

Big Opportunity

GOV. MILTON J. SHAPP finally has given the official word—next month, he will appoint one student from the University to serve as a full member of the Board of Trustees.

By fulfilling a promise made on the steps of Old Main a year ago, the governor has opened the door a bit wider toward legitimate student participation in the affairs of their university.

This primary appointment is only a first step. Shapp has indicated that the appointee will be a sophomore or a junior, who will serve the usual term of three years.

HOPEFULLY ANOTHER undergraduate will be appointed next year — and another the following year. Students eventually will hold three permanent positions on the board — one filled by a senior, one

by a junior and one by a sophomore.

Shapp has indicated that the work of this first student trustee will be under close scrutiny. He will have to perform well, for the governor has stated he will not appoint a second student trustee next year if the first does not work out. This step represents the first real chance for students to do more than complain about their lot. While it is not a remarkable grant of power, it is significant nevertheless — because students now have power where none existed before.

A CYNIC MIGHT say that having three students on the 32 member Board of Trustees fits in well with the concept of majority rule. This probably is true. But the voices of students will be heard soon — and if they are intelligent and sensible, things might change. We need not predict a failure even

before the student assumes his post.

Shapp, who has the responsibility for selecting this student from five recommendations, must choose carefully. We are sure he will, for he realizes that this is a vitally important advancement for the University.

Once the appointment is made, the students must realize that this student is their liaison with the governing body of the University—the final authority for major programs affecting all of us. Use him—he is your representative and he will need to hear from students to do a good job.

THE BIG STEP has been taken at last. Students now must act intelligently and use this new power to best advantage, not for frivolous purposes. We must not lose this opportunity — we have waited too long.



The Sap is Running in the Maple Trees of New Hampshire

graduate forum Hendrix the vet

By LOUIS REDDEN

The death of Jimi Hendrix affected everyone very deeply. But it was an even deeper sense of loss for those of us who are veterans, for Jimi Hendrix, master of the guitar, was an ex-paratrooper who served with the 101st Airborne Division. His music was a reflection of his life—a man's world. A reflection of the feeling of alienation experienced by the youth culture of the nation, and a reflection of his life in the army.

Only Jimi Hendrix could have written Machine Gun and played it with the feeling that he did. Jimi knew what a machine gun was, and the sounds and feelings that went with it. He played with the gut feeling that only death could produce. He played the guitar like a true artist, bringing the horror, the despair and the confusion of combat into every stereo that played him.

Jimi's Star Spangled Banner blew the minds of straight Amerika. But to the veterans, the message was perfectly clear—Amerika stands for violence, for death and for war. The sounds his guitar made were not just random sounds, but the sounds of combat, the sounds of the death machine, the sounds of war. Jimi Hendrix was trying to tell his people the same things that the peace movement has been trying to communicate for years. But Jimi surpassed them all for he was able to convey the real emotions of the war. Not the glory, not the gallantry, not the patriotism, but the fear, agony and alienation that results from the combat experience.

Jimi also is typical of the degradation that came from serving in a racist military. He turned to junk in order to escape from a reality so oppressive that white America can not understand, a reality so oppressive that it finally killed him. Jimi was a token all his life. He had been used, first by the military, then by his managers who used smack to control him. Jimi's last album tells us he wants to be free. Free from the needle. Free from junk. Free from a life that was no better than a prison without bars. Our brother freed himself the only way he knew how. He used the drug he had picked up during his hitch in the army. Death was his final release.

Jimi may be dead, but his music lives on. No one can erase from our memories the first time we heard his/our Star Spangled Banner, or Machine Gun, or Electric Lady Land. Jimi was our brother and Jimi is dead. As much a casualty of American racism and imperialism as the millions of white, black and yellow people who have died in Indochina and in our own cities. We veterans dedicated our peace efforts in Washington to Jimi.

The Concerned Veterans at Penn State, and vets all over the country, are working to non-violently dismember the war machine; from within and from without. Our wasted brothers, like Jimi, and millions of Indochinese dead were executed by the inhuman, criminal forces of power in Washington. The veterans will continue their struggle for a peaceful overthrow of the technocracy. But we need more support.

The next time you hear a police siren, remember Jimi's prophetic, chilling Star Spangled Banner. The next time you are moved by a Hendrix song, remember what our society did to him. Free yourselves; free your sisters and free your brothers. All power to the people through non-violent action.

Letters to the Editor of The Daily Collegian

Orientation: fine job

TO THE EDITOR: As a first term freshman, I would like to comment on the fine job done by the staff and faculty during the orientation period at the beginning of the current term.

Having been warned of the confusion and apparent disinterest prevalent on a large campus, I expected to be treated as one of the masses. However, I was pleasantly surprised by the efficiency with which the orientation program was organized and activated.

On the several occasions that I did require help or information, the person in charge exceeded the requirements of his job. Twice in moments of indecision I was approached by staff members and offered assistance before I actually requested it. At all times I received willing and pleasant help.

I hope my comments on this subject will ensure the continuation of a similar program for future incoming students.

Mary Lou Kuntz
(1st-agriculture-Windberg)

Grow up first

TO THE EDITOR: Terry Nau may lament over his football seating, but it hardly rates as a "Quote of the Week."

Come on children. If you want to play with the big boys

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(trustees, faculty senate) you must grow up first. I sat through five years of Penn State football in your same seats. Now I sit on the 45-yard line, a privilege for which I give the University interest free money for longer and longer periods each time. If you haven't checked lately the tariff is \$30 per season ticket.

I am not a trustee, legislator, vice president, wife of a vice president, cousin of the wife of a vice president and ...

I am a working newspaperman.
Paul D. Lowe
Class of '64

More on HOPS

TO THE EDITOR: I wish to clarify, at this time, a few issues and points connected with my letter to you in your May 13 issue. First of all, I made the statement: "Homosexuality is no more illegal than heterosexuality." With this statement I was merely referring to homosexuality as a state of being, rather than connotating any sexual act(s). State law spells out certain sexual acts that are against the law, but in no way classifies them as homosexual acts—or even heterosexual acts, for that matter.

This past weekend, Colloquy '71 provided a contemporary program on "the changing America." The extremely beneficial aspects of this program need not be mentioned. Unfortunately, though, the University Administration has in the past, and is currently, demonstrating the fact that it doesn't really believe America is, in fact, changing. Colloquy should have directed its efforts to "enlightening" the Administration on the changing American scene—although I must admit that this would be next to impossible, since the Administration doesn't wish to be "enlightened." They are part of the ignorant generation that has been screwing up the world for us since before we were even born!

Concerning Gov. Shapp's program to initiate the "Renaissance Festival" this past Friday on the steps of Old Main—particularly the portion at the end which included Frank Kameny, Colloquy workshop speaker on homosexuality from Washington, D.C.: I am sure most of the student body here at Penn State is sympathetic with the organization "The Other Vision HOPS" and its fight against the

Administration. Let's face it, it got a raw deal and, moreover, the Administration's actions call into question basic student rights and the function and power of the entire Undergraduate Student Government organization. However, I am fairly sure Gov. Shapp was completely unaware of HOPS' existence and its dilemma. The manner in which Shapp was verbally attacked by Kameny was seriously out of line. I am sure we can agree with most of the general content of what Kameny was attempting to convey; but the over-emotionalism and personal affront to the Governor, I feel, only succeeded in alienating a lot of general student support. Many of the students who, like myself, are sympathetic to the HOPS situation found we just could not identify with such an unfair verbal attack. If anything, the attack should have been leveled toward the Administration, asking only for Gov. Shapp's guidance and support to quickly resolve this controversy. At the same time, though, if my basic assumption is true that Gov. Shapp was completely ignorant of the HOPS situation and even of its existence, he should have answered Kameny's demands noncommittally rather than immediately siding with the Administration.

I wish to conclude by calling for University-wide student and organizational support (even in view of this unfortunate incident) of HOPS and the question of basic student rights and USG powers. HOPS should be given back its rights and privileges and equal protection under its student charter. As Gov. Shapp even states himself: "... just like those of you who have been fighting so long for student rights... you should not turn your backs on another group who is also fighting for their rights as students."

I also hope that this show of student support will force the Administration to recognize its senile attitudes toward the youth movements of today and to sufficiently modify these to create an atmosphere here at Penn State that is both attractive and congenial to a sound educational environment in which Administration, faculty and students can work together in pursuit of all academic endeavors.

Jeffrey L. Stengel
(10th-community development-Emporium, Pa.)

THE NAVY OFFICER INFORMATION TEAM
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Or, for that matter, is Los Angeles? Or Chicago? Or Philadelphia? Or Dallas? Or any other city groping its way to an uninhabitable anachronism. A curious situation has developed in America. Eighty per cent of the people in this country live on less than ten per cent of the land area. There used to be a good reason for this. At the time of the industrial revolution, we congregated in cities because that's where the sources of energy were. Coal. Water. Electricity. And our communications network was so limited that we had to be in close proximity to each other for business and social purposes. No more. There are no longer any good reasons to continue this hopelessly outmoded life style. With the advent of the whole spectrum of new communications available to us (wide-band communications, laser beams), we will have the opportunity to live in significantly less dense population centers. This is no idle prophecy. The concept is quite realistic and well within the bounds

ing information, not, by necessity, people and things. Your home will be the absolute center of your life. You will work from home, shop from home, "visit" with family and friends from home, receive in your home any intellectual or cultural achievement known to man. Fantastic, yes. Fantasy, no. It is quite within reason to expect these changes by the 1980's. If we want them. If we want to change. If we want a better life for ourselves. Technology has advanced to such an extent, that man is now, literally, capable of changing his world. Yet, today, a certain gap has developed between the potential of technology and its use by mankind. There is an obvious contradiction in a method which can land a man on the moon, yet tolerates, perhaps even accepts as inevitable, poverty and ignorance here on earth. There is a contradiction in a method which affords the best of everything for some, and next to nothing for others.

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