



editorial

Combat Zone

An Editorial Commentary

by Barbara Boswell

On Monday, March 5th, the Security Task Force met for what may be the last time. The following is the recommendation which I wrote and submitted to them that same day. I have not altered it one bit (notice all the spelling errors, terrible grammar, etc...)

One more comment; I also presented this to the SGA in hopes of receiving their endorsement. They endorsed it with a vote of 16 for, 0 against, 2 abstaining.

On page three of the February 22nd edition of The Capitolist we published an article entitled "Security Task Force Requests Opinions." Interested parties were asked to submit opinions and/or suggestions with regard to parking regulations, enforcement of moving vehicle and parked vehicle regulations, and penalties for violators of vehicle regulations. The task force is looking at these items because these items constitute the "feedback" most often heard. My contention is that there exists another reason for such "feedback" complaints to arise. I suggest that rather than treat the feedback, the task force should try to treat the problem.

Being Managing Editor of The Capitolist and author of "Combat Zones," I have found myself in a rather unique position. I hear (and sometimes share) the sentiment amongst the student body; meanwhile maintaining various contacts with officials within the

university system. After speaking with students, faculty members, and officials I have looked at various comments, considered their sources, and have therefore concluded that the problem is one of legitimacy.

We have a security system here that is not only ambiguous in nature, but is headed by a man who is, shall we say, very enthusiastic about his job. The first allows for actions taken by and at the discretion of one security officer. It permits him to act in areas to which he should have limited responsibilities or no responsibilities at all,

For example, in the area of housing, Mr. Paul, as security officer should see that breaking and entering, thefts, vandalism etc. does not take place. But should he be concerned with enforcing the rules of the housing contracts? Such enforcements on his part make him appear silly (as in the recent pet case) to those who he "protects." This perception (i.e., his appearing silly) tends to delegitimize him in the eyes of the student body. How can one have respect for a person or a position if one does not see it as legitimate?

The second part of this legitimacy picture concerns a rather vast personality difference between Mr. Paul and those he serves. This is a university. It is both the time and place for questions by students and faculty alike. In this setting there is a security officer who has little time for and immensely dislikes being questioned. (I have spoken with him on several occasions and found that as long

as I did not verbalize any disagreement, the conversation flowed rather well. However, as soon as I questioned any of his actions or suggested any possible motives on his part, he overreacted. I say overreacted because the volume rose, he appeared extremely angry in his facial expressions, and the conversation was terminated immediately.) This is not the place for a uniformed officer, security or otherwise, to not "keep his cool."

Also, Mr. Paul's dress and manner is one of paramilitary sort. This is not good for "public relations" at a time when students (and some faculty) question the whole military destruction idea.

These personality classes should be "blamed" on any system from things "internal," psychologically speaking. Mr. Paul has a heavy military background which shows in his dress and attitude. He has been accustomed to strict authority with no questions asked. Place him in a university setting, a question-filled setting that is terribly philosophically and theory oriented and he does not fit. He is not seen as legitimate. This question of legitimacy in one area tends to overflow into other forms of security enforcement, such as traffic & parking regulations, treatment of violations, etc. It is not the type of problem that can be confined in one area.

I therefore make the following recommendation to the task force:

A. That a complete review of the duties and concerns of the security officer position be studied with an interest in limiting these concerns and duties to those of security only. (This means that "security" may have to be redefined also, at least definitely defined. It should no longer be capable of being used as a catch-all "reason.")

B. That Mr. Paul be given the same psychological testing and interviewing which is required of applicants to most municipal and state law enforcement positions. (These tests are programmed to "fish out" the over-zealous and the under-zealous.) The results of such tests and interviews should be used to decide whether or not Mr. Paul is "fit" for the position of chief security officer on this campus. If he fails, he should either be offered another position or leave. If he passes, he stays.

I have no personal complaint with Mr. Paul. I am trying to be fair in light of all the animosity which has built up within the student body, especially during the past couple of months.

To The Editor

DIFFERENT FORMAT FOR MUSIC FESTIVAL

Dear Editor:

This year, the music festival which is planned will have, of necessity, a very different format from those of past years. The event will be more diversified and depends on strong support from various organizations and clubs. The manpower needs of this undertaking are huge, and there must be a promise of support which can be depended upon during the entire production.

The purpose of the appeal to individual clubs has been to use their structure and cohesion in smaller groups to encourage participation of the members. So far, the response has been disappointing. With a few exceptions, there has been no sign of cooperation from the numerous clubs contacted. Although the festival provides an opportunity to make money, there has been no show of interest.

Perhaps this reflects an attitude on the parts of individuals and organizations which encourages a parasitic relationship to a few who are willing to devote time and effort to the success of various projects. Each year, clubs apply to S.G.A. for funds, but now ignore an opportunity to make money on their own. It seems that a willingness to earn money should accompany the willingness to spend it.

A few people cannot hope to handle the work which will be required to carry off this weekend event. It would be disappointing in many respects to see the failure of such a good program because of lack of support from the people for whom it was created.

Sincerely,
Diana Walsh

COURT JUSTICE

RECEIVES PARKING TICKET

There are those who say "Ignorance of the law is no excuse."

That old adage proved correct in one man's "brush with the law" last week. The individual in question is the Chief Justice of the Student Standards Boards (Student Court), Harry Franzreb.

It appears that Harry and another Court Justice, Sam Randazzo, had parked the car in the front of the main building at approximately 5:30 p.m. on February 28. They were to conduct two hearings of the Student Court. It should be noted that students may park in that area after 5:00 p.m. on the days classes are in session.

It also appears that Harry unwittingly parked in the spaced reserved for the nurse. Security Officer James Paul, who also was

present at the Court meeting, noticed the violation by Harry and promptly issued a parking ticket, the charge being "parking in an illegal area."

Harry acknowledged his mistake but felt the sign stating the space was reserved for the nurse was hard to read. He reportedly paid his one dollar fine.

After Harry paid for his violation, Mr. Paul laughingly mentioned that Harry would be the first student in a remedial reading course that the Security Chief is forming. Harry consented and will attend the classes in Frankfurt, Germany.

When he received the ticket, Harry joined such notables as Director, Emeritus Coleman Herpel and Provost Robert E. McDermott, each of whom have received citations from Mr. Paul.

DTK Elects New Officers

At a recent meeting, Capitol's Alpha chapter of Delta Tau Kappa, the international social science honor society, elected officers for 1973-74.

Elected President was Brent Lawson, currently a senior who plans to enroll in the graduate program in Regional Planning here in the fall term. Two others elected who are now seniors and will be graduate students at Capitol next year were Elaine Parker and Charlie Carlin. They gained the offices of Vice President (Programs) and Treasurer, respectively. Parker will be enrolled in the Public Administration program and Carlin in the American Studies program.

Other elected were: Liz Hoffman, Vice President (Membership); Rick O'Brien, Secretary; and Vic Pawluk, Chairman of Public Relations.

The previously mentioned persons replace officers who have done a tremendous job in further stimulating the intellectual and cultural life of the campus in the past year. People like Gaye Miles, Gale Smyers, Fred Manas, Bob

Bonaker and Brenda.

Graduate students are able to hold office according to some passages in the organization's constitution.

Parking Lot Vandals

On Sunday night, there was vandalism in the parking lot in the rear of the main building.

Campus security reported that a few young people who are residents of Capitol Campus Village allegedly destroyed signs in the lot. They were apprehended after a chase by the Globe Security agent on duty and the Lower Swatara Township Police. The alleged vandals were turned over to juvenile authorities.

The Capitolist

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