Clap hat makes Penn Staters smile

By ROSA EBERLY
Collegian Staff Writer

"What I have no one else has."

That's for sure. Chuck Furimsky, a 1965 University graduate from Somerset County, is the only man who can deliver a Penn State clap hat.

clap.hat (klap' hat), *n.* a blue cap with two white hands above the brim, which, when pulled by a string below the wearer's chin, clap.

You might have seen Furimsky on football Saturdays this fall — selling the hat at the corner of Pugh Street and East College Avenue or walking through Beaver Stadium making people laugh.

Furimsky, who vended hot dogs when he was a student, has some of the vending spirit left in his system.

"Here I am, what, almost 20 years later, doing something that people yell for."

And last Saturday in Beaver Stadium yell they did: "Clap the hat! Clap the hat!"

"I didn't sell the hat (at the stadium)," he said. "I just wanted to show it."

So far, Furimsky has sold 40 hats. And he said he isn't doing it for the money, but for the satisfaction of making people happy.

"People walking on the street . . . just aren't as happy as they used to be. I just pull this string and they break up."

"I pick out a face — a lady in her 50s. I'll go like this (pulls the string) and she'll die."

Furimsky said most people who see the hat want to buy it, but they are too inhibited.

"A lot of these guys on the street don't buy this hat from me. They want it but there's something inside of them that says 'You're too old to be acting silly.'

"The hat is not something you want to put on if you have any inhibitions."

Furimsky said he surprised many of the people who saw the hat and didn't understand how it worked.

"People can't see the string," he said. "So many people came past and said: 'Oh. Is that how you do it?' "

The hat was the brainchild of Richard Miltmore, a friend of Furimsky's who lives in Maine. Miltmore sends the hats — with hands — to Furimsky, who letters them in his basement and brings them to Happy Valley.

The hat was perfected when Furimsky changed its mechanics. He shortened and relocated the string that connects the hands so they clap better.

"I have a sixth sense for knowing what people like," said Furimsky, who owns two businesses at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort, near Somerset.

In addition to being sold at the corner of Pugh and College on football Saturdays, the clap hats are available exclusively at the All-American Rathskeller, 108 S. Pugh St., Furimsky said. Furimsky worked at the 'Skeller while attending the University.

"That was always a happy and fun place and the hat is a fun thing, too. I thought I'd like the hats to be sold in the 'Skeller," he said.

Photo by Steve Shaw

He may have graduated 17 years ago, but Chuck Furimsky still has the Penn State spirit. You can catch him every football Saturday selling his clap hats at the corner of Pugh Street and East College Avenue.

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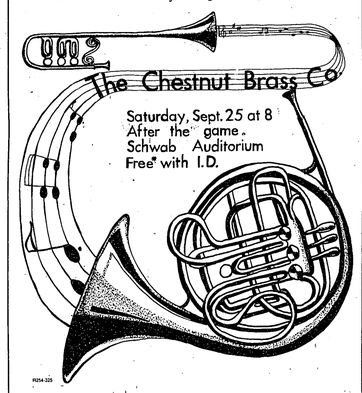

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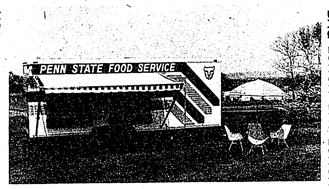

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Any questions? Contact Phil Gutis, Collegian editor, or Sal Heffentreyer, news adviser, at 865-1828.
126 Carnegie
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Student funding still available, official says

By ALECIA SWASY
Collegian Staff Writer

Although many University students were affected by financial aid cuts, some who assumed they would lose funding may have been misled by rumors that student aid is history, John Brugel, director of the University Office of Financial Aid, said.

More than 7,000 University students were affected by this year's student aid cuts, but help may be in sight for those already receiving Pell Grants and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants.

Because Congress overrode President Reagan's veto of a supplemental funding bill, the SEOG will be receiving additional money this year. The extra funds, available Winter Term, will be used to enhance the awards of those who already have an SEOG, Brugel said. The office will be reviewing students' applications to find unmet needs, but no new grants will be issued.

The Pell grant, previously named the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant, will also receive additional funds under the supplemental funding bill, said Doug Stormant of the Office of Student Financial Assistance of the Department of Education.

This year, more single veterans were found ineligible, or are receiving reduced awards than previous years.

The University's office of financial aid should receive a revised payment schedule, which is used to determine a student's eligibility in time for winter term, Brugel said.

Some students receiving veteran's or Social Security benefits have been denied their Pell grants or have had them cut, because those benefits are now considered a direct resource instead of income items, Brugel said.

This year, more single veterans were found ineligible, or are receiving reduced awards than previous years, said Karen Sampsel, secretary for the Pell grant program for the University.

Students who rely on other financial aid programs such as National Direct Student Loans, work study and Guaranteed Student Loans, are starting to feel this year's cutbacks.

The GSL program, which provides low-interest loans through private lending agencies with the federal government paying the interest while a student is attending school, has toughened its qualifications.

The GSL needs test has been revised so that students whose family income is less than $30,000 automatically qualify for a loan, but students who exceed this amount have to demonstrate a need.

Many students misled themselves when they saw the family income limit, and automatically assumed they would be ineligible, Brugel said.

While some schools were slow in processing the GSLs because of Congress's delay in approving the needs test in June, the University was able to cope, Brugel said.

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SPECIAL EVENTS
Friday-Sunday, September 24-26

Friday, September 24
Pass Fail.
Sports: JV football vs. Nassau Community College, 2 p.m.; soccer vs. Cleveland State, 6:30 p.m.
Geography Dept. Coffee Hour, 3:40 p.m., Room 319 Walker Bldg. David Kibler, civil engineering, on "Trickles to Torrents: Urbanization and Runoff."
GSA films, *Harold and Maude* and *The Graduate*, 6 p.m.-1 a.m., Rooms 101 and 112 Chambers. Also Sept. 25 and 26.
PSU Wargamers meeting, 6 p.m., Room 107 Sackett.
Commonsplace Theatre, *Arthur*, 7 and 9 p.m., Room 112 Kern. Also Sept. 25 and 26.
Interlandia Folkdancing, 7:30 p.m., HUB.

Saturday, September 25
Pass-Fail.
PSU Wargamers meeting, noon, Room 107 Sackett. Also Sept. 26.
Sports: football vs. Nebraska, 3:45 p.m.
France-Cinema, Weir, *Gallipoli*, 7 and 9 p.m., Room 112 Kern. Also Sept. 27.

Sunday, September 26
Alliance Christian Fellowship meeting, 10:45 a.m., HUB Assembly Room.
Alpha Kappa Psi meeting, 7 p.m., Room 306 Boucke.

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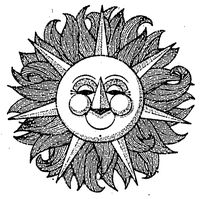

This Sunday in the Centre Daily Times
Story and pics on the birth of the blue duiker at Penn State.
The first in a series of staff-written interviews for state races with CDT reporter Terry Dalton out of Harrisburg.
Complete coverage of this week's Penn State-Nebraska game.