

# Potential plans

## Expensive education in near future

As if the cost of education wasn't high enough, Gov. Tom Ridge is attempting to have a budget proposal passed that would transfer state funds from Tuition Challenge grants to PHEAA, which benefits private universities, not public universities.

The proposal would cut the Tuition Challenge grant from \$210 to \$100 per full-time, in-state student. This grant was developed to keep tuition increases level at a maximum of 4.5 percent. State and state-related universities benefited from this grant while more than 50 percent of PHEAA funds go to private universities. More state funding for private universities than what public universities receive contradicts the idea of a "private" university and keeps the cost of education at a public university in Pennsylvania among the highest in the nation.

The proposal has yet to be passed, but the potential plans on the rise do not seem promising. The thought of the cost of education increasing is enough to make one's stomach turn. Many students are paying for their education with money they don't even have. They are going to owe the government just about everything by the time they're finished with schooling.

It doesn't make sense. Then, to raise tuition to an even more astronomical amount and shun away many high-school graduates, transfers or other students, who were at one point and time interested and set on enrolling in the Penn State system, simply boggles the mind.

Education is one of the most valuable things a person can have, along with being one of the most expensive. Gov. Ridge needs to reevaluate his methods of fiddling with funds and where our state needs to drain money from.

At this point, Penn State has the great potential of becoming "the most powerful engine driving the economy of this common-wealth." President of Penn State Joab Thomas said so. With such proposals as this one, the only engine driving the economy will be that of a bus load of under-educated, unemployed high school graduates who couldn't afford to get a solid education from Penn State University.

### Letters to the Editor

## Just plain disappointed

Attention, Behrend Students!  
As you may know from the recently published piece in the Collegian, someone took Dr. Tauber's cardboard statue of Joe Paterno from the second floor of the Academic Building sometime Thursday evening a week ago.

Until now, it has been somewhat of a joke, with students and colleagues asking me, "Has Joe been returned?" I truly expected the statue to be returned--safe and sound, perhaps with some sort of funny message tied to his neck. At this point it still would have been funny. I would have been among the first to laugh.

But, at this point it is no longer a joke. Along with my colleagues, I am not mad. We are just plain disappointed. These kinds of things should not happen here at Behrend College. Although I have no special love for Joe Paterno, the cardboard figure, costing about \$39.00, was a gift from my daughter. I would like it to be returned.

Will Joe be returned safe and sound? I am losing hope.

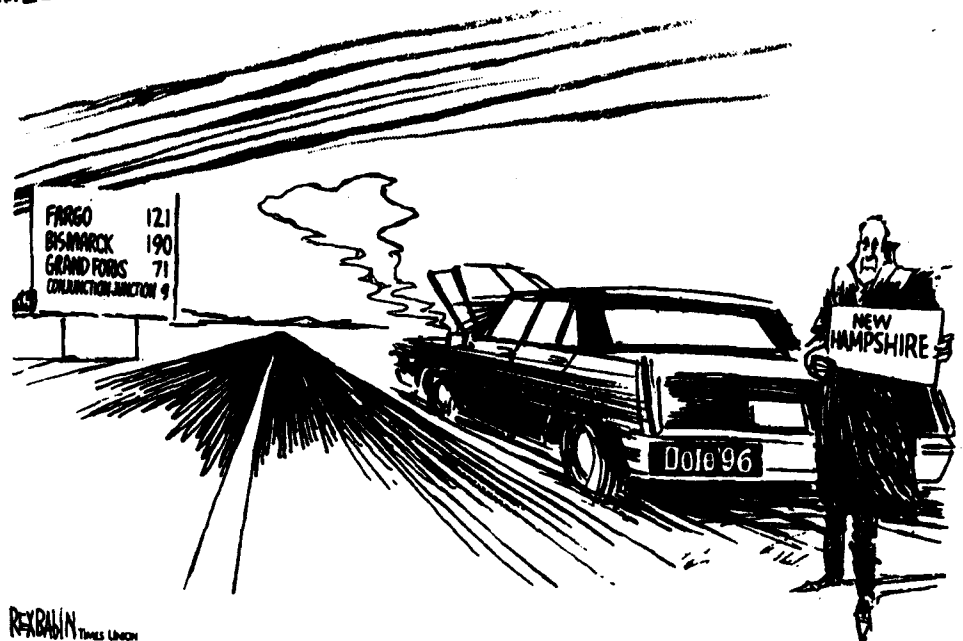
Dr. R. Tauber  
Professor of Education



DR. JEKYLL



MR. HYDE



REXBABIN

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