

COMBAT ZONE

(from page 2)

(I could have made a pretty good estimation of Ms. Brown's exact salary, or at least the range within which it would fall. Anyone could do so for almost any job on campus. It's all there, in black and white, in our own library. All one really needs to know, for office personnel, is how long a person's been in a certain position. I got this time figure from Ms. Brown, herself, last term during casual conversation. I never thought that I would "need" it).

The rhetoric problem (concerning libel) is something else, but only when publishing information which may or may not hold up in a court of law. (is not verified by documentation) Here's how I cover myself in that area. (Yes, cover. If a "Combat Zone" were to lead to a libel suit, I'd be the one being sued. It's my neck and I intend to protect it).

First of all, I use words like "perhaps, undoubtedly, may, could, believe," etc. when a human source is involved and no documents are available. Such words do not imply (nor are they meant to imply) the state of "absolute truth," whatever that is. All of them leave room for doubt, missing information to the contrary, and, or course, error. Hint: If you look back over all of my "Combat Zone" columns, you will find these words, or others like them. What this means is that the information given at these points is from human sources (and undocumented, to my knowledge, at that time) and, therefore, subject to each source's interpretation, complete with whatever psychological hangups he (or she) may have at the time. Yes, I do double, even triple check information of this sort. When I run into too many discrepancies, I do not print whatever it is that is questionable. (By-the-by, I am not the only writer to protect himself, or herself, in this manner).

As for the psychological problems surrounding my writing last week's "Combat Zone," they are very difficult to explain. I asked myself a lot of pretty "gut" questions, tried to put myself in Ms. Brown's place, (obviously, this was futile...a white, anglo-saxon, protestant named Boswell, of all things, just cannot think or feel black, no matter what), and called a few friends to try to get more realistic reactions. This didn't help much (no offense, people) because their answers were the same as the ones I got when asking myself. (Maybe this is really a good sign? Like, maybe the "worlds" are no longer those of extremely polarized black and white? And maybe we are getting closer, into a sort of grey area where meaningful exchange can take place)?

I continue to ask myself a lot of questions. Some are idealistic as hell, others are tormenting me. There is one thing of which I am sure. When people come up to me (some have) and say, "Hey, Boz, I liked your article," "That was a good "Combat Zone," or "That was a good piece of work," sure, I appreciate the "reinforcement"...BUT I can't help wishing that I could hear someone say, ANYONE say, "Articles like last week's Combat Zone should not be necessary." Or, better yet, "Articles like last week's Combat Zone ARE NO LONGER NECESSARY."

SPPC Defeated by Faculty Vote

by R. W. Bonaker

The Faculty defeated the Special Program Planning Committee proposal in balloting last week. The vote was 38-33, which totaled just over half of the faculty members eligible to vote.

The SPPC was formulated by the Faculty Council at the request of Provost Robert E. McDermott and the Committee on Academic Affairs. Members were to include three faculty from each Division and one student.

Specified duties would have been considerations of significant changes in human and physical resources encompassing academic programs and courses and building specifications. In effect, it was to have been the "super committee" of the Faculty Council.

The proposal met stiff competition from the Division heads who were obviously supported by the majority of those voting.

McDermott and the Faculty Council were generally miffed by the outcome of the vote. At last Thursday's meeting, the Council decided to have its Academic Affairs Committee assume some of the more basic duties of the defeated SPPC, and commissioned the committee to consider a different proposal.

The ballots were tabulated by Dr. Thomas Knight, Chairman of the Faculty Council and Dr. Roger Saylor who drew up the SPPC proposal. Also counting the votes was Prof. Mark Dorfman. The result was announced on February 13.

At its meeting on February 12, the Student Government Association had decided to cooperate with the Council if the proposal was approved by recommending a student representative. The motion was passed by 20-0.

Trip to Marietta

The Social Science and Regional Planning programs will sponsor a field trip to Marietta, Pa. on the morning of Saturday, March 3.

Marietta is a charming little town some 15 miles south of Middletown. The guide for the for the trip will be Dr. Irwin Richman, Head of the Social Science program, and Prof. Ambrose Klain will organize the excursion.

Everyone is invited, and there is no charge for the trip.

More details will be presented next week.

Justice Denied in 'Sticker' Case

by Robert Bonaker

In an article that appeared in the February 8th issue, I presented a report of a "floating sticker" case as decided by the Student Court. Since that time, some interesting facts have been uncovered.

Michael Bowman received a citation from Security Chief James Paul in the first week of February for failure to possess the required parking sticker for his van and properly display it. As was reported at that time, Bowman did have a "floating sticker", but had forgotten to place it on his vehicle. The floating stickers are issued to students utilizing more than one motor vehicle at different times while attending classes. The fine was set at one dollar and the original charge was failure to HAVE a sticker on the car.

Bowman appealed his case to Dr. John Grimm, Dean of Student Affairs, maintaining he should not be penalized for failure to POSSESS any type of sticker when indeed he did POSSESS a sticker; he merely forgot to put it on his van, which is a distinctly colored old Servomation vehicle. Grimm upheld the charge but suspended the one dollar fine; which meant that if it occurred again, the fine would be three dollars.

Bowman was not satisfied with Grimm's decision, so the Dean referred the case to the Student Court, an operation he has initiated to, in his words, "better serve the students." Acting on information supplied to me by Grimm, I reported that the charge had been changed from failure to POSSESS a sticker to failure to DISPLAY a

parking sticker. Accordingly, the Student Court upheld Grimm's decision by 3-2.

When Bowman heard of the decision, he contacted me, contending that Grimm never told him of the alleged change of the charge from failure to POSSESS to failure to DISPLAY. I then contacted Chief Justice Harry Franzreb and another justice Sam Randazzo. They also told me that Grimm had not changed the charge, as far as they knew. Bowman said that if the charge had indeed been changed, he would not have appealed the case.

In that instance, Bowman did not receive the justice he rightly deserves. I honestly believe Dean Grimm did change the charge, but he failed to properly notify the Court and Mr. Bowman about it. I also believe the three justices who voted to uphold Grimm's decision on the failure to POSSESS charge, Randall Blimline, Ken Sahd and Rick Jordon, failed to recognize the true nature of the case. If they had, they would have voted against Grimm's decision.

The entire case involves a matter of principle. Granted, Bowman did not have to pay a fine, but he was found guilty on an inappropriate charge. There was a breakdown in communication, resulting in embarrassment for Bowman, Dean Grimm and the Court.

Accordingly, I call for the case to be reopened and the proper charge be specified. In my opinion, Bowman is not guilty of failure to POSSESS the proper sticker; he is merely guilty of forgetfulness.

CAPITOLITES HYPNOTIZED BY RECORDER MUSIC

by Bob Bonaker

Last Thursday a program not a part of Nostalgia Week was presented by the Cultural Programs Committee.

The Recorder Consort of Michael Stober, Robert W. Nelson, Jean Romberger, David Bailey and Mary Jane Nelson attracted a comfortably moderate audience to the Gallery Lounge.

Recorders are the precursors of the modern flute. As was apparent during the performance, they are held vertically rather than horizontally as is the flute. Sometimes they are referred to as "fipple flutes" or "block flutes" and are generally constructed of hard woods. Extremely popular from the 16th to the 18th century, there are five types of recorders: discant, soprano, alto, tenor and bass. A group of at least four is called a consort.

Harpicords were also an integral part of the program. The instruments were built last year in Boston and are the prototypes of historic instruments constructed by the Ruckers family of Amsterdam in the 17th century.

Phase one of the Capitol concert was conducted by the Recorders. The works of such artists as William Byrd, George Fredric Handel, Johann Sebastian Bach, Claude Gervaise and Paul Peurel were played. Topping off Part I was the Traditional English "Greensleeves." Mary Jane Nelson, Bailey, Romberger and Gwen Jones comprised the consort.

Mr. Nelson and his beautiful harpicords dominated the rest of the concert, accompanied by the Recorders. Ms. Romberger also played a harpicord. Again, selections by Bach, Handel and Marcello and Scarlatti were presented. The flowing sounds of the harpicord enlightened the listeners in a truly cultural program. The sounds were not exciting, nor were they thrilling. But they were curiously refreshing.



Poetry Contest

Anyone on campus who wishes to submit a poem in the Cultural Programs Committee Poetry Contest may do so at the Student Activities Office, W-105.

The poems will be judged the first week in March. The deadline for all poems is the last week of February.

First prize is 25 dollars, the second \$15, and the third is \$10.

Now's the time to show your stuff!

Chemical Treatment of Waste Waters Discussed Tonight

James J. Westrick, sanitary engineer with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, will be featured speaker at a seminar on "Physical Chemical Treatment of Municipal Wastewaters" scheduled for Thursday, February 22, at Capitol Campus. The session will be held in Room E-310.

Westrick is associated with the Physical and Chemical Treatment Research Program of the Advanced Waste Treatment Research Laboratory of the National Environmental Research Center in Cincinnati, Ohio.

A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, he has been associated with the Environmental Protection Agency and its predecessor organizations for six years during which time he has been engaged in research in physical-chemical treatment of wastewaters.

Westrick is affiliated with the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Water Pollution Control Federation. He is a registered professional engineer in Ohio.

The seminar is one of a continuing series of programs on water resources and pollution held each Thursday at 7:00 p.m. on the campus. It is open to all interested individuals and free.

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