

# Moral monument has other purpose

By JOHN WEAGRAFF  
Collegian Staff Writer

Contrary to popular legend the Penn State obelisk has a purpose other than serving as an indicator of one's moral standing.

According to the plaque found on the obelisk, Magnus C. Ihlsenk, the University's first professor of mining engineering and geology, put forth the idea for the monument in 1894 as an experiment in the weathering process of stone.

The actual placing of the stones, which was completed in 1896, was handled by Thomas C. Hopkins, then assistant professor of economic geology.

The structure consists of 281 stones collected from various Pennsylvania rock quarries. The stones represent the sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous rock groups and are placed in the polyolith according to geological age, with the oldest at the bottom and the youngest at the top.

In a letter to University President George W. Atherton in 1896, Ihlsenk said, "The obelisk exhibits many of the varieties of structural material with which Pennsylvania is endowed and reveals the possibilities of artistic combinations from our native products."

"To the builder, similar information is given together with that afforded by the reports of the physical tests and microscopic

examination of its constituent specimens," Atherton wrote.

The obelisk was the subject of a thesis written in 1899 by William Affelder, then a candidate for a bachelor of science degree. Affelder made microscopic examinations of the stones and described them according to their geological age, location in the polyolith, donating quarry, origin and estimated worth as building material.

In 1949 John E. Allan, associate professor of geology, took the data compiled by Affelder and made note of the effects of weathering on the stones. Records of Allan's readings are on file in the Penn State Room at Pattee and at the Earth and Mineral Sciences Library.

Because of the somewhat obscure purpose of the obelisk, students have supplied their own interpretations of its intent.

The prevailing legend is that if a virgin walks in front of the obelisk, the structure will tumble to her virtuous feet.

An older and more conservative legend contends that the body of "Old Jerry," the mule used to haul the stones to build Old Main, is buried at the foot of the obelisk.

Each individual must answer the mystery of the obelisk to please his own imagination. It may be a monument to the geological ages of the earth, the burial ground of a tired mule, or perhaps the final resting place of campus morality.



Trick or treating?

The Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) members of the Kappa Kappa Kappa Company, Govinda Warrier, prepares an actor for his role in the play Mahabharata, to be presented at 8:30 p.m. Thursday in Schwab. The Indian company, on its first tour of the United States, is being sponsored by the International Affairs Committee of the College of The Liberal Arts.

# Jets bomb trail in supply raids

SAIGON (AP) — American B52 jets bombed the Ho Chi Minh trail again yesterday, beginning a third week of concentrated raids on North Vietnam's supply line in the Laotian panhandle.

Other big bombs were diverted to attack enemy supply and communications lines in Cambodia. Smaller U.S. aircraft flew tactical support missions for the royal Laotian army.

There have been no B52 raids on South Vietnam since Oct. 10, although smaller planes continue to support operations of U.S. and South Vietnamese troops.

The Laotian bombing campaign is aimed at thwarting a North Vietnamese effort to move war materials to Communist-led troops in Cambodia and South Vietnam during the dry season.

The U.S. Command released air force photos yesterday showing tons of supplies moving down streams in the area. Other pictures showed supply trucks in flames along the Ho Chi Minh trail.

Ground activity remained light and scattered in Vietnam and Cambodia, and the U.S. Command said there were no major engagements involving American troops.

A spokesman for the U.S. 7th Fleet, which supports the Indochina war, said 19 of the fleet's approximately 130 ships were being inactivated as part of President Nixon's cutback of U.S. forces in Southeast Asia.

Those to be retired include two 42,000-ton aircraft carriers, the Shangri La and the Bon Homme Richard; three destroyers, eight amphibious ships, two minesweepers and four oilers, refrigerator and ammunition ships, he added.

The spokesman declined to say whether the 19 would be replaced, but other sources said most would not be.

## SIL official says Miss Davis innocent

# UCLA case discussed

David Ward, program chairman of Students for Individual Liberty, said Wednesday night that Angela Davis was guilty of no crime in supplying guns to a group that raided a California county court because there was no proof that those people would initiate force.

Miss Davis, a former assistant professor at University of California at Los Angeles and an avowed Communist, was arrested Oct. 13 in New York for supplying guns to a group of blacks who raided the Marion County Hall of Justice in San Rafael, Calif., in an attempted kidnapping.

Ward, who spoke at a SIL meeting, said he also opposed preventive detention and conspiracy laws for the same reason, he noted, by taking the life of the individual as its highest value.

Referring to altruist philosophies, which subordinate the value of the individual to others, he said there should be no sacrificing of oneself. Those who do so, he said, have a wrong sense of values since they are giving a greater for a lesser value.

SIL members will travel to Boston to attend a speech by Ayn Rand at 8 p.m. Nov. 1. Interested persons should contact David Lampo (7th-political science-Lancaster.)

The problem with each of these views, Ward said, is that they do not state the reason for their political system. Therefore the means became the ends, he said, which is shown today in "conservatives who are for law and order but don't know why, and liberals who are for freedom but don't know what to do with it."

Objectivism solves this problem, he noted, by taking the life of the individual as its highest value.

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# YAF members sponsor conservative book sale

The Young Americans for Freedom will hold a book sale from Monday to Friday next week on the ground floor of the Metrol Union Building, Chairman Thomas Mitros said last night at a meeting of the group.

The books are being sold at cost, Mitros said. Most of the books range in price from 10 to 50 cents.

The idea of the sale is to bring students into contact with the ideas of YAF, he said. They cover social and economic thought, conservative philosophy, Communism and American politics.

YAF will donate one copy of each book to the library, Mitros said, because "there is no other way to get libertarian books into the library."

YAF will also start the publication of a weekly news letter Mitros said. Called "Reflections on Freedom" it will be distributed on the seats of classrooms and at the YAF table in the HUB, Ken Boehm (10th-political science-Hatboro), and editor of the newsletter, said.

YAF will conduct a membership drive from now until January, Mitros said. The drive is part of a contest sponsored by the national organization. Prizes will be awarded to the chapters with the most new members. The prizes are: a speech by cartoonist Al Capp for first place; a speech by Congressman Phillip Crane (R-Illinois) for second place; a mimeograph machine for third place and \$50 for fourth place. Dues for the national organization are one dollar.

# Women sue to keep abortion records secret

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Three women who said they obtained abortions at Magee Women's Hospital filed suit in Allegheny County Court yesterday to prevent District Attorney Robert Duggan from obtaining their hospital case records.

Duggan issued subpoenas against the hospital earlier this month to obtain the records to substantiate his charge that three staff physicians at the hospital conspired to commit illegal abortions.

The three women are Mary Berman and Iris Nahemow, both of Pittsburgh and Elizabeth Slegodnik. They claim to represent 900 others who received abortions at the hospital this year.

Their suit charged Duggan with using the abortion issue to "seek publicity and political advantage for the Republican Party of which he is a prominent member . . ."

Duggan's office issued the original complaint Oct. 2 against Drs. Wilfred Finegold, Louis Meyers and Felix Miller. A hearing is scheduled on the charges for Nov. 10.

Judge Anne X. Alpern scheduled a hearing for Nov. 4 into the three women's request for a preliminary injunction to bar Duggan from obtaining the hospital data.

# Canadians despise French terrorists

PITTSBURGH — (AP) — A Canadian diplomat said yesterday terrorists activities in his country are "equally abhorrent" to all Canadians and expressed belief that sentiment is "swinging against separatism" in Quebec.

"French-Canadians are beginning to take their place in the sun of Canada as genuinely equal partners in the development not only of their heartland in Quebec, but of all Canada, which is equally their home," said Peter M. Towe, senior minister in the Canadian Embassy in Washington.

Referring to the kidnapping-murder of Quebec's Labor Minister Pierre Laporte and the kidnapping of Richard Cross, British Trade Commissioner, Towe said:

"These kidnapers and assassins are indeed only a handful, a few hundred at most, in a population of 21 million. A number of them are not even Canadians. They find no sympathy at all among the vast majority of our population, whether French or English speaking."

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Saturday, October 24  
**Army Football**  
3 P.M. till 8 P.M.  
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The atmosphere is just like being at the game.  
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WITH OPEN AIR THEATRE SEATING  
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thrill-packed  
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AT  
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Now! the **Flick**  
129 S. ATHERTON ST. 237-2133  
Performances • SAT. and SUN. 2:00  
4:00-6:00-8:00-10:00

**Beyond the Valley of the Dolls**  
SHOCK ROCK!  
This time... they've really gone  
PERFORMANCES SAT. & SUN. 2:00-4:00-6:00-8:00-10:00  
20  
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"★★★★A rare, rewarding screen experience!"  
—New York Daily News  
"One of the best American films of the year!"  
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and 9:45

**CATHAUM**  
COLLEGE 237-3351  
4th WEEK!... 1:30-3:30-5:35-7:45-9:50  
**"CATCH-22"**  
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THE BEST AMERICAN FILM  
I'VE SEEN THIS YEAR!  
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—Bruce Williamson, PLAYBOY  
"CATCH-22" says many things that need to be said again and again! Alan Arkin's performance as Yossarian is great!"  
—Joseph Morgenstern, NEWSWEEK

**STATE**  
NOW... 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30  
Compared to them, the Macbeths were just plain folks and the Borgias were a nice Italian family.  
Angela Lansbury  
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**"Something for Everyone"**  
...the basic black comedy.  
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JERRY GROSS Presents  
Starring **DIANA KJAER** and **MARIE LIJEDAHN**  
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NOW SHOWING  
FANNY... 2:30-5:30-8:30  
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NO PERSONS UNDER 16 ADMITTED!

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PENN STATE PHOTO SHOP (rear of 214 E. College Ave.) — 237-2345  
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Hours: 9 - 12, 1 - 4  
Suggested Attire: Women — jewel neck sweater and no jewelry  
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\$2.00 sitting charge  
Proofs must be picked up within 5 days  
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