

# Wanna graduate?

By Mari Ostbye  
Staff writer

Do you think accumulating credits, attending classes and getting good grades are enough to get the coveted sheepskin?

Think again.

Accumulating enough credits in a satisfactory manner does not automatically entitle you to a diploma.

Here's what you need to do:

## Get your Degree Audit

A degree audit will tell you which classes you have completed, what classes you need and what classes fulfill various requirements. Together with your advisor you can map out your semester (or semesters) to come.

## Indicate your intent to graduate

It is your responsibility to notify the University you want to graduate.

This should be done by using the Telephone Graduation System at the beginning of the semester you plan to graduate.

To graduate at the Delaware

County campus, call the telephone Registration System at (610) 892-0600. To graduate at University Park, call (814) 863-9000. The graduation activation period typically begins one week before to the beginning of classes, and continues two weeks into the semester.

**Remember:** No one will remind you to activate the graduation system, it is your responsibility to indicate your intent to graduate.

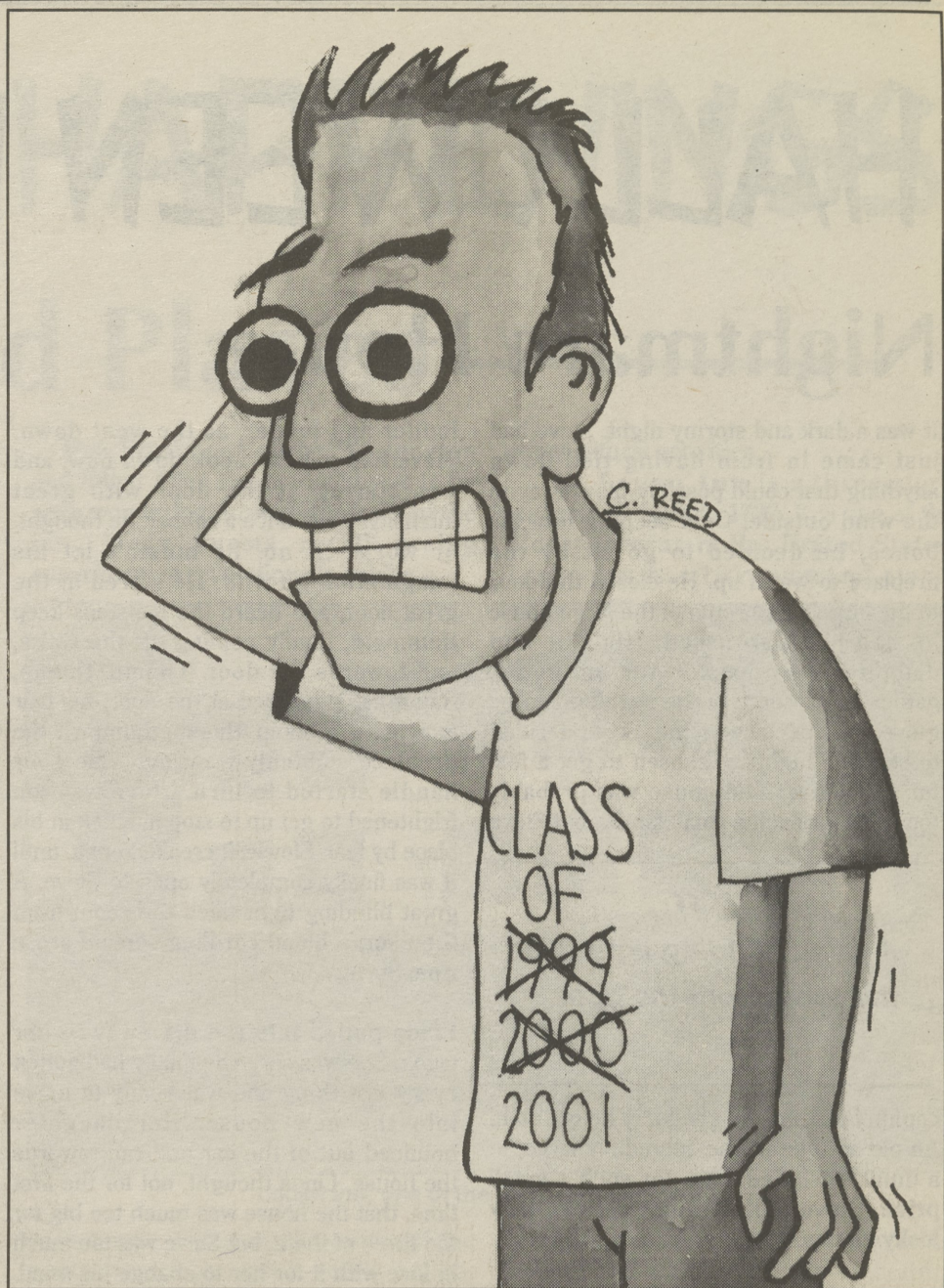
## Then what?

One good indication you're on schedule to graduate is that you'll receive letters in the mail concerning the details of your name, address, degree(s), and major(s). This is to ensure the University has your correct information in its systems. If something is not right, correct it.

No letters? There's a good chance, you're not going to graduate. At least not this semester.

## Last-minute panic

When all else fails, go see Mrs. Schull in the registrar's office. She might be able to save you ...



# Solving the utensil dilemma

By Anteia Consorto  
Staff Writer

Have you ever gone to a formal dinner, looked at your place setting, and noticed a million different utensils in front of you?

What are you going to do with them all? You don't want to look unsophisticated, so remember: Just work from the outside in.

That's all fine and dandy, but if you don't really know what you're doing, then chances are your table manners are lacking.

That's why many students (and even some faculty) attended "How to Dine and Act Fine," an etiquette lunch held Sept. 21. Conducted by Ann Marie Sabath, an etiquette expert and author of many eti-



Photo courtesy of BARBARA DANIEL

Students learn dining etiquette during a recent seminar at Penn State Delco.

quette books, the luncheon was held to help students prepare for business luncheons.

You never know when you'll have to dine with a current or prospective employer. Not only are you being interviewed through questions, but also through your manners and behavior.

And if you don't know what you're doing, you could come off as rude or unsophisticated. Students learned many different etiquette rules and how to eat in a refined manner.

"One does not play checkers with one's plates," said Sabath. In other words, wherever a plate is when you sit down is where it stays; you don't move the plates around to suit you.

Never season your food before tasting it; by doing you assume the food isn't to your liking and can offend your host! Assuming, as she said, can make an ass out of you.

When out at a business luncheon, never ask the host, "what are you having?" Always ask, "What do you recommend?" That way you can get a price range. And never go over the price of what was recommended!

Don't order anything messy either, like ribs or any other finger foods. Imagine discussing high finance while licking bar-b-que sauce off your fingers. Not a pretty picture.

"Ice cubes are not the edible part of a beverage," said Sabath. Once your drink is down to a quarter of a glass, have it refilled or that's it, don't drink it past

“  
Ice cubes are not  
the edible part of  
a beverage.

ANN MARIE  
SABATH,  
ETIQUETTE EXPERT

”

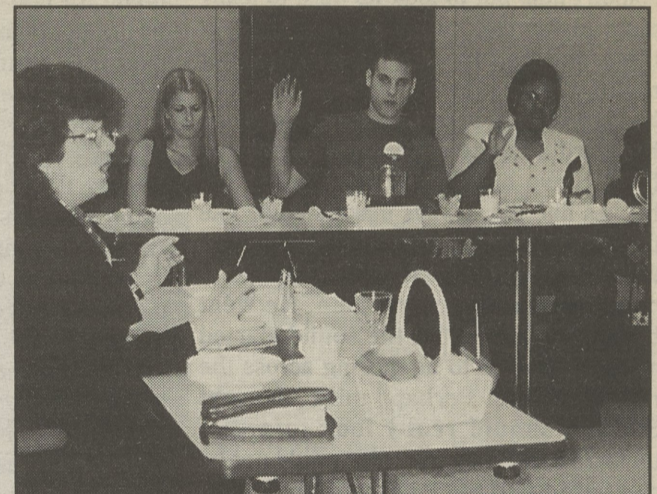


Photo courtesy of BARBARA DANIEL

Ann Marie Sabath leads an etiquette session for local students.

that mark and don't crunch on the ice at the table.

And please, please never blow your nose at the table! Nobody wants to watch you digging up there!

Oh, and men, it is only proper to stand for a lady when she arrives and departs from the table — not to mention your girlfriend will feel special when you do that for her!

Students who are unsure about how to deal with a business or other formal luncheon should stop in the Student Life department.

Many of Sabath's books are available for reference.

Now go out there and put your etiquette to the test.

But remember, be conscience of your eating habits.

Some things are meant to be kept for the privacy of your home ... with the curtains closed!

## The Six Commandments for using napkins

- I. Thou shalt place thy napkin on thy lap as soon as everyone is seated.
- II. Thou shalt place thy napkin folded in half with its crease toward you.
- III. Thou shalt know that it is appropriate to use thy napkin either before taking a drink, after taking a drink — or both — whichever is necessary for thee.
- IV. Thou shalt place thy napkin on thy

chair or to the left side of thy plate when excusing thyself from the table for a "fleeting moment."

V. Thou shalt leave thy napkin on thy lap until everyone at thy table has finished dining.

VI. Thou shalt place thy napkin to the right of thy plate when leaving the table at the end of the meal.

\* Thou shalt excuse thyself from the table only when it is necessary, since thine exit can break the momentum of the meal. If thou need to leave thy table, thou shalt do so between courses.

— "Table Manners Tips"  
by Ann Marie Sabath