

Entertainment remains 1st goal Colloquy 'shift' a try at diversity

By DAVID VANHORN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

There has been little shift in emphasis from entertainment to education in Colloquy's programming, Lisa Schwab, president of the organization, said.

Schwab said there has not been a shift, but the number of major speakers is related to the amount of money Colloquy has to work with. Thus, she said, the shift from major entertainment speakers to programs, such as the Wide World of Health, which had no major speakers, was made not to be less entertaining, but to compensate for the lack of funds and to add diversity.

"We're not trying to sacrifice quality. We're looking for a balance," she said.

Schwab said she was "disappointed" with last Friday's Daily Collegian headline saying Colloquy "wants" \$34,000 for next year. She said she doesn't expect Colloquy to get their proposed sum, but hopes the organization will receive about \$25,000, as much as they had this year.

"We're providing a service to students, but the headline made us look greedy," Schwab said. "We do not have selfish goals."

Speakers Committee Chairman Pete Michaelson said the cost of major speakers has risen at a surprising rate. Schwab said next year's program will be held in Eisenhower and Schwab

Auditoriums. Although Rec Hall holds more people, it costs more to rent, she said. A ticket policy imposed on Colloquy to deter the possible destruction by a large crowd also takes some money from the fund, Schwab said.

The Good Humor Men, a 1976-77 program featuring Mel Blanc and Allen Funt, was the most popular program last year, Schwab said. She said it is hard to compare last year's success with this year's successful programs because of different topics. Colloquy's current priority, she said, is to form next year's fall program.

Colloquy's programs cost \$2-3,000

A Colloquy-sponsored program costs between \$2,000 and \$3,500, Lisa Schwab, president of Colloquy, said.

This price includes transportation, accommodations and the agent's fee for the speaker. Colloquy spends an additional \$400-\$500 per program for publicity, tickets and auditorium rental.

Speakers like James Michener and Dr. Louis Debaque were exceptions. They spoke at reduced costs because they wanted to speak at the University and also because they are friends of University officials, Schwab said.

"We like exceptions," Schwab said, "but we don't count on them."

Plans for next year are "totally speculative" at this time, Schwab said. She said she would like to start the year with a major speaker, possibly George Plimpton. A tentative theme for fall is human rights, she said, and possible speakers include U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young and Donald Wood, a former editor of a South African newspaper and author of 'Biko,' book concerning the beating death of Steve Biko, a South African black leader. Michaelson said Colloquy is forming a strong program with a strong base to attract people.

"I would like to see a base formed from the University, and structured around the main speaker," he said. "Our major object right now is to form a program interesting to the whole population with well-known speakers within the confines of our budget," Michaelson said.

Schwab said two to six workshops are incorporated into each program to bring people in from the community and to create interest in the topic for small groups. Michaelson also said the volunteer workshops are a "viable alternative."

There is a reception after each program for the speaker and Colloquy members. "We usually sponsor a movie to raise money for that," Schwab said.

A main speaker is employed occasionally to stimulate interest for Colloquy workshops. Workshop speakers are generally University and local persons who speak on a particular subject free of charge.

Costs for University Concert Committee events depend on the bands' contracts. Some bands' prices include meals, lodging and transportation. Others have the UCC handle these charges — it is less trouble for the band.

Rec Hall, lighting and publicity are additional costs for UCC, UCC President-elect Bob Coppenhaver said.

A rock band such as America or the Doobie Brothers can cost \$30,000 while the Tubes or Harry Chapin run about \$10,000.

UCC is concentrating on its Mini Concert Series, a program designed to satisfy small audiences with a diversity of musical tastes, Coppenhaver said.

Jazz Club Treasurer Terry L. Katz said, "Prices for a jazz band can extend from \$300 to \$5,000. Some nationally exposed groups like George Benson can cost over \$10,000." — by Anita J. Spiegler

Planners' concern over rezoning seen

The Centre Regional Planning Commission voted Thursday night to send a letter to the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors expressing concern about the rezoning of a lot for commercial use.

The rezoning of the land, located near the intersection of Routes 45 and 26, has been approved by the township's planning commission and is to be voted on by the supervisors.

Carol Herrmann, State College representative on the regional commission, said the rezoning would amount to strip-commercial use, which is not recommended by the regional general comprehensive plan.

The original rezoning request had been for a small section of the lot, however, spot zoning also is frowned upon by the plan, Regional Planning Director Ron Short said.

The commission is primarily concerned that adequate water and sewage facilities may not exist for any commercial development, according to Thomas Pelick, the commission's representative from Ferguson Township.

Pelick said the lot in question is outside the primary growth line, which is the area that could be served adequately by State College water and sewage facilities.

Student shocked by faulty cable

A University student received an electric shock Thursday night after touching a fence post in front of Hibbs Hall that had been driven into an underground electric cable.

Richard DiSammartino (7th-finance) said he was thrown to the ground, unconscious, when he touched the post to jump over the fence. He walked back to his dorm in South Halls to report the incident to police.

According to officer Vincent Vidonish of University Police Services, there was a 48-volt current running through the wires. "This was a lot of voltage to begin with," Vidonish said, "and the wet ground most likely amplified it."

University maintenance workers turned off the electricity in the cable to repair the wires and to prevent further conduction from the cable to the fence pole.


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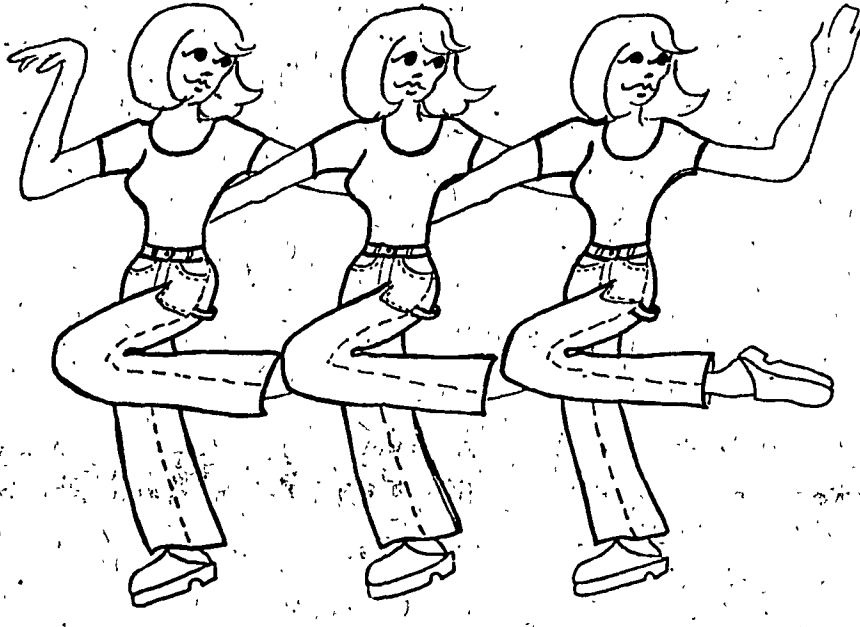
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