

EDITORIAL

# The C.C. Reader Stands Independent

With all the latest brouhaha about the media publishing "secret" information, it doesn't seem to have crossed anyone's mind that there may be another side to the story: Manipulation of the press for one's own purposes. You've seen it done time and again in political campaigns, in governmental projects and business.

Most people only associate this influence with national and state levels. Strangely enough though, there has been an attempt at manipulation on this campus, where it's sometimes difficult to find enough campus related news to fill a newspaper.

Manipulation may seem like a strong word to use in a campus newspaper but it is

most appropriate to explain the case in point.

Several months ago, the Reader was approached by Dr. Ambrose Klain to do a story concerning his fight against mandatory retirement. The Reader agreed because the story affected students, and one of the main functions of this newspaper is to inform students about issues and events.

It is our editorial policy to try to present both sides of any issue, so we reported Klain's side against his

mandatory retirement and the side opposing him so the students could reach their own decision.

After a lengthy interview with Dr. Klain, it became apparent to him that the reporter did not intend to handle the story in quite the manner he had hoped, as he so stated to the Reader editor.

At the time Dr. Klain requested that the story be held until future favorable developments in his case could be made public, thereby strengthening his

cause. After he was told we would not do this, he asked us not to publish the story at all.

We label both these requests as attempts at manipulation of the press.

The story appeared in our Nov. 20 issue as we intended to tell it and whether successful or not, it was an honest attempt at objective reporting and sound journalism.

Since this story was published, we have had three issues of the Reader, and in each we have published

letters opposing our treatment of Klain's story.

We will continue to publish any others we receive. We welcome these opinions and all responsible letters.

Perhaps it has taken a long time to reach it, but the point is this: We are willing to cover any and all stories of interest to the Capitol Campus population, but when approached about a story, we reserve the right to cover it in our own way. We refuse to be manipulated.

The editors and staff of The C.C. Reader welcome letters for publication. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, and must contain the writer's signature and telephone number.



The Capitol Campus Reader  
The Pennsylvania State University  
The Capitol Campus  
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057  
ph. 717-944-4970

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The opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily represent the views of the students, faculty or staff of Capitol Campus or The Pennsylvania State University.

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College financial aid officers have said it, prestigious educational organizations have said it and parents have been screaming it: When it comes to college financial aid, the middle-income family gets screwed.

If a bill introduced by Senator Charles Percy (R-Ill.) is enacted, college students from middle-income families would be entitled to substantial tax deferments in order to defray the costs of a college education. The bill is geared specifically for the middle-income family making between \$11,000 and \$16,000 per year.

Most federal student aid plans, said Percy when he

## Tuition For Mid-Incomes

proposed the bill, are geared for students from lower-income families, those making up to about \$9,000.

"This concentration on lower income groups," said Percy, "has resulted in little or no financial assistance available for the student from a middle-income family whose needs are just as great."

Percy's bill bases the distribution of the tax deferments upon the tax liability of the family: that is, how much tax they are likely to pay. A student from a family making \$14,000 a year would be entitled to a tax deferment of more than \$1,400. The deferment would be paid back to the

government over a period of three years at seven percent interest.

According to Percy's statistics, a family could spend between \$10,000 and \$25,000 to send one child to college for four years. The College Entrance Examination Board estimates the parents of one-third of next year's college students will not be able to pay more than \$615 a year toward college costs.

Educational institutions, said Percy, often use up all the funds available from federal programs before they reach applications of students from middle-income families.

## Letters To The Editor

### Reporter Accused Of Slander ?

Ms. Achenbach stretched the limits of responsible journalism in her slanderous November article on Professor Klain.

Spirited defense of livelihood and future is in no way irrational, unless 65'ers aren't supposed to have a future. (Governor Shapp is a year Klain's senior and is a serious candidate for President.)

If argument and debate are a threat to the program, one must wonder about the status of academic inter-

change at Capitol Campus.

Penn State's official attitude, which ignores Professor Klain's Unique personal situation and professional capabilities, reinforces the common criticism that large university systems reduce students and professors to ciphers.

The "reporting" by The Capitol Campus Reader irremediably damages Professor Klain's hard-earned professional reputation at a time when pivotal decisions are being made on his

University future.

Central Pennsylvania has longevity in its human gene pool, is becoming a retirement center, and offers unique opportunities for Capitol Campus to become a center of geriatric research. It would be unfortunate if Penn State's archaic mandatory retirement policy, which must fall eventually to an aging population, negates this exciting possibility.

John C. Booser  
Rg. Pl. '71  
Middletown, Pa.

## In Response To Charges Of Racism...

Upon reading the most recent issue of this newspaper, I was surprised to find myself implicated in something which is ludicrous and totally unwarranted.

To set out on a clear note, let me say that I am the French Tickler basketball player who allegedly "threw a punch at a Brotherhood player" at the French Tickler-Brotherhood basketball game.

I believe the write-up of this game in the newspaper is quite misleading and one-sided. To present my side, I would like to touch upon two areas that involved me.

First, there is the squabble itself between the Brotherhood player and myself. Mr. Buster described it this way. "A French Tickler player threw a punch at a Brotherhood player. Before the Brotherhood player could defend himself, the referee threw him out of the game." This is what caught me by surprise. At no time did I throw a punch at the

opposing player, nor did I ever consider it. The way the whole thing started was indeed over a loose ball. I jumped on the ball and the Brotherhood player jumped on top of me in order to get the ball. This is perfectly legal as both players were entitled to the loose ball. However, what got me quite perturbed was the fact that the Brotherhood player would not get off me after the whistle had blown. Add to this a good, closely-contested ballgame between two good teams and you get excitement on both sides. When the Brotherhood player would not get off me, I took it upon myself to do this for him as I was tired of the weight of his body on top of mine. This is how it happened and I don't blame him for not liking my action as much as I did not like his jumping on top of me. So much for the incident itself.

The other thing that made me quite annoyed was the fact that either Mr. Buster or the writer of the

article (I know not where the blame lies) took this incident and, in the light of the reported racial tension on campus, used it as one of the reasons why this tension was growing at an alarming rate. If my team had been playing another team, if the same situation came up, and if the other player had been white, I would have done the same thing.

Speaking for myself, the squabble that occurred had nothing to do with racial problems, and I vehemently ask all those involved with this not to take it as such. The fact that this incident was poorly reported, and the fact that a racial issue was tagged onto it has brought to me certain pressures and comments that are totally unwarranted, damaging to my character and deleterious to my social mobility here at Capitol. This kind of reputation I do not want and do not need.

Ron Smith