

# Co-opted by OTIS

With food prices soaring, students should welcome the opportunity to be co-opted by OTIS.

OTIS plans to operate a food co-op this term, offering goods at close to wholesale prices on a regular basis. It's going to be a computerized operation, a campus market without shopping carts.

Each food item will be represented by a bin of computer cards. To order a can of soup, a student will pull out one card. All his cards will be kept with a master card.

Students will pay \$1 to join and put up a balance equivalent to the maximum amount of groceries they are allowed to buy in one week, probably \$20 worth.

They will order food a week ahead, each week coming in to

pick up their groceries and replenish their balance.

OTIS estimates the potential cost savings for co-op members at between 15 and 20 per cent in the beginning and more if the co-op's buying power increases.

The major loose-end is where to place the co-op. OTIS planners say: give us the HUB Ballroom and we will do the job.

The extent of inventory and brand choice remains to be settled, depending on the first few weeks of operation.

It is too soon to offer praise for such a service, but the idea is encouraging. OTIS is not an organization content to rest on its laurels, re-electing officers and providing the same unevaluated services.

OTIS workers have looked up from their day-to-day tasks and made an effort to become aware of the new problems that confront students: tight money, the responsibilities of legal majority, the question of residency.

They know prices are hurting. The old image of students as wasteful consumers, swilling Cokes and using record shops like revolving doors is false.

Berkeley recognized the need for student co-ops. Harvard and Princeton did several years ago. But the concept has been slow to reach state owned and related schools.

But if anyone considers food co-ops an idea whose time has come, they should credit OTIS for the work.

# 'If this is Altoona, it must be Tuesday'

By FRED RAMSEY  
Collegian Columnist

Has your life been a bit too exciting lately? Do you find yourself caught up in a rat race of pleasure and contentment? Is your environment overstimulating you intellectually?

If you're like me, you probably answered yes to at least one of these questions. I, too, have felt oppressed by opportunity of late, but take heart, for I have the answer that will save us all.

I have put together an unparalleled tour of Pennsylvania's most boring small towns. I think it's ideal for those of you who are enjoying life too much.

Our journey will begin in Pittsburgh, the world's largest small town. After a 15 minute tour of the points of interests, we will have a buffet luncheon at the county workhouse. We will dine as the guests of Mr. Slats Domino, noted contractor and loan shark. All persons are reminded to bring their own flatware and tin cup.

Promptly at 1 or 2 p.m., our oxcart will move toward our first destination — fabulous Wilmerding, home of the Free World's largest beet pickling plant. After a tour that will interest the staunchest

pickled beet fans, we will have an early dinner at Tomaso's of Nicaragua, the area's finest nightclub. However, the ever-present danger of being caught in the folding sidewalks makes it necessary that, for their own safety, all participants return to the cart no later than 5 p.m.

Later in our travels, we will visit such points as Malomir, this year's site of The World Winking and Blinking Festival; Port-Matilda, the home of the largest inland dry dock facilities; and of course, State College, producer of more naval lint per capita than any place in the known universe.

This is just a sample of the delights that await you. There will be side trips to Pennsylvania's two All-American cities, Clearfield and Johnstown, with their huge collections of Moms and apple pies. And a special program involving the entire state legislature with a surprise appearance by the chief Presidential contenders in a watermelon eating contest.

Our guide will be Major Wolfgang Strasser, formerly of the 27th Waffen SS. He, along with his faithful lieutenants, will ensure that all those who begin the tour complete it.

All sleeping accommodations for this tour have been thoughtfully provided by PennDOT through its excellent series of Roadside Rests. Dining arrangements have been made with the Department of Corrections, or where jails are unavailable, local hospitals.

We will have two classes of travel: Economy, which will permit you to ride in the oxcart, and Poverty, which compels you to pull it.

And for you insatiable bore buffs, we are organizing several more tours: The first, two weeks of seclusion in the Pottstown State Hospital for the Criminally Bored, was highly recommended in a recent nationwide poll of sociology instructors. And for the true cognoscenti, we proudly present a personally guided tour of Bert Park's New Jersey.

Well, there you have it, carefully planned gems of ennui, just ripe for the plucking. If you find yourself completely disinterested, why don't you contact us today. We're Nocturnale Aviation, but don't look for us in the Yellow Pages, we don't have a phone.

Just remember our motto: lose a little something from your life, be bored.

# Letters to the Editor

## Students, that's who

of these regulations by cyclists.

Observe cyclists' actions on almost any street and you will see them falling to use turn signals, riding through stop signs and signals, riding on the sidewalk, riding the wrong way on one-way streets, falling to have license plates or registration tags, riding without lights at night, riding two or three abreast on single lane roads, and in general, forgetting that it takes courtesy from cyclists and car drivers if all are to share equal rights on the roads.

Larry White  
Class of '48

## Tsk, tsk

TO THE EDITOR: After the recent wave of activity, education and advancement in the area of women's rights, one would assume that by this time everyone would understand that women really are capable, intelligent and serious-minded people.

Women have distinguished themselves in all fields and are increasingly being delegated positions formerly held exclusively by men.

So widespread has this emancipation been that some have even speculated on a woman president and the prospect of a woman in the dome seemed as feasible as the old notion of the woman in the home. Even at Penn State, where the ruffling of a few feathers always infuriates a few birds, women's liberation was making real and significant progress.

Until several weeks ago, that is. The recent decision to dig up and reactivate the one-year dead Homecoming Queen Contest is a major step backward into the dark ages when women were mere showpieces of society.

Perhaps it is a part of the nostalgia which is creeping in and threatening to break up the chain of progress begun in the last decade. Possibly some of us have been too optimistic in measuring the scope of that progress. The fact that the King-Riggs contest was seen first as a sex battle and only secondly as an athletic competition, is evidence that women still have a long way to go before they are accepted as a matter of course in all areas of society.

The Homecoming Queen contest does nothing to further this fight.

Regina Canuso  
(4th-political science)

# the Collegian

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## You're residents

TO THE EDITOR: On the question of student voter registration in Centre County, there has been much talk of declaring residency or non-residency. It is not up to the County commissioners, the County tax assessor or the individual student to decide whether or not students are citizens of Centre County. This decision was made in the 1970 census when students were counted as residing in Centre County. As a result of this great increase in population, the County became a fifth class county, with the accompanying increase in salaries for the commissioners and other county officials.

Isn't it strange that these public servants accepted the increase in remuneration at the same time that they were plotting and scheming, as they still are, to keep their student benefactors from attaining their civil rights?

The only legal residence of PSU students is Centre County. The 77th legislative district was reapportioned on the basis of the 1970 census. Students therefore must register to vote in this district. It's a question of "law 'n' order!"

Marianne "Mike" Van Dommelen  
State College resident

## Lawbreakers on bikes

TO THE EDITOR: In her Sept. 20 letter, Ms. White hit the nail on the head when she said that bicycles are "subject to the same rules and regulations as automobiles." Many of us who drive cars are fed up with the constant and blatant disregard

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