By Andy McIntyre

Currently in the library here at Penn State Delco there is an ongoing exhibit of early American advertisements called "Ethnic Images." The exhibit explores the various forms of discrimination which occurred in the early advertising business. The exhibit gives a very detailed description of the kind of ethnic stereotyping which was used in selling products, including everything from soda and food to household cleaning products.

Overall, it is a rather interesting exhibit which is very much worth viewing. It is definitely quite interesting to view such a form of subtle discrimination, which forces the average person to really question how openly accepted this form of advertising discrimination used to be.

To help with following the exhibit, the library circulation desk has catalogs to accompany the exhibit. Ask for one at the desk. The exhibit will run until December 17.



Delco student Fernando Cozza takes advantage of a beautiful day by studying outside.

Photo by: DIANA MICERI

TOP TEN SCIENTIFIC BUMPER STICKERS

By Eileen Owsiany, Michelle Rinier, & Tracy Zikowitz

When sitting in traffic, who doesn't like to be amused by clever bumper stickers on the car in front of them? Here are some bumper sticker suggestions for science-minded people.

10. I may be slow, but my velocity is still greater than yours.
9. Dissect this.
8. "Come on baby, light my Bunsen burner." (Doors fans only.)
7. I Brake for Rocks.
6. Save the Frogs.
5. Watts up, Doc?
4. "Hi ho Ag, away!"
3. Have a gneiss day.
2. Physicists do it without friction.
1. Schist happens.

As Andy Sees It:

A Holiday From The Heart

By Andy McIntyre

Well, I can hardly believe it, but the winter holiday season is steadily on its way. Of course, that was probably evident to any one who just happened to be at the mall around Halloween. Because we all know that, according to store owners, October 31st is the unofficial start of the holiday shopping season. Before our pumpkins even get a chance to rot, Santa Claus and Co. arrive in shopping malls across America with dollar signs in their eyes. Ho Ho Ho.

But, I don't mean to sound negative. I've accepted the fact that to many the festive Christmas and Hanukkah seasons mean nothing more than a chance to make a quick profit. My only concern is that we shouldn't allow the concept of making money destroy the true meaning of the holiday season.

My family celebrates Christmas, and every year Christmas above everything else is a time to spend with family and friends, reflecting on the past and looking fondly towards the future.

Now I don't mean to sound like the Waltons, but the point I'm trying to make is that the holidays aren't about making money, but instead the holidays are about plain old togetherness.

So here is a little story from my holiday past. When I was about 14 years old, from Thanksgiving on all I heard about was the fantastic present my sister planned on giving me.

Well, boy was I excited. I couldn't believe it. Perhaps my

sister had finally listened and got me something I really wanted. Finally after weeks of planning what I'd say and how I'd react, Christmas arrived and I was ready.

When my mom and I arrived at my sister's house on Christmas, I immediately took notice of my present and the fact that it was the biggest one under the tree. I couldn't believe it. So after we ate dinner and sang a few songs, the magical present opening was to begin. Since I had the largest present, I figured I'd wait to go last. So with all the anticipation mixed with joy, and a tiny bit of fourteen year old greed, I opened my great Christmas present, finding inside a blanket my sister had made by hand.

Well, let me tell you there was nothing I could say to my sister except "I love you" because the best present under the tree hadn't been purchased at Strawbridge's or Macy's; the best present had been made out of the love between an older sister and her younger brother.

It didn't matter that it wasn't a remote control car or a fancy whatever; what mattered was that my sister had taken the time to make something out of love for her little brother. And folks, that is what the holiday spirit is all about.

So when you find yourself in the local shopping mall this holiday season, don't let the television, Strawbridge and Clothier, and the false assumption that the more expensive a gift is the better because you to make the wrong choices. Think instead about the people who you love and your heart will tell you the rest.

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