

EDITORIAL

WE CAN'T TURN AWAY!

It has been noted by the media and by radical campus organizers that there is a national trend of apathy among college students this year. Frustrated by the failure of vocal non-violent dissent, afraid of or opposed to civil disobedience, the great mass has turned from the political mainstream and buried themselves in an intellectual haven of self-centeredness. The dangers of this trend are obvious, for issues haven't changed simply because the focal point of active dissent is ignoring them. The moral obligations of Americans cannot permit apathy, for it can only result in the development of tyranny in a government whose actions go unchallenged. In the end the people will suffer, not just the poor, but all of the people. Otto Rene Castillo, a Latin American poet, brings forth the threat of apathy in a poem entitled "Apolitical Intellectuals". Read it and consider your destiny, and that of the nation you've turned your back on:

One day
the apolitical
intellectuals
of my country
will be interrogated
by the simplest
of our people.

They will be asked
what they did
when their nation died out
slowly
like a sweet fire
small and alone.

No one will ask them
about their dress,
their long siestas
after lunch
no one will want to know
about their sterile combats
with the "idea
of the nothing".

JUNIORS! COME SPRING?

by Missy Rotondaro

Talk about ego trips!

Everybody wants to be president for Pete's sake. SGA is in bad enough condition now without "playing games," and as an ex-senator called it, "playing games with the people."

And that's what seems to be happening. Everyone you talk to is running for president, vice-president or anything else they could get in SGA. It's really sad. There's so much competition among these people. And for what? People trying to beat one another for glory? These are real ego trips.

People like Terry Wimmer, Neal Madonick, and Steve Wesley are good talkers. They know how to get to and around the people. There are others. And I'm sure if these people run for office come Spring, an awful lot of bull will flow freely. This

No one will care about their higher financial learning. They won't be questioned on Greek Mythology or regarding their self-disgust when someone within them begins to die the coward's death.

They'll be asked nothing about their absurd justifications burn in the shadow of the total lie.

On that day those simple folk will come, those who had no place in the books and poems of the apolitical intellectuals but daily delivered their bread and milk their tortillas and eggs, those who drove their cars, those who mended their clothes, who cared for their dogs and gardens and worked for them.

And they'll ask: "What did you do when the poor suffered, when tenderness and life burned out of them?"

Business Club Visits IRS

The Capitol Campus Business Club, under the leadership of President Rick Barger and advisors Mr. Castle and Mr. Frey, visited the Internal Revenue Service Center in Philadelphia on the 25th of January.

Twenty-five members of the club enjoyed a personal tour of the Internal Revenue Service Operations, and discussed future job opportunities with the Regional Director and his personnel staff. Activities of the tour included a step-by-step description of the complete processing operations from the receiving of the returns, their filing, sorting, and final computerization.

happens in every election. It's expected. Everyone wants to win.

But do these people care? Are they concerned with building a better SGA, a working organization, or does the concern lie with whom will get the most glory?

JUNIORS—think about it. Know who you are voting for. Don't vote for someone because he's an XGI, or because he lives in the room across from you. But do this! Listen to the B.S. You are going to hear it. You can be sure of that, if nothing else. And you have a pretty good crop of juniors who can do just that.

So listen, but don't be "taken in." It's up to you to elect a good SGA. So now until Spring elections, keep your eyes and ears open. For once, GIVE A DAMN.

THE COLUMN

THE FINANCIAL CRISIS AND COLEMAN HERPEL

by Terry K. Wimmer

Last Friday, January 29, I had the opportunity to spend an hour with the Director of Capitol Campus, Coleman Herpel. Our discussion was centered on the current status of the financial crisis facing the Penn State University system and Capitol Campus. As Mr. Herpel was quick to point out, the situation is grim and the worst is yet to come.

The crisis was caused when the General Assembly refused to appropriate the full amount of money requested by the University. Instead, a partial appropriation in the sum of \$72 million was approved. A major portion of that appropriation went to fill the needs of the twenty major operating budgets of the University. But as we are all frightfully aware, that money has been exhausted and the University has entered what Herpel describes as a "borrowing phase" which is necessary to pay for the major expense that the University is burdened with every two weeks, the paying of salaries.

In an attempt to alleviate the pressures that near-bankruptcy places on an institution, last November 25, University President John W. Oswald announced that the Allocation and Re-allocation funds contained in the University budget would be frozen until further notice. Herpel described the Allocation fund as "a loose fund" which contained money which would supplement the regular operating budgets and provide the necessary funds to meet any current problem that the University might be faced with. The Re-allocation fund is the fund where all unused money is filtered to after each financial quarter. The money is then re-allocated to those needy areas of the University.

How has this crisis affected Capitol? With these two major funds frozen, Capitol has been forced to cut back in bulk services (Xerox machines, etc.) and various other expenditures such as travel expenses for the faculty to education conferences. As previously mentioned, the problems could get worse in the near future. If the General Assembly would fail to appropriate the necessary funds needed to stabilize the University's financial status, not only would a tuition hike take place, but a curtailment in various University services could also become a reality. Although the fees received from the Spring Term tuition payments will help ease the situation, Herpel stated that a tuition increase is "a distinct possibility" for the Fall Term of '71. It is expected though that the General Assembly will appropriate the necessary funds to the University before this fiscal year closes on June 30, 1971. As for the future plans of Capitol such as building programs, Herpel commented that "we're planning as if we had it (money)."

Although Herpel stated that financial problems were "nothing new", Penn State University and Capitol Campus is faced with its most severe crises ever. All the students of this University can do is hope that the General Assembly wakes up and recognizes its responsibility not only to the students of this University, but the citizens of this state as well. P.S. SAVE YOUR MONEY!

Letters To The Editor:

Dear Editor:

I wish to congratulate Barry Kimmel, the new chairman of the Capitol Campus Social Committee, on the fine job he has done with his first endeavors.

Although I was unable to attend the dance of January 19th, I did attend the Kegger and had a most enjoyable time.

Being chairman of our Social Committee will certainly involve a great deal of work. I'm certain we have the right man for the job.

I wish again to congratulate Barry on his work so far, and wish him the best of luck in the future.

Charles G. Cooper

Dear Editor:

There have been many comments during the past year concerning the problem of apathy in its many forms. Many of these comments are certainly well founded; the importance of speaking out on the situation cannot be underestimated. It is commendable that publications recognize their duty to criticize what they deem wrong.

However, there are times when a problem is attacked conveniently, by generalizing the motives of the "guilty" participants. I am referring to the article by Mark Alan Levin in the CIRCLE FREE PRESS entitled, "The Silent Majority." Certainly, I concur that there are many who are "...ordinarily quiet, withdrawn, uninterested" students. But I also believe that to be quiet and withdrawn does not necessarily imply that one is uninterested. There are those who say little in class, but at the same time are weighing every bit of dialogue around them.

Perhaps it might be a better idea in some circumstances to sit back and view the proceedings from a different perspective. Perhaps it might help some people to listen to and to understand what someone with another opinion is saying.

Sure, ask questions and state your beliefs. Just make sure that the questions are relevant, and be prepared to defend your beliefs intelligently. Don't just blab in class in order to get brownie points for participation.

Signed,
An Often Quiet Student

NEW SOCIAL COMMITTEE

by Lu Ann Berulis

By now it should be apparent to all, that Capitol Campus has a new Social Committee. This organization is headed by Barry Kimmel who I think should be given credit just for undertaking this job. It is a position which is open to criticism from everyone. It is a position where you can't hide behind the saying, "you can't please all the people all the time," because these people are always complaining. These are the same people who won't attend the meetings where their opinions and ideas can be heard and possibly utilized. It seems they would rather be part of the problem than the solution.

For the short time that Barry has been chairman, I think he has done a good job considering what he had to deal with—a mass of students who were waiting to see what the new Social Committee chairman would do for them. I heard a lot of criticism of the old committee but I never once heard anyone say they would care to help the new one. I don't know what it takes to get the people here interested—a miracle I guess. Would it take that much for you?!

Dear Editor:

The Student Court respectfully submits the following decision in reference to the senate's request to resolve a constitutional issue pertaining to constitutional intention. It is the student court's hope that both the executive branch and the senate will show good faith by abiding by the decision.

Case point:

Whether the senate had the constitutional right of confirmation over Presidential appointments.

Decision:

1. The senate by the intention of the constitution has the right of confirmation on any and all Executive appointments. Article IV, Section 1A, Section 2A, Article VII, Section 2, Section 3.

2. The senate by the intention of the constitution shall have all powers not specifically given to any member of the Executive Branch.

3. President Lee Levan is to be exonerated. The student court praises the President for acting decisively in a time of crisis which made his action understandable.

The court found that one of the strongest currents running through the existing constitution was that of Executive appointment with senate confirmation.

Sincerely,

James Lewis, Chief Justice
Capitol Campus Student Court

SGA CONSCIENCE

by Skip Lewis

Where are we? Where are we heading? Can it be that at a time so crucial to Capitol Campus our student Government leaders cannot be expected to act boldly because they lack the discipline to govern themselves? I know better than most the mistakes that youth can make; but let us not forget what is at stake...a student government in need of firm direction in order to service effectively the student body it represents.

Let's ask ourselves another question. How can a student government effectively get down to issues if it is suffering from an internal cancerous growth? The answer is simple...it can't. A house suspicious of itself can only bury its members in a mountain of disrespect and ugly rumors. And so it is at Capitol. And so it is that Capitol must have a student government with the backbone to make its members tow the line or have certain individuals recalled. Capitol Campus and the student body, now and in the future, cannot afford those who seek public office for prestige or something to write in the yearbook. Power demands responsibility from a public representative and that duty must be met. There can be no deals in the face of fear, false or otherwise, or in the sparing of someone's feelings. Not when the progress of the student government is what suffers. These are pressing times especially for a child of student government; and so more than ever does this child need the guidance of its parents.

In summary, I believe that the student government must develop a strong conscience. A conscience which has a well-developed set of rights and wrongs, and when a wrong is committed by one of its members, it will act efficiently so that the student government association does not suffer the grave indignities of Rome.

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