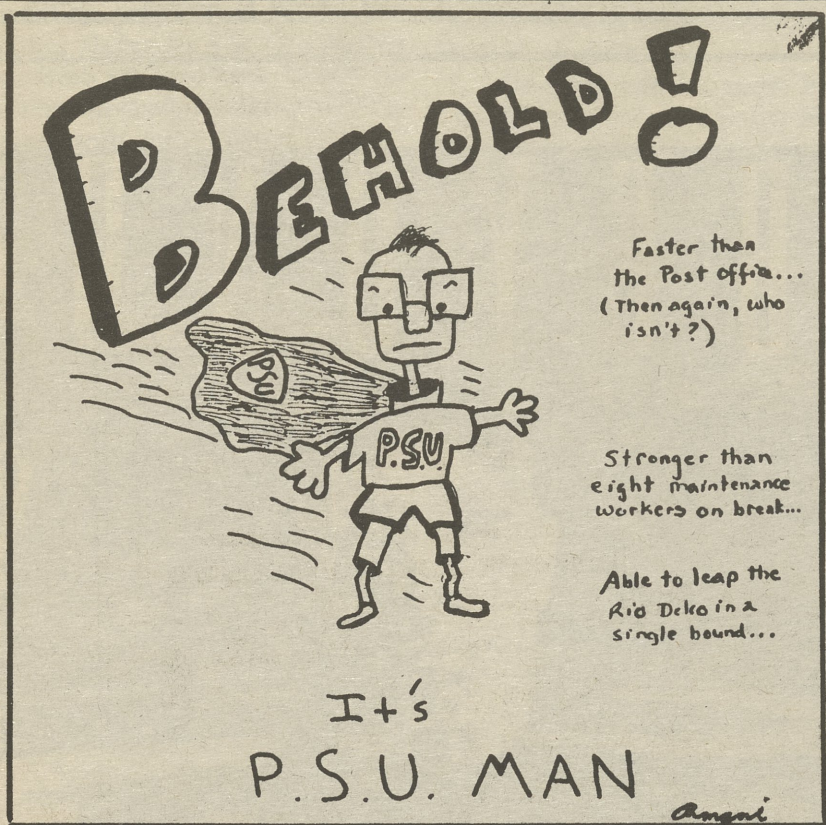


OPINION and REVIEW



The Freshman Zone:

Are We Having Fun Yet?

By Mike Jamison

Someone once told me that if you have something to say, expressing yourself will be both enjoyable to others and satisfying personally. As I wallowed through my first college spring break, hanging around the house, playing Nintendo, reading "Rolling Stone", I came to the dreary revelation that in my 18 years, I have done nothing exciting or interesting enough to relate to others by means of the written word. Consequently, I felt I had let down both myself and my readers. As we open the gates to the FRESHMAN ZONE once again, let us look within ourselves and ask: Have we truly lived life to the fullest?

When I entered college, I imagined my innocence ending and my adulthood beginning. But after almost a full year as a college freshman, I have seen little to no change. Oh sure, college has given me a vehicle with which to strengthen my beliefs and open my mind to new discoveries, but in these few college months, I have not become the open-minded, freewheeling adventurer I thought I would.

Maybe it was spring break; At least, that's what I kept telling myself. As I sat at home, eating Oreos and organizing my Beatles collection, I kept seeing images of spring break extremes

flickering on my TV screen: girls in slinky bikinis, heavily tanned and heavily made up; guys in trucks or jeeps, swilling huge amounts of alcohol and mooning Ted Koppel on "Nightline". Why wasn't I there? I thought. Why was I at home, when I could be out, learning the secrets of the universe and carving my own niche in society. It was at that point that I came to the realization that life is what you make of it, and so far, I had made my life pretty damn normal.

I guess things could be worse. A normal life, though it may not be as exciting as an extraordinary life, is still a whole lot better than a boring life. Plus, in this game, there is always room for improvement. My life, hopefully, will not always be normal. As I continue on in this world, I will encounter and experience many different people and things. It is my job to take these experiences and determine how they will mold my lifestyle.

So what am I doing sitting here writing? There are places to go, things to be experienced. There are Go-Go bars to be visited, Tequila to be drunk. There are.... oh yeah, my mom will be reading this. Just kidding mom, my life is fine the way it is. If I'm not grounded for about thirty years, I'll see you next time in the FRESHMAN ZONE.



Amy McCarthy (Freshman Rep), Richard McFadden (SGA Vice-Pres), Tracy McLoughlin (SGA President), and Adolph Sanna (BSL President) plan Spring Week (April 19-23).

Photo by: DIANA MICERI

"New Freedom?"

by Emily Damanskis

Condom Commercials?
"They can not be!"
But who is the He
that decides for me?

Ruler of Networks,
King of a Station.
Is this stuffed shirt
the voice of a nation.

He allows Massengil,
Tampax, and things.
The New Today Sponge,
and Always with Wings.

What's Different with condoms?
Why, they are for Men!
That might embarrass
Him or His friends.

"Kids will have sex
if they see those ads!
Advertise Trojans?
That would be BAD!"

But Semicid ads,
in all of their glory,
don't make me want
a suppository.

And no commercial
I've seen for Depends
makes bladder control
threatened to end.

Plus, condoms can save us.
We all need protection
to help men and women
avoid an infection.

So King, set us free
from what you believe.
Make sexual equality
All we conceive.

Lose the male ego
and chose a new tactic.
Make tasteful ads
to sell prophylactics.

Exciting Array of Ways To Really Get Involved

By Emily Damanskis

How many of you happened to read my editorial in the March issue on getting involved in local organizations? (I'm not holding my breath.) But, in case any of you have caught the activist bug, or if you are looking for a chance to get involved, here is a listing of upcoming events and meetings in the area:

Annual People's Tax Day Demonstration and Rally. Come and join local community, peace and justice activists at the 30th Street Post Office (30th and Market Sts.) calling for money for people's needs and the cities and not the military, with an emphasis on youth. Featured speaker, Ron Daniels, Campaign for New Tomorrow. Call Jobs With Peace at 925-5667 or SANE/FREEZE/Act for Peace and Justice at 387-5773 to help pr get involved. *Thursday, April 15, 5:30 p.m.*

Earth Day Program on "Socialists and the Environmental Movement" at 4711 Chester Ave., Philadelphia. Roundtable discussion with representatives from the Philadelphia Greens, Delaware Valley Toxics Campaign, and Philadelphia DSA. Sponsored by Philadelphia Democratic Socialists of America. Call 248-9013 or 729-6738 for details. *Sunday, April 18, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.*

The 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation. It's a matter of human rights. It's a matter of justice. For information about the march, write: March on Washington, P.O. Box 34607,

Washington D.C. 20043 or call (202) 628-0493. *Sunday, April 25.*

Sexuality, Gender, and Race: Realities of the Asian American Artist. FREE gallery exhibition. Fighting stereotypes, the artists presented in this exhibition deal with issues of sexuality, gender, race, and the heritage of war and colonialism. Painted Bride Art Center, 230 Vine Street, Philadelphia. Call 925-9914. *May 7 - June 14*

Philadelphia N.O.W. (National Organization of Women) meets at 1218 Chestnut Street, Room 308, Philadelphia. (Meeting on April 5 will be moved to April 12. Call 922-6040. *First Monday of each month, 5:30 p.m.*

ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power), a political activist group which seeks AIDS legislation and policy reform. General meetings at St. Luke's Church, 330 South 13th Street, Philadelphia. Call 925-7121. *Every Monday, 7:30 p.m.*

WHAM! (Women's Health Action Mobilization) is committed to demanding, securing, and defending absolute reproductive freedom and quality health care for all women. Meetings are free and open to all women. General meeting at AFSCME D.C. 47, 1606 Walnut Street. Call 731-1844. *Every Tuesday, 7 p.m.*

Greens of Philadelphia, an environmental organization, meet at 1501 Cherry Street. For more info, call 235-0562. *4th Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m.*