

Earthy woes:

Prof says more man/environment relationship studies needed

By BEVERLY M. PAYTON
Collegian Staff Writer

One area of science that deserves more consideration is the study of man's relationship to his environment, the dean of the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences told journalism graduate students Tuesday.

"There are going to be horror stories in the news, monthly," Charles L. Hosler Jr. predicted, unless more serious attention is focused on the area of global geo-chemistry.

Hosler said this entails such familiar environmental concerns as the ozone layer, the "greenhouse effect," groundwater contamination, and Red Tide.

For example, Hosler said every year there is a 2 percent increase of methane in the atmosphere. Methane, a component of natural gas, results from the decomposition of organic matter in marshes and mines or from the carbonization of coal. Methane reacts photochemically with oxygen to produce ozone, he said.

The chief contributors to the ozone content of the atmosphere include cows, termites and the anaerobic bacteria involved in rice culture, Hosler said.

Another environmental concern, Hosler said, is the destruction of tropical rain forests, which increases the carbon dioxide content in the atmosphere.

However, Hosler said sometimes there is undeserved public outcry over environmental issues that are not really problems. As an example he cited public opposition to the incineration of toxic substances at sea.

The by-product — carbon dioxide, water and hydrochloric acid — is relatively harmless compared to the alternatives of dumping the raw toxic chemicals into the sea or burying them in landfills and risking the possibility of groundwater contamination, he said. While hydrochloric acid is a toxin, Hosler said the ocean is alkaline and neutralizes the acid.

Discussing the interdependence of science and politics, Hosler said that in his capacity as dean, he had to be a

political advocate for the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences which receives two-thirds of its support from government and industry.

"You think of the scientist working quietly in his lab, hoping someone will appreciate the wonderful things he's doing, but it doesn't work out that way," he said.

The college raises about \$13 million a year, Hosler said he must insure that research programs are supported at the congressional level.

"There must be thousands of professors lobbying in Washington every day," he said. "The ivory tower is very heavily involved in the establishment."

PSU desegregation may get more funds

By GAIL JOHNSON
Collegian Staff Writer

Harold Levy, the University's acting affirmative action officer, yesterday said he hopes a new committee to monitor the state's desegregation plan in higher education will recommend an increase in funds for the University's desegregation programs.

Gov. Dick Thornburgh recently appointed the seven-member advisory panel to monitor the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Plan for Equal Opportunity in the State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education.

He said the panel itself is part of the plan and was included "to help insure that a high quality college education is available to all Pennsylvanians."

"Basically, I think it's a good idea in terms of monitoring progress of state's desegregation plan," Levy said. "And it's a good idea to oversee the

needs of the colleges and universities."

He added that Penn State needs more money to carry out the programs outlined in the desegregation plan, and that he hopes the committee will go back to the governor with a recommendation to increase funds for the University.

One of the committee's functions, according to a prepared statement from the governor's press office, will be to review proposals designed to assist all 32 institutions in desegregation efforts and expenditures.

Also, the committee will review all reports, including annual progress reports, on desegregation plans before they are submitted to the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights, the statement said.

A third committee function will be to provide guidance on such issues as cooperative agreements between institutions.

The Plan for Equal Opportunity in the State-

Supported Institutions of Higher Education was designed by the Thornburgh administration to increase opportunities for higher education for minorities in the state, concentrating specifically on improving the environment at Cheyney University and Lincoln University.

The committee will meet periodically during the plan's five-year implementation period that began this month.

Committee members include: Michael A. Davis of Havertown, a member of the law firm of Blank, Rome, Comisky and McCauley, of Philadelphia and former general counsel of the state Department of Education; William H. Duncan of Lancaster, president emeritus of Millersville University of Pennsylvania; David E. Epperson of Pittsburgh, dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work; Elizabeth J. Harper of Pittsburgh, regional office manager of American Micrographics of Monroeville and member of the State Board of Education.

Advisory group formed for COG police study

By TERI WELLS
Collegian Staff Writer

The Centre Region Council of Governments' (COG) public services committee has formed an ad hoc technical advisory committee to offer suggestions on a study of police services in the area.

COG last month authorized Stephen D. Mastroski, a University assistant professor of administration of justice, to administer the \$4,300 study. The study will determine the feasibility of a centralized police force in the Centre Region.

The ad hoc technical committee, formed at the public services meeting on Feb. 1, will advise Mastroski and the public services committee on the technical details of the study.

Elliot Abrams, COG public services committee chairman, said yesterday the committee is still in the process of outlining the procedures for structuring the police study.

COG is approaching the study with no inclination to favor or disfavor a centralized police force, he said. The public services committee will again discuss procedures for the study at its meeting March 7.

Mastroski said the term "regional police force" should not be applied to the study because of the primary emphasis of his research will be to see what police services are most effective in Centre County and whether changes are desirable.

"It is important that the administrators of the jurisdictions which would be affected by a change in police services take part in the

planning stages because they would have to implement any change if one should occur."

Mastroski said he will meet with members of the technical committee this week to obtain more information about the individual jurisdictions he will be studying.

Mastroski has prepared two background reports in an attempt to develop the criteria and strategies on which the study will be based, he said.

"The criteria focus on the questions of 'what does police performance mean?' and 'what do you expect the centralization study to produce,'" Mastroski said.

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Ex-Laurel Glen tenants to get deposit refunds

By TIM EYSTER
and ALICE RUDELPH
Collegian Staff Writers

Tenants of the former Laurel Glen apartments — now Heritage Oaks and Penwood North — will soon receive payment on security deposits lost when the complex went bankrupt in 1980, according to the attorney and dispersing agent for the deposits.

Michael Day yesterday said a total of \$50,156.82 will be paid to the tenants. "As soon as I can possibly get the checks signed and the envelopes stuffed and stamped,"

Day said. The amount to be paid to former tenants is less than the amount claimed because some tenants who occupied the apartments before the bankruptcy filed for claims and could not receive any payments. He said these occupants should have filed a claim with the district magistrate before the bankruptcy was filed.

Once the additional claims were taken off and adjustments made for those who claimed more than their share of the deposits, the \$50,000 figure was determined.

Although a total of \$101,620 in security deposits was owed to people when the incident occurred, Day said not all tenants filed claims for their share

of the money. He added that \$40,000 held in an escrow fund by the owners, and the accrued interest from this money, is the maximum amount that can be paid to the former tenants of the complex.

In addition, some tenants will not receive full payments because they were not on the property management corporation lists or could not be located, Charles Harrison, director for off-campus programs in Student Services, said yesterday.

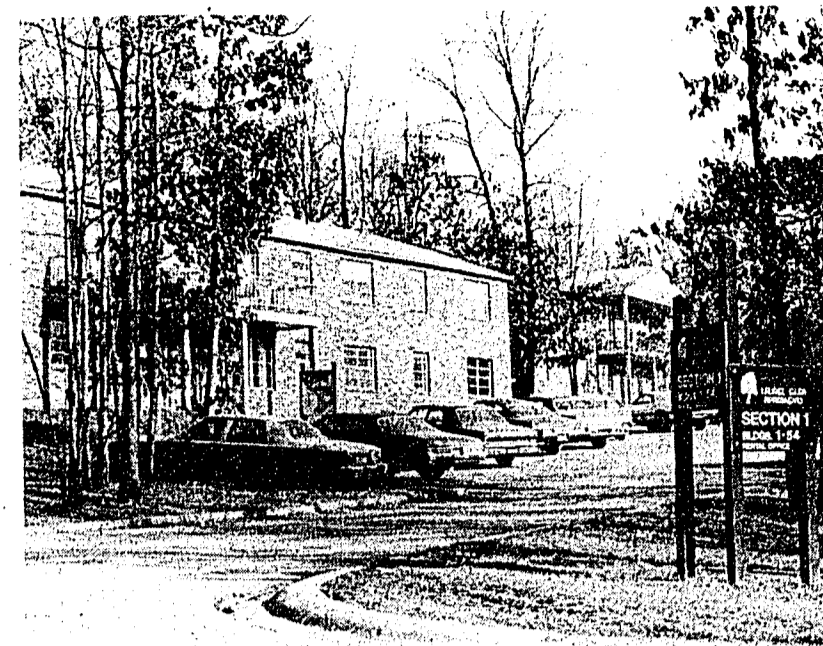
More than \$12,000 had to be subtracted from the \$101,620 originally lost because of unpaid rent and damages, Harrison said.

Also, Harrison said the tenants could have filed for double damages, but this action did not seem feasible.

"Tenants could have filed for double damages, but it appeared as if that was not a worthwhile expenditure of time or money," Harrison said.

The problem with Laurel Glen security deposits began in 1976 when former owner Stanley Melnick filed for bankruptcy.

Melnick had contributed \$40,000 to help recover the amount due, Day said. No additional funds were available because of the extensive liens on Melnick's assets by his creditors.



1979 file photo of Laurel Glen Apartments

4 University experiments get free ride on June 4 shuttle

By T.J. MARTIN
Collegian Staff Writer

With the help of General Electric Co., four experiments developed by University undergraduates will enter space on June 4 aboard STS-10, the maiden voyage of the space shuttle Discovery.

The University's involvement in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Get Away Special (GAS) program began in December, 1981, when the GE Space Division in Valley Forge donated the launch services of a 2.5 cubic foot canister with a 100-pound payload capacity to the University. GE had purchased the launch services from NASA for \$5,000, Mike Thames, associate payload manager, said.

In addition to the launch services, GE also donated the use of its satellite testing facilities to help ensure the success of the experiments and to make sure the canister containing the experiments meets NASA shuttle payload standards, according to a University prepared statement.

The first experiment, designed and built by Mark Kedzierski, (graduate-mechanical engineering) will show the amount of heat transferred by convection, Thames said. Because convection is dependent on gravity, it will not occur in space. By performing a similar experiment on earth,

and comparing the two, students will be able to determine the amount of heat transferred by convection.

The second experiment, also designed by engineering science students, is designed to measure the effect of gravity on surface tension.

Thames said, "Surface tension, for example, is when you put a needle or a pin very gently on the top of a smooth surface of water, like (in) a cup, and it'll stay right there, it won't sink. The force that's holding it up is surface tension."

The third experiment was designed by undergraduates in the aerospace engineering department and will test the feasibility of a proposed waste heat dissipater for use aboard the shuttle. This experiment will measure the heat loss of hot fluid particles ejected through space.

The fourth experiment, known as the liquid slosh experiment, will measure the force of liquid propellant in the tanks of spin-stabilized satellites during altitudes and positioning maneuvers by utilizing a mock fuel tank and also photograph the motion of this liquid, Thames said.

This force causes the satellite to wobble when it maneuvers, he said. Hughes Aircraft Co., which manufactures spin-stabilized spacecraft, has spent about \$10 million to solve this problem, Thames said.

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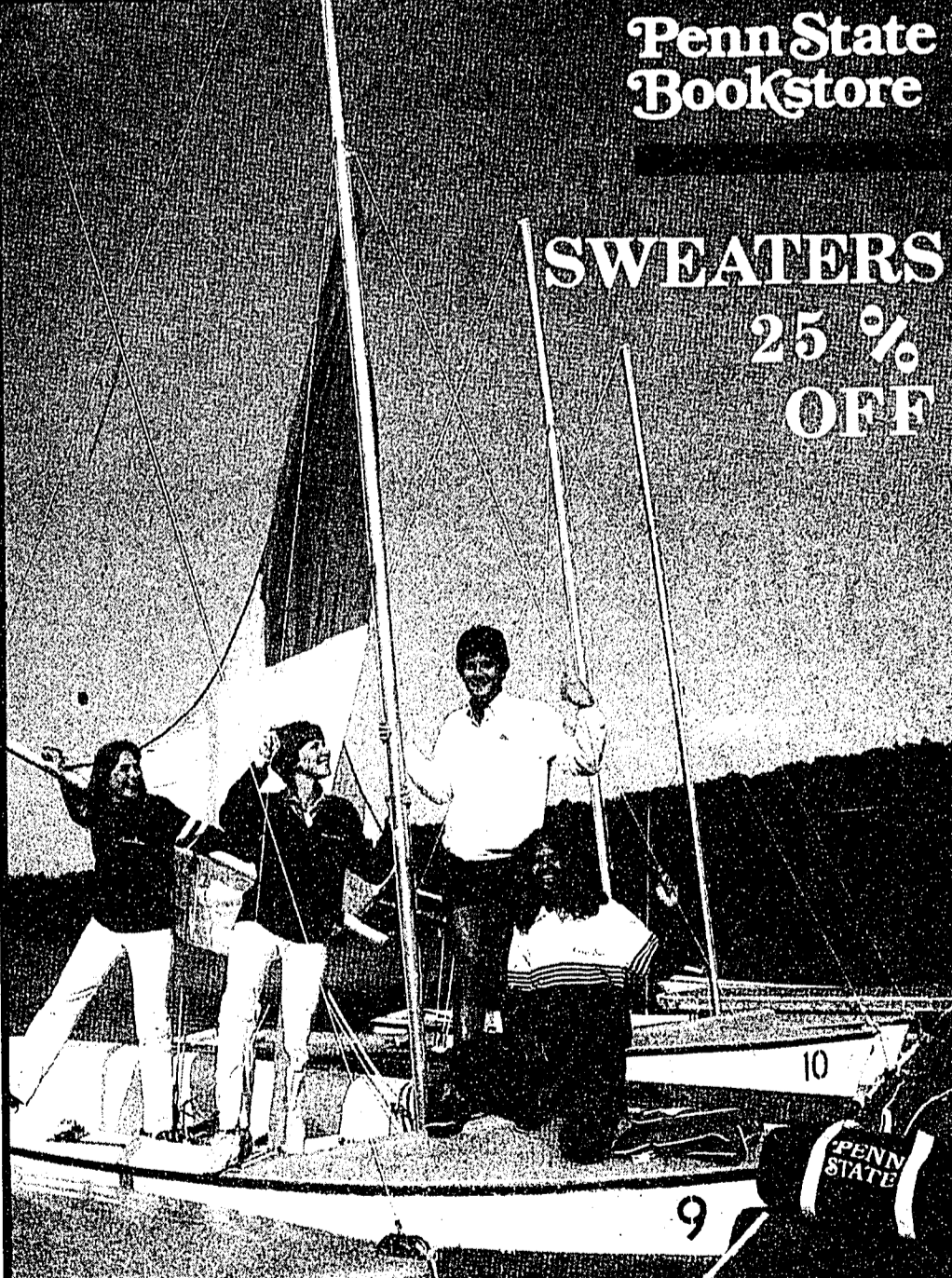


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