

**Cat and Mouse Game**

# 'Casey the Cat' Protects White Rats In Oak Cottage Experimental Center

By PAT HALLER

It's the old game of cat-and-mouse at Oak Cottage where Casey the cat chases the rat. But here Casey is also the best friend a white rat could have.

Casey's caretaker, Eugene Kemmerling, senior in wood utilization from Feasterville, said Casey was brought to Oak Cottage in May 1958 to protect experimental white rats. Wild rats were getting under the cages and biting the white rats' toes.

White experimental rats are presently being used by the Department of Foods and Nutrition for experiments in dental caries on the study of tooth decay.

Naturally, unhappy white rats do not make good studies for any type of experiment. Therefore results were always poor because the rats would not cooperate. Kemmerling said they began to notice the white rats chewed toes and started looking for the causes.

Evidence was found of the presence of wild rats and later they were seen at work. They decided to get a cat to guard the cages and the white rats' toes. He said Casey was brought to Oak Cottage when she was two months old and a "tiny ball of gray fur."

Kemmerling explained that the object of the experiments, which have been going on since Jan., 1958, is to find the relationship of tooth decay to breakfast cereals now on the market. Four whole grain cereals, corn, rice, oats and wheat are being used as the controls for the experiments.

He said that for each whole grain cereal, corresponding breakfast cereals are used over a period of sixty days. The study is being conducted under the sponsorship of the National Institute of Health by Mary L. Dodds, professor of foods and nutrition in the College of Home Economics.

Kemmerling said that since Casey's arrival there has been no sign of wild rats and the white rats are happy again. But, he said, as is usual with most animals, Casey soon became more than just the protector of white rats. She became their playmate since white rats have no reason to fear cats.

He said that Casey has also become the pet of everyone who finds his way to Oak Cottage.

Three Casey is queen and rules her palace. She is free to come and go throughout the house as she pleases. He said she can usually be found on the front porch or among the hemlocks surrounding the cottage. Kemmerling also added that Casey has even attended a class in Boucke.

**Educational Television--**

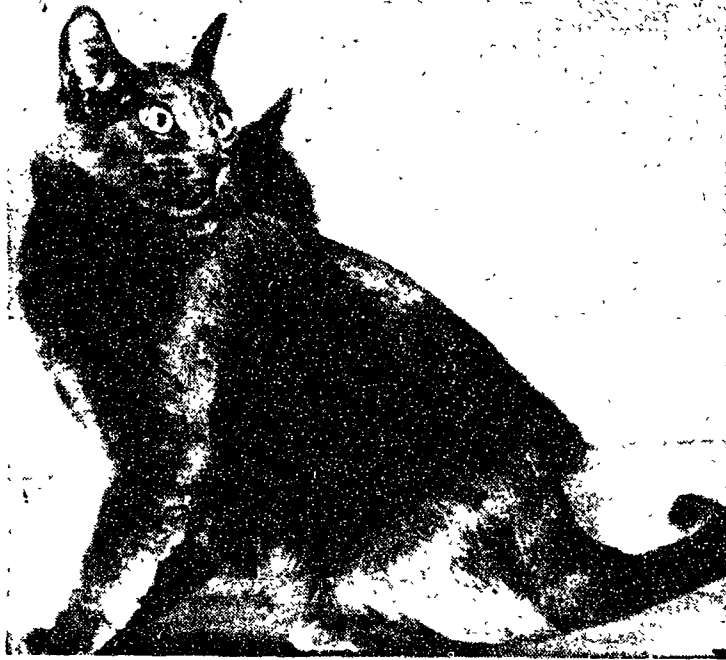
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they did not want educational television to progress in a hit or miss fashion.

Dr. Milton Eisenhower, then President of the University, wanted to see a state-wide system develop with Penn State as the axis.

At that time the University was given the use of Channel 44 on ultra high frequency which is virtually useless in this type of opment of the system was that terrain.

Another problem in the development of Pennsylvania was only given four channels of the 252 reserved for non-commercial stations. These covered only 50 per cent of the state.



—Collegian Photo by Sam Wilson

**THE RATS' BEST FRIEND**—Casey the cat is friend and protector of the white rats kept in Oak Cottage whose toes were bitten by wild rats. The white rats are being used in experiments by the Department of Foods and Nutrition.

## Seniors Finish 1st Solo Flights

Five seniors have recently completed their first solo flights as part of the Air Force ROTC flight instruction program at the University.

These men are Herbert Ludwig, John Russell, Raymond Skomra, William Smith and John Welty.

According to Col. Orin H. Rigley, Jr., professor of air science, the program is restricted to senior Advanced Air Force ROTC cadets who are programmed to become U.S. Air Force jet pilots. Each cadet receives 36½ hours of flight instruction.

Upon successful completion of the program and graduation from the University, the student is commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and sent to a primary flight training school where he will begin training for his jet pilot wings.

## Optometric Society To Award Grant

A 4-year full tuition scholarship, valued at \$3000, will be awarded each year to the Pennsylvania State College of Optometry in Philadelphia.

The Mid-Counties Optometric Society recently endorsed this scholarship program set up by the State Optometric Association.

Students must complete two years of pre-optometry work in an accredited college or university to become eligible for the scholarship.

A Dutch linguist says he has worked out a new language based on pure mathematics. He says it can be used to talk to creatures from other worlds.

# Student Hunts Props For Victorian Play

By ZANDY SLOSSON

Most people would throw up their hands in despair if they were given the job of finding a Victorian fireplace screen, a black horsehair sofa, three converted oil lamps and "everything else." But it was just a routine assignment for Barbara Foster, senior in journalism from Williamsburg.

As property crew manager for "John Gabriel Borkman," Miss Foster made innumerable frantic phone calls to local residents, students and faculty members to assemble the Victorian period set necessary for this second Players' production.

"John Gabriel Borkman," which is currently running at Center Stage, is set in the heat of the industrial revolution when such robber barons as J. P. Morgan and John D. Rockefeller thrived. It was written by Henrik Ibsen who is also well known for such plays as "The Wild Duck" and "The Doll's House."

"After receiving a list of props needed for the three-act drama, I talked to Russell Whalley (assistant professor of theatre arts) who suggested people and places where the furniture might be located," Miss Foster explained.

One of the persons she was referred to was Wolfgang Meyer, professor of mechanical engineering.

The lead proved to be very successful," Miss Foster said. "After a truck ride to his summer home near Millheim, we found the black sofa and two chairs of the right period."

But this was only the beginning. Her next job was to find three oil lamps that had been, or could be, converted to batteries.

"After calling several women connected with the community theatre, I was referred to a resident who had a table model lamp which she was happy to loan us," she said. The other two were

located in stores and converted by the students.

Other props which the crew collected from the "prop cage," in the basement of Schwab Auditorium, and through students include: music case, battered play manuscript, spectacles, calling card and tray, broken umbrella and lace doilies.

## New Constitution Adopted by TIM

The Town Independent Men's Council has passed a new constitution which provides for an item veto for the president.

The constitution, which is much the same as the former one, also says that a new member may be installed in the council by a majority rather than a unanimous vote.

The constitution was passed without discussion. It had been discussed at the last meeting, when it was passed on first reading.

The council also voted to allow the executive committee to decide to lend the equipment used in Las Vegas night. A town women's group had inquired about the use of the equipment.

## PRINTING

Letterpress • Offset

Commercial Printing

352 E. College AD 8-6794

# Dancin' and Jammin' at LaGalleria

The La Galleria is now open for dancing to live music every **WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY** evenings along with a newly instigated TGIF session. That's right people; **NO LONGER DO YOU HAVE TO FALL BY THE WAYSIDE**, fall by La Galleria because we've got what you've been asking for—a real dance floor with fresh wax.

Non dancers, stags (men or women), wallflowers or old Engineering professors and students need not be scared by thoughts of sweet draggy music; instead we have contracted for the best musical aggregation in the town—that of course being the **DAVE ATKINSON QUARTET**, a group of note.

Of course on Tuesdays and Thursdays **TED HARTMAN'S** automatic 45 rpm will play the music. Come on in, have a pizza and dance or listen—just come down and see what Pete Nastase has been yelling about in his back room. He had no ballroom and now we've all got a chance to take advantage of it.

**Wednesday 8 - 11**

**Friday 9:15 - 12:30**

**Saturday 9:15 - 12:30**

plus the big TGIF Session from 4:15 - 6:30  
all featuring the Dave Atkinson Quartet at

**La GALLERIA** THE NATION'S NEWEST SHOWPLACE

## Riding Club Meeting

**Wednesday, Jan. 6**

**217 Willard**

**7 p.m.**

Nomination of president,  
vice president, and  
secretary.

All members urged to attend.