

Walden to lead American studies

Prolific professor to take reins of interdisciplinary program

By CINDY L. DAVIS
Collegian Staff Writer

A University professor has recently been named the director of the American Studies program.

Daniel Walden, professor of American studies, on July 1 took over the duties of Harrison T. Meserole, professor of English. Walden had been the acting director of the program since Jan. 1 while Meserole was on leave.

Walden, a faculty member since 1966, teaches courses in American studies, comparative literature and humanities. He is also active in ethnic and minority studies and is known for his work on many 20th century writers.

Walden said he is especially concerned with Black and Jewish writers. He said this stems from living in Philadelphia as a child and then living in New York City between the 1940s and 1960s.

"I was always conscious of discrimination and sensitive to minority concerns as a Jewish boy growing up in that society," Walden said.

Some of his books in the ethnic area include: "Studies in American Jewish Literature," "Jewish Women Writers and Women in Jewish Literature," "Twentieth Century American-Jewish Fiction Writers," "On Being Jewish: American Jewish Writers from Chaim Potok to Richard Wright, Ben Hecht and W.E.B. DuBois."

Other Walden books are entitled: "American Reform: The Ambiguous Legacy," "Readings in American Nationalism," and "The Contemporary New Communities Movement in the United States."

Walden said he will travel to Australia in August to speak for the U.S. Information Agency and will discuss American studies and American literature at many Australian universities.

At the end of September, Walden will be in St. Louis to address the Utopian Studies Conference, for which he speaks annually, and will talk to Jewish women writers in Washington, D.C. during October.

He has also given talks at the Modern Language Association Convention and the American Culture Association meetings.

In addition, Walden said he spends a great deal of time working on the "American Hero." He said he traces the evolution of the American hero image from our first hero — George Washington — to the recent confusion and blurring of the concept.

The last decade that the United States really had a national hero was in the 1920s, maybe as late as the 1930s, Walden said.

Babe Ruth's 60 home runs and Charles Lindbergh's first flight across the Atlantic made them heroes of the 1920s. He said Franklin D. Roosevelt came close to being a hero in the 1930s, but since then, establishing an absolute hero has become more and more difficult.

"Every society needs a hero," Walden said. "Reasons for the lack of heroes in our present society, he said, stem from changes in the media, the advances of science and technology and society's altered needs."

His busy life, Walden said, "I like commitments and I like to accept them, they give me energy."

The American studies program has been a part of the University for about 20 years, he said, adding that a better term for American studies would be "American culture."

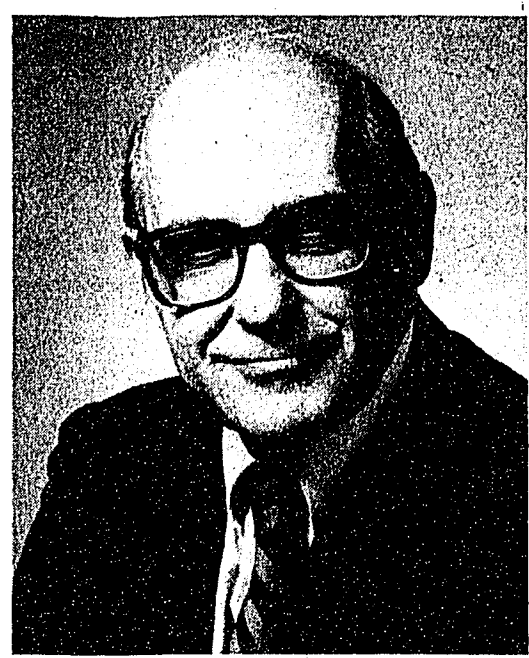
"Instead of concentrating on one discipline, the program tries to understand American culture through a combination of different disciplines," he said.

Four basic areas make up the program: American literature; American history; social sciences; and art, philosophy, and religion. However, the program is not limited to those topics.

Many majors are compatible to the program including labor studies, journalism, history, English, women's studies, religious studies and geography.

Philip Stebbins, associate professor of history, said, "American studies and history complement each other naturally and take essentially the same skill."

Pierce Lewis, professor of geography, said he agrees that American studies can be easily



Daniel Walden

incorporated into many majors. Lewis teaches a course entitled "The American Scene" which draws from geography and American studies.

The course takes a look at the American landscape — the towns, cities, houses and farms that reveal the differences in the American people.

"What American studies does is make sense out of American culture and the American way of life — what makes us different from others," Lewis said.

Walden said the American studies program can also prepare students for careers in government service, law, industry and museology. Even the business world could use knowledge in American studies, he said.

"More and more executives like Liberal Arts majors because they're more imaginative, not limited," Walden said.

The American studies program will introduce a new course for Spring Semester 1985 entitled "The 1930s: The Reality and the Myth."

Pattee's periodicals room undergoes major facelift

By VICTORIA JAFFE
Collegian Staff Writer

The periodicals room at Pattee Library has been reorganized, structurally improved and will be completely renovated by Fall Semester. The head of the Periodicals section said this week.

"This represents such a change for students and faculty in locating information," Jack Pontius said.

James Neal, assistant dean and head of reference and instructional service division, said the reorganization will allow people to go to one location to find periodical materials.

About 4,500 titles in the general humanities and social sciences periodicals have been transferred from the stacks into the periodicals room on the second floor of West Pattee. All materials from 1977 through the present are available in the periodicals room, Neal said.

Rosanna Allen, chief of humanities and social sciences department, said under the reorganization, access will also be improved by an increased number of indices. In addition to the Readers' Index, there will be separate business, humanities, education and social sciences indices, she said.

Reorganization also includes a new area with a mixture of open tables, reading carrels and casual furniture, Neal said.

If this renovation proves successful, particularly moving material from the overcrowded stacks into one room, Neal said it may inspire other areas of Pattee to reorganize in a similar manner.

the periodical room, Neal said. A mechanical "checker" and counter at the doorway have already been installed, and all materials leaving must be signed out, Neal said. He added that this cuts down significantly on the search for unbelieved periodicals — the one to two day wait for materials to get back to the stacks will be eliminated because everything is in one room.

Three new copying machines in the periodicals room and a duplication center — relocated from the East basement — provide convenient replication services.

Not only are materials more readily available, but the periodicals room also has been aesthetically improved, Neal said. New carpeting in the entire room provides a better appearance and also cuts down on noise, he added.

The room has been repainted and new, rearranged furniture provides several distinct reading and gathering areas with a mixture of open tables, reading carrels and casual furniture, Neal said.

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police log

• The State College Police Department reported an accident involving a bicyclist and a truck on Tuesday. A truck operated by Carl L. Dougherty, P.O. Box 52 Hyde, Pa. was traveling south on the 100 block of South Atherton Street, when a bicycle operated by Eric P. Rasmussen, 600 Berkshire Dr., State College, went out of control, jumped the curb and hit the truck. Rasmussen, who had been going north on the west sidewalk, made contact with the truck three times before being thrown back onto the sidewalk. Rasmussen was transported to Centre Community Hospital by Alpha Ambulance where he remains in serious condition.

• University Police Services reported that a female University student was found in Willard on Tuesday afternoon with two active Pipe Bombs. The bombs were confiscated by Police Services who reported charges of Prohibited Offensive Weapons were pending against the student whose name has not been released. An investigation is continuing.

• Donald Stover, 203 Keller, reported the theft of a Film Projector from 203 Keller to University Police Services Tuesday. The projector stolen sometime after July 5 was valued at \$200.00. — by Paul Chiland

collegian notes

• The Arthritis Support Group ASK will be held at 7:30 tonight and Dr. Peter Pepe will speak on "Systemic Lupus Erythematosus" in Conference Room C of Centre Community Hospital.

• The Centre County Campaign for a Nuclear Weapons Freeze will sponsor the Hipsters performing at 8 tonight at the VFW Hall on North Atherton Street.

New wing for medical center approved

By BRUCE L. CARY
Collegian Staff Writer

The University Board of Trustees recently approved the plan adding a new wing to the University's Hershey Medical Center said Carl Andrews, a medical center official.

The wing should be in operation by 1990, he said.

Construction of a seven story unit connected to the back of the center is projected to begin by fall said Pam Hemming, administrator of the Elizabethtown Hospital and Rehabilitation Center, said.

The transfer was recommended by the legislature because of conditions at the aged Elizabethtown facility, Andrews said.

Hemming said he knew the hospital would need to gain support from a larger facility like Hershey.

"For the most part, we are very excited about the move," Hemming added.

The new wing will integrate all services of the Elizabethtown hospital with the medical center, Ralph

Zilly, University vice president for business, said.

Andrews said the wing will facilitate in-patient beds, rehabilitation clinics and support facilities for physical and occupational therapy, Andrews said.

In addition, the wing will contain new in-patient and out-patient child psychiatric units, he said.

The wing will also accommodate the expanded curriculum in the College of Medicine, Andrews said.

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Frisbee: Penn State team members consider it the Ultimate game

By GRACE LOMONACO
Collegian Staff Writer

People of all types know how to play Frisbee and the sport is very popular on beaches, at resorts and on Old Main Lawn.

The people who play the game usually do so for recreation and just plain fun, but a group of people at the University takes the game very seriously.

The Penn State Frisbee Club has been together since before 1976, Bruce Lord, team member for five years said, and they take their Ultimate Frisbee game seriously.

"Penn State was one of the first places people played Ultimate competitively," Lord said.

The University team is among 600 collegiate teams in the nation "and that doesn't count the area teams which are at least that number," team captain Kevin Dagit said.

The seriousness varies from person to person, Lord (graduate-forestry) said, but the team has managed to be one of the better teams in Pennsylvania. The team usually makes it to regional competition and was second in the nation one year, he said.

In the 1983 spring season, the team placed second in the mid-atlantic region, one of five regions in the nation, Lord said.

Scott Keerans, an associate member of the team, said Ultimate practices vary with the season but the team practices all year.

"You've got to be able to run around like you've never run around before. The throwing's just the icing on the cake."

—Jeff Schantzenbach, Penn State Ultimate Frisbee Team member

"Summer is more relaxing than competitive," Keerans said. "We play in bare feet."

The main competitive seasons are fall and spring, he said, but in the winter the team practices indoors primarily to keep in shape. A few tournaments are held but are not as competitive.

Dagit, who has been on the team for three years, said the team plays at least 15 to 20 games in the fall season. That's about how many they should play to get enough experience for sectional and regional competitions, he said.

The University team hosted the regionals this past May. During the fall season, collegiate and area teams compete, Dagit (senior-science) said. In the past two years, during the spring season, only college teams compete, he said.

"The college teams broke into their own league because it was hard to play against (area) teams who had been established for 15 years," Dagit said.

Four-year team member Dave Yunkunis said last year was a transition time for the team because four or five starters left the team.

"It's hard to have a team here because no one stays around very long," Yunkunis said.

Dagit said the team is also deprived being in the center of the state because other college teams are far away and they run into money problems for traveling.

He said Carnegie-Mellon's team is their favorite "rival" because they have established a friendship, "but

Bucknell (University) is probably our biggest rival." "Bucknell is a true rival. We love to play against them and beat them," Dagit said.

Team member Craig Scott said women and men play in tournaments.

"Usually if anyone wants to play they can," Scott said. Lindley Jenner (senior-industrial engineering) said she has been on the team since fall of her freshman year and the people on the Ultimate team were the first people she met at the University.

"The guys are great," Jenner said. "And they are not difficult to play against."

She said there are superstars on the field but women can "hold their own" against them.

"You got to be tough and you can't be afraid to get hurt," Jenner said. "Ultimate is excellent to get you in shape."

Although Jenner has never played in a tournament because she plays on and off, she said her roommate, Karen Marcholak, has played competitively for three years.

Lord said, "It's unfortunate we never had enough (women interested) to have a women's team."

Scott (graduate-biological engineering) said the game is played on a square or rectangular field. Between four and seven players are on a team; usually seven play in a tournament, he said.

Dagit said the field is 120 yards long (including two 25 yard end zones) and 45 yards wide.

The object of the game is to pass the disk to the goal line. A member can run as long as he or she does not hold the disk. When a player has the disk, he or she must plant one foot to pivot on as in basketball, said Scott, who has played on the team for 10 months.

"The first throw is a "pull" or kickoff with both teams at their defending goals. The defense tosses the disk downfield and rushes the offense.

The person possessing the disk has 12 seconds to throw it to a teammate or a "stall" is called and the disk is turned over to the defense, he said.

The game also involves "picks" where a player uses other teammates to lose his or her defensive cover also similar to basketball, Scott said.

Different throws are also used in the game depending on what the possessor needs to get the disk to a teammate, Scott said.

The backhand is the regular throw most people are familiar with, and the overhand or two-finger throw is tossed from the side of the body. The knife is thrown on an arch and does not float on a plane, and the over-head throw sends the disk upside-down through the air.

Dagit said the team does not hold tournaments in the summer because getting enough people together to play is difficult. He said the captains of the teams will meet in Washington on Sept. 1 and 2.

Lord said the captains meet to discuss rule changes and playoff schedules, and figure out schedules for individual tournaments.

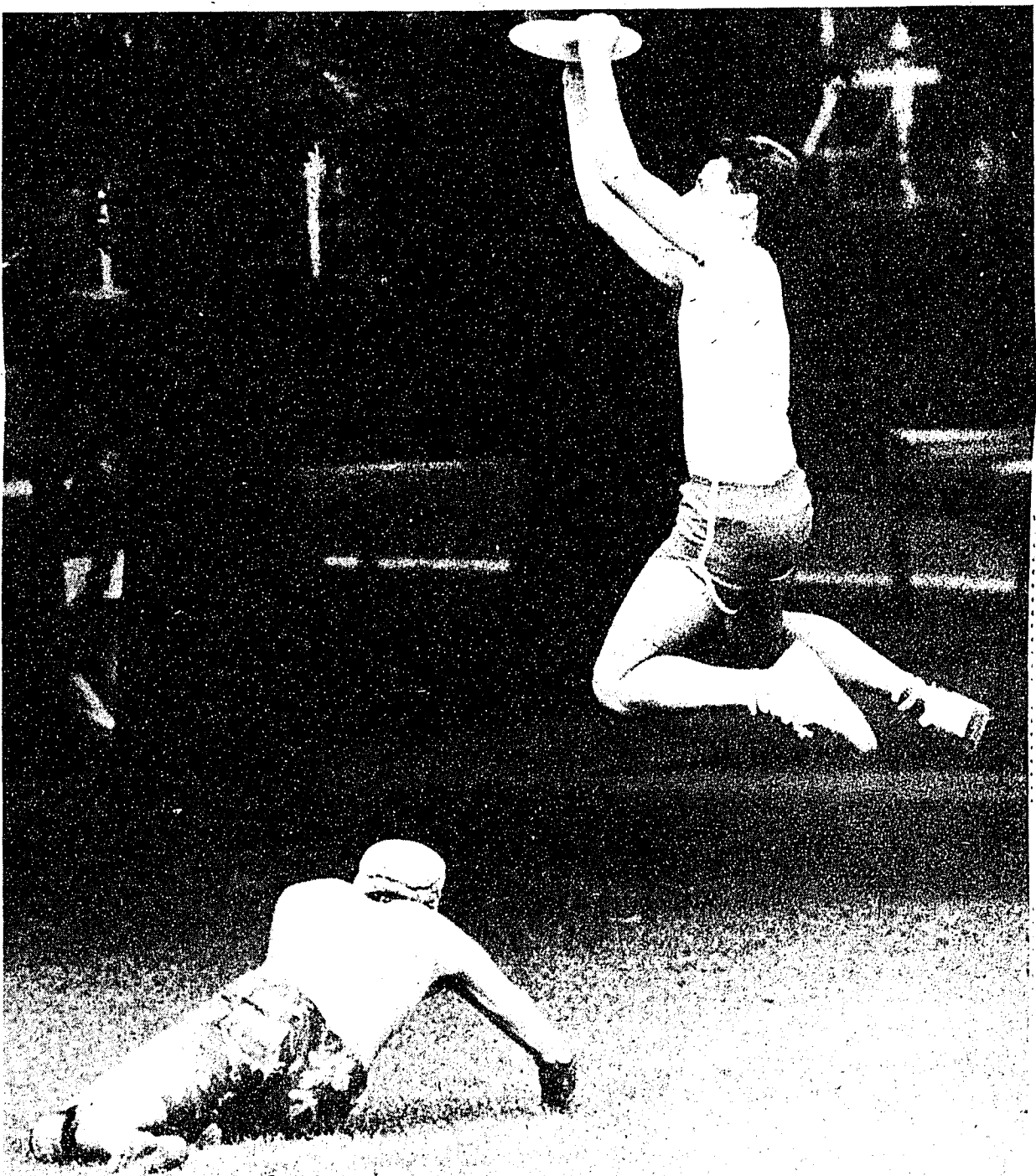
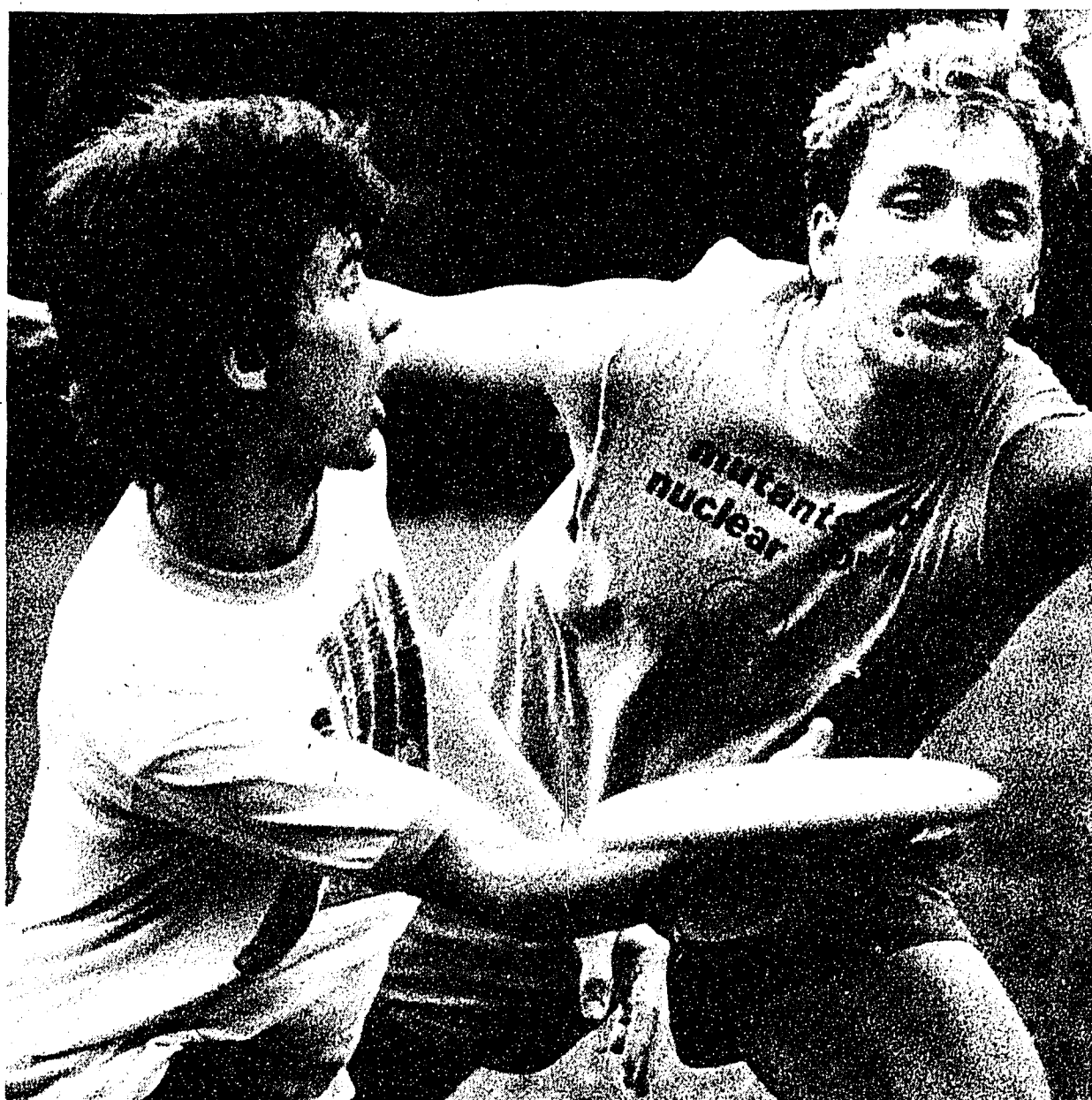
About 12 members will return in the fall, Lord said. "There's room for more," Dagit said.

The team is recruiting in the summer because without the fall registration in the Intramural Building the opportunity for people to learn about the team is lost "in one particular area," Dagit said.

Jeff Schantzenbach said Ultimate is a fun way to exercise.

"You've got to be able to run around like you've never run around before," he said. "The throwing's just the icing on the cake."

"That's exercise," he remarked as he walked off the practice field covered in sweat.



Jeff Shantzenbach (top, left) is trying to throw the disk to a teammate as Thom Lambert (top, right) blocks the pass. Dave Yunkunis (middle, right) flies through the air for a pass as defenseman Bruce Lord (middle, left) falls to the ground. Kevin Dagit (left) stretches to cover a pass made by Jim Hanks (right). All of the men pictured are members of the Penn State Ultimate Frisbee Team.

Ken Bedell (in front) leaps past Mike Foley and spins the Frisbee downfield as he attempts a pass.