

'Thorn Birds' faces parents' ire

By ELLIOT GROSSMAN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
PENN'S VALLEY — Members have been selected for a textbook review committee that will evaluate the merits of a controversial best-selling novel for use in Penn's Valley High School classes, high school principal John Rimmey said Tuesday.

The school board directed Rimmey to form the committee after several parents complained at a September board meeting that "The Thorn Birds," by Colleen McCullough, contained questionable sexual references and should not be read by high school students.

Although overall the "book is good," Kathy Wilson, a Centre Hall parent, said Tuesday, it gives a wrong view of sex and should not be used in high school classes.

"It gives a very one-sided version where the man has all the pleasure," Wilson said. "That's not the way it should be. Love is a two-sided sword." If a young girl reads the book she will

be afraid to have sex for the first time, she said.

The three pages in question describe the first sexual encounter of a newlywed couple in which the woman repeatedly endures physical pain in intercourse. The man forces the woman to continue intercourse, despite the woman's pain, to satisfy himself.

Rimmey said the committee will be chaired by himself and composed of a district administrator, a librarian, a teacher and two citizens. District policy requires a district principal to form a textbook review committee after a formal complaint is filed against the use of a book, he said.

Rimmey would not reveal who he appointed to the committee. If the committee members' names were made public, he said, influence could be exerted on them.

Although all of the committee members have been notified of their appointments, he said, the committee has not yet met because one of the

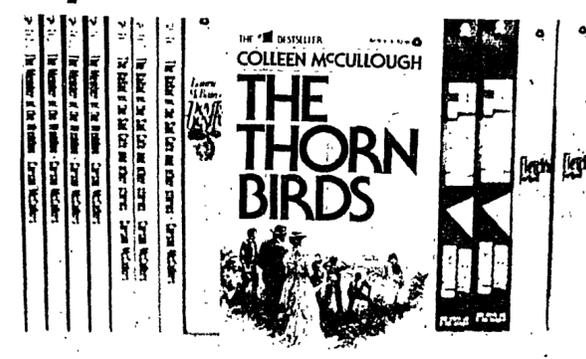


Photo by Dave Kraft

citizens has not yet accepted or even responded to his appointment.

That appointment, Rimmey said, was made on the recommendation of Wilson, the formal complainant.

He said he would make another ap-

pointment if a response doesn't come soon.

After the committee meets and makes a recommendation to the school board on the use of the novel, the board will make the final decision on its use.

Free University, USG Senate get ASA funds

By JAN CORWIN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
The Free University, the Hetzel Union Board, the Jazz Club, and the Undergraduate Student Government Senate received funds from the Associated Student Activities Budgetary Committee yesterday.

Free U requested supplemental funds for travel and were allocated \$381.50 for two people to attend the National Free University Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, Oct. 20-22. ASA member Ken Lipowitz said the committee made an exception to their usual policy of not funding travel since "a large number of students could benefit by their (Free U's) reorganization."

HUB received \$129.53 in supplemental funds for two people to attend the Association of College Unions-International Regional

Conference. They were also allocated \$240 for rental of facilities, and 72 column inches of Daily Collegian advertising. Director of Student Activities Melvyn Klein said HUB always has been funded for travel to this convention, so the decision was not an exception to ASA policy.

Jazz Club was allocated \$200 to have the group "Marginal Jazz" play in the HUB Auditorium on Oct. 25. They also received \$5 for flyers and 30 column inches of Collegian advertising to publicize the event.

The Undergraduate Student Government Senate requested funds for publishing a newsletter, "Campus Bookstore," which would be composed of information on textbooks and classified advertisements from students wishing to sell textbooks. They received \$568.

Scranton to meet with students

By DOROTHY HINCHCLIFF
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

William W. Scranton III, Republican candidate for lieutenant governor, will meet with student leaders and University officials as part of his campaign in the State College area.

Scranton will arrive in the area about 11:30 a.m. and meet with local GOP officials at the Republican headquarters in State College. After a walking tour of the business district at noon, he will attend a luncheon at 1 p.m. in Gatsby's Restaurant.

State Sen. J. Doyle Corman (R-34), 23rd District Congressional candidate William F. Clinger Jr. and 77th District State House candidate Gregg Cunningham will join Scranton at the luncheon.

Reservations for the luncheon can be made by calling Republican headquarters in State College or Bellefonte.

Following a press conference at Gatsby's at 2 p.m., Scranton will walk to the HUB to meet with student leaders. Afterwards, he will meet with University officials and do more sidewalk campaigning before he leaves the area about 4 p.m.

Rhodesia attacks guerrilla bases

SALISBURY, Rhodesia (UPI) — Rhodesian troops Wednesday attacked guerrilla bases in Mozambique for the second time in less than a month in a search-and-kill operation aimed at thwarting an expected rainy season offensive.

The military command said the invasion was mounted against strongholds of the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army of Patriotic Front leader Robert Mugabe.

"Rhodesian security forces today

launched a self-defense operation against ZANLA bases in Mozambique," a communique said.

The military command refused to give further details on the raids or say how long they would last.

Prime Minister Ian Smith, stumping the United States to seek support for his biracial interim regime, defended the invasion as a "necessity" for dealing with terrorists.

Smith, speaking in Houston, reiterated his willingness to meet with Patriotic

Front leaders but rejected preconditions sought by the United States and Britain.

The latest attack was apparently designed to accomplish what an earlier four-day ground-and-air strike against ZANLA camps in Mozambique failed to do — kill guerrillas in large numbers.

On Sunday, insurgents perched on hillsides in eastern Rhodesia attacked Umtali with rockets, mortars and small arms in the most intensive bombardment ever launched against the border city.

At Hamilton Hall: In case of fire, sound airhorn

By JIM WILHELM
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

A student officer carrying an air horn would have been the main warning system in the event of a fire at Hamilton Hall last weekend because the regular fire alarm system was inoperable due to an electrical problem, West Halls Coordinator Terrell Jones said.

If a fire would have occurred, the student officer would have had to run from floor to floor sounding the air horn, Jones said. That would have alerted the approximately 700 male students in Hamilton Hall.

"The same thing happened once last year," Jones said. "It's an old system and it definitely has a couple of problems. It's certainly not the latest system they ever made."

At least one RA in Hamilton Hall has complained he wasn't told an air horn would signal a fire and said dorm residents would not have known it was a signal.

"They discovered the system was out of order Friday night," said Tim Pool (8th-1fs), the RA for Locust House. "Nobody told me about it until the next morning (Saturday) when a police services officer knocked on my door at 5 a.m." "It was probably a communication breakdown," said University fire prevention specialist F. Tom Hand, referring to Pool's experience. "The air horn system has been used before in such situations and it works well. The only other alternative would be to run around knocking on doors."

Hand said the air horn releases a "penetrating

sound" that can easily be heard down the halls. The air horn used is similar to the type used on boats, he said.

"Normally, if we know ahead of time a system will be shut down, we'll notify everybody quickly," Hand said. "When the system goes all at once, we notify the RAs first."

Jones said West Halls operates on two different alarm systems, with two back-up systems. The three tri-dorms in the upper quad, Watts, Irvin and Jordan Halls, operate on a "continuous ring" system.

Under the "continuous ring" system, anyone breaking the glass in the emergency boxes on the floors of the three dorms would set off an alarm that would ring until it is shut off, Jones said.

The lower quad dorms, Thompson and

Hamilton Halls, have a "pattern drills" system, Jones said. With this system, anyone breaking the glass must pull a lever inside to set off an alarm that lasts about five minutes and automatically shuts off, he said.

There are also two back-up systems, Jones said. The first is a small alarm that rings in the housing office in Hamilton if the regular "pattern drills" alarm doesn't reset itself after shutting off, Jones said. The second is a bell that automatically rings on the master switchboard in the maintenance office.

In addition to the back-up systems, Hand said there are two systems in the event of a power blackout. One system runs on emergency power which comes on as soon as a blackout occurs. The other system runs on battery power.

Hamilton Hall already has had five or six false alarms this term, Jones said. He said he's afraid dorm residents will begin to ignore fire alarms.

"When those bells ring you want people to respond," Jones said. "People are so used to false alarms, they're starting to ignore fire drills like Pavlov's dog."

A fire drill Monday night was a success, Jones said, despite a heavy rain that kept most students from leaving the dorm lobby to go outside.

"Let's hope it stays that way," Jones said. "West Halls are some of the older dorms on campus and probably some of the most flammable. In general, though, students respond well to drills."

"That's what really counts," Hand said.

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