

Secret societies outgrowth of philanthropic past

By DAMON CHAPPIE
Collegian Staff Writer

One morning not too long ago, William Fishbeck, an English professor at the University of Virginia, opened his locked office and found a purple feather lying on his desk. Inside his locked desk drawer he found an envelope with two tickets to a play.

Fishbeck had been visited by one of that university's secret societies, the Society of the Purple Shadow. Like other secret societies that are traditions at many universities, it seeks to recognize those who contribute to the welfare of the school.

Next week, indictments are expected to name another of UVA's secret societies, the Council of the Stone, for stealing almost \$100,000 from the university.

Officials there are trying to sort out the mess, with charges of a cover-up by the UVA administration. The secrecy surrounding the membership of the society has made the job harder, said Chip German, news director for the school.

German said UVA helped set up a bank

account for the group to facilitate transactions. Somehow the society tapped into the university's funds, and when university police investigated, the account showed a \$60,000 deficit. In the home of a former student who established the bank account for the society, police recovered more than \$40,000 in computers and other equipment.

"These groups are said to work for the welfare of the university. There's a deep tradition of honor and philanthropy in college secret societies," said German. "This is a failure."

Lion's Paw, one of Penn State's secret societies, also has a tradition of philanthropy. The Lion's Paw Alumni Association is the "single most loyal group of alumni the University has," said John Black, University Alumni Association associate director of communications and administration.

One third of Lion's Paw alumni are life members of the University Alumni Association and 75 percent are dues-paying members, said Black, who is also secretary to the Lion's Paw alumni.

Lion's Paw members reach high into the

national scene. Former Cabinet member and U.S. Sen. Richard Schweiker, *Los Angeles Times* National Editor Michael Miller, and the recently retired president of the Stanley Tool Co., Donald W. Davis, were Lion's Paw members.

Steve Garban, University senior vice president for finance and operations, and several University trustees, including President Obie Snider and Jesse Arnette, were also in Lion's Paw.

"College secret societies are roads to joining the establishment," said Fishbeck, who has studied the history of secret societies. "They teach loyalty and fidelity, but by nature they are elitist institutions."

Yale University is also famous for its eight secret societies, the most prominent of which, Skull and Bones, produced Vice President George Bush, writer William F. Buckley Jr. and former Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart.

Yale's society is not the same as Penn State's Skull and Bones secret honor society. At Yale, the society is so established they have their own windowless tomb, much like a

clubhouse, where the 15 members meet Sunday and Thursday nights for dinner.

According to research done on Yale's Skull and Bones, each member gets a no-strings, tax-free gift of \$15,000 from the alumni trust fund that finances the society. Members also may use a private resort island in the St. Lawrence River.

Membership of UVA's most noted secret society, the Seven Society, is so secret that only when a member dies is membership disclosed because the university's bells toll at the hour of the burial. A floral arrangement in the shape of a seven is placed at the grave.

The society anonymously gives awards and money to various UVA causes, Fishbeck said. It also, like the Purple Shadow society, recognizes devotion to the university by rewarding individuals with gifts.

Fishbeck said members of UVA's secret societies are usually the top student leaders and those committed to UVA's welfare. Even some non-graduates may be asked to join if they make a substantial contribution to the university.

Ross Lehman, a former secretary of the

Lion's Paw Alumni Association, said Lion's Paw isn't at all comparable to Yale's secret society. "(Lion's Paw) is an idea board. It's a discussion group for student leaders."

Lehman said he defined secret society as a group attempting to "directly exercise control over a segment of society. Lion's Paw does not as a group back projects or make decisions about University problems.

"It's good for Penn State as long as they do not violate democratic principles," he said. "Most groups have a right to private discussions. Doesn't the Interfraternity Council have a right to private discussion? Isn't the Collegian's editorial board a private discussion?"

"Lion's Paw is just members trying to be of service to the University," Lehman said, adding that unlike Yale and UVA, no money is involved.

But Lion's Paw Alumni Association gives an award each year to a person it believes has contributed leadership and service to Penn State.

There is an unconfirmed rumor, according to Please see SOCIETIES, Page 14.

Reagan lands for summit

By MICHAEL PUTZEL
AP White House Correspondent

REYKJAVIK, Iceland — President Reagan, vowing to "face the tough issues directly" but frowning on quick-fix deals, arrived in Iceland last night for a superpower summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Under a pelting rain, Air Force One taxied on the tarmac on the Keflavik airport. The president, wearing a light tan raincoat, was greeted by Iceland's president, Vigdis Finnbogadottir, the only elected woman president in the world, along with Prime Minister Steingrimur Hermannsson and Foreign Minister Matthias A. Mathiasen.

An honor guard of Icelandic policemen stood by as Reagan shook hands, then took a limousine ride into Reykjavik, the capital city.

Given a warm farewell on the White House South Lawn by his wife Nancy, members of the Cabinet and staff aides, Reagan said the talks "can be a step, a useful step. . . . And if we persevere, the goal of a better, safer world will someday be ours and all the world's."

In an indirect reference to his failure to win a congressional consensus for dropping a package of restrictions on his arms policies, Reagan said he needed the nation's unified support.

But the president left with the Congress still at loggerheads over his demand that it give him unqualified support to negotiate with Gorbachev — not his own government — on the future of the "Star Wars" futuristic missile defense shield, nuclear tests, chemical weapons and strategic arms limitations.

"The world has never known a force as strong or decent as that of America when we are unified," Reagan said.

Given a choice by Gorbachev, who proposed the new round of talks just three weeks ago, Reagan picked the remote island nation on the Arctic Circle in keeping with his desire for a low-key, businesslike session without the media circus that attended his first meeting with a Soviet leader last November in Geneva.

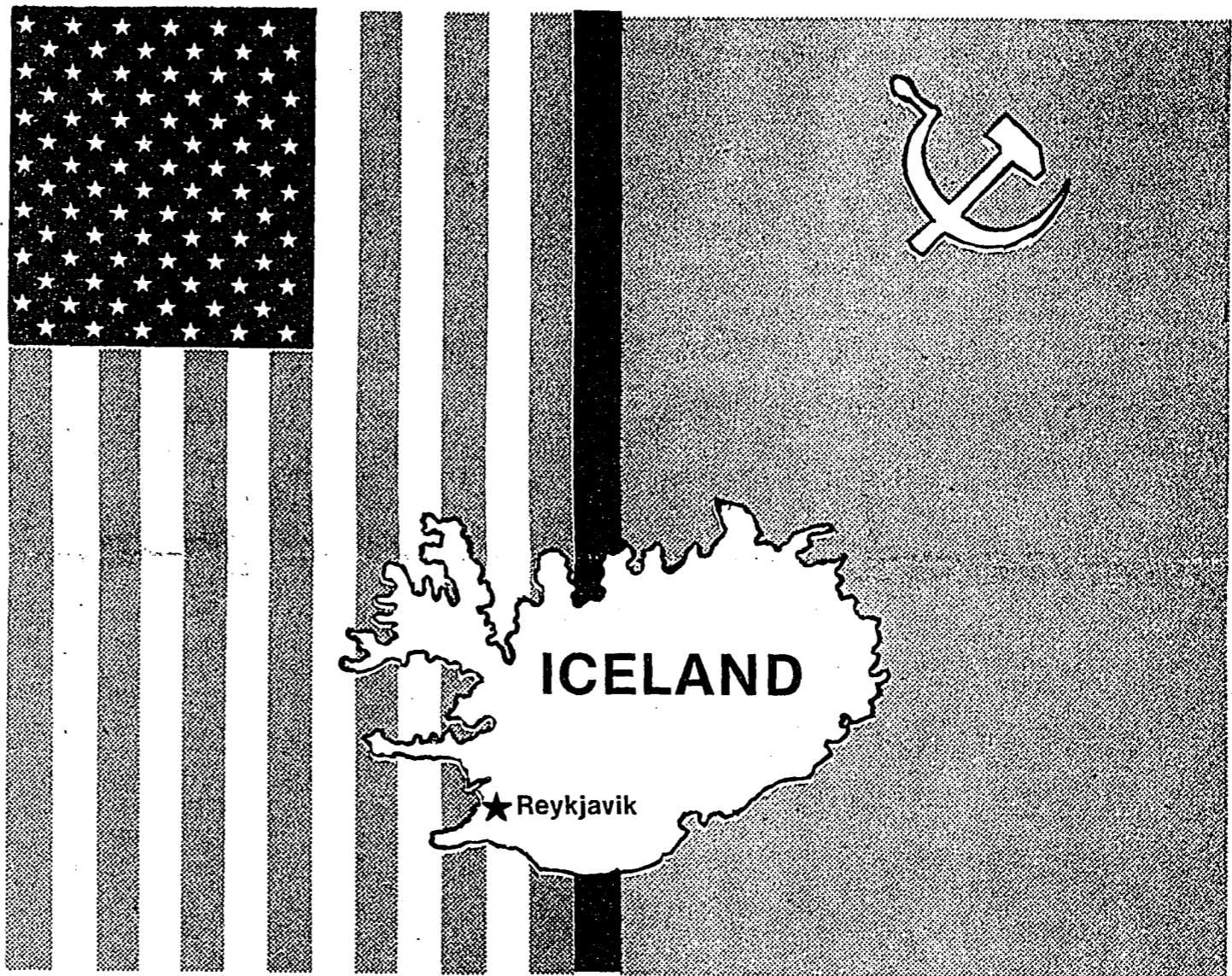
And both sides agreed the talks would be accompanied by a news blackout.

In fact, Nancy Reagan chose to stay home, keeping commitments she had for an array of appearances associated with her work in educating people about the dangers of drug abuse.

Although Reagan portrayed the meeting in Reykjavik as a private talk between two men, the Soviets were expected to send about 300 in their official party, and the U.S. contingent was likely to be about the same size. More than a thousand reporters, photographers, technicians and support people were ready to cover the hastily arranged summit.

Reagan appeared in high spirits as he spoke on the White House grounds of his hopes for Reykjavik. As the noise of a passing plane drowned him out, he looked to the sky and quipped, "Get out of the way." Nancy Reagan walked the president part way to the helicopter, her husband's arm around her waist. They hugged, kissed and then, as Reagan continued on, waved at each other. Just before ducking into the aircraft, Reagan turned and waved again and blew a kiss.

Minutes earlier, standing at a lectern on the lawn, Reagan said that for the United



States to pursue peace, "we must face the tough issues directly and honestly and with hope."

But he said that "we cannot pretend that differences aren't there, seek to dash off a few quick agreements, and then give speeches about the spirit of Reykjavik."

Indeed, the president said, there are "serious problems with the Soviet positions on a great many issues, and success is not guaranteed."

"But if Mr. Gorbachev comes to Iceland in a truly cooperative spirit, I think we can

make some progress," Reagan added.

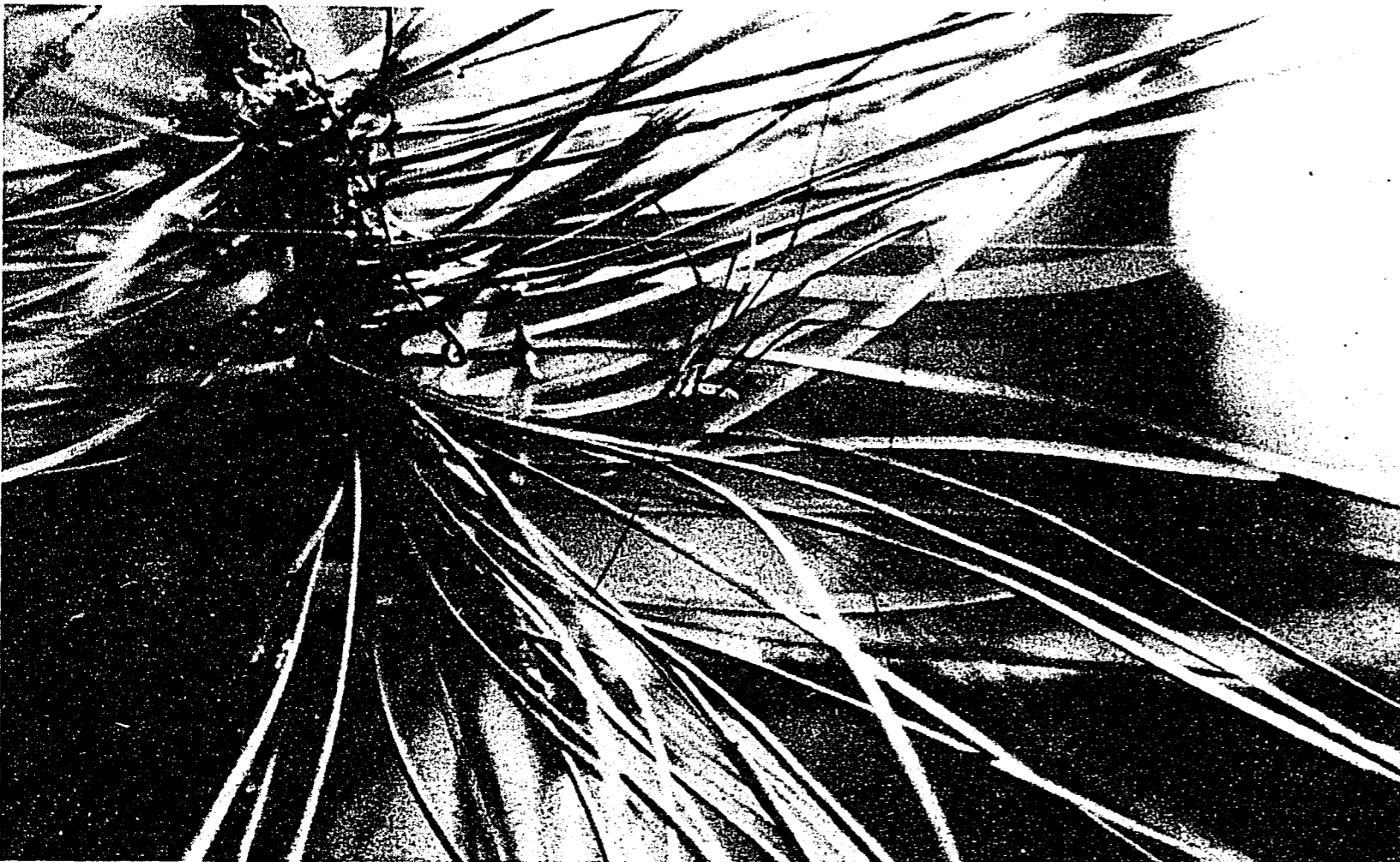
Although Reagan has refused to call the meeting a summit, insisting it is only a "preparatory" round to speed Gorbachev's promised visit to the United States as early as next month, U.S. officials say they expect the leaders to cover all major problems in U.S.-Soviet relations, from arms control to consular matters and cultural affairs.

The two men meet for the first time in Reykjavik on Saturday morning, with a second two-hour session scheduled that afternoon and a final meeting set for Sunday.

Although no formal signing ceremonies or joint public appearances are scheduled to close the private talks, Reagan could make room in his schedule should the occasion arise. All the talks will take place at Hofdi House, a simply furnished seaside villa belonging to the city of Reykjavik.

At a minimum, some U.S. officials have said privately, the United States expects Gorbachev finally to agree on a date for the next summit, which he and Reagan announced last year would be held "in the nearest future."

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Camouflaged

Can you find the multilegged creature amongst the pine needles? Stalk it before it can stalk you. The monster will find you when you least expect it.

Centre Daily Times moving to morning

By JAMES A. STEWART
Collegian Staff Writer

The Centre Daily Times will combine its morning and evening editions into a single, more complete morning paper beginning Dec. 1, the publisher of the State College daily said.

"We've known the move made sense and would happen before too long," Publisher Chris Harte said.

The single paper will include features and business news from the A.M. edition and the local news coverage of the evening edition, Harte said.

Average circulation for the combined papers is about 23,000, Harte said, with about 2,500 circulation for the A.M. edition. Circulation for both papers increases, during the football

season and when the University is in session, he said.

"We're going to concentrate our reporters, editors and newsprint budget on one bigger and better paper," Harte said. "Many people prefer the morning paper because of the delivery time and the greater quantity of national and international news, but say 'I wish you'd put more local news in.'"

Harte said the move follows a national trend.

Since 1970, the number of morning newspapers has increased by 40 percent while the number of evening papers has suffered a 15 percent decline, Harte said.

Before making the decision, the paper conducted a readership survey

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friday

weather

This afternoon, sunny but it will be on the cool side. High 56. Tonight, clear and quite chilly. Low 35. Tomorrow, it will become warmer but we should still see lots of sunshine and a high of 64.....Heidi Sonen