

Perspectives Page

EDITORIAL

Signed, Sealed, Delivered

This was going to be a four-page paper. Since we had a full page ROTC ad, and a quarter page McDougals ad, an editorial decision was made, not long ago, that we'd go to eight.

At the end of the term it would be logical to let your sideline take secondary priority to your major concern.

That is exactly what seems to be happening here with our staff. Everyone has term papers and finals and homework and whatever else everybody must do at the end of a term in order to satisfy academic requirements, but we concentrate on top priority, the newspaper. Schoolwork is secondary.

We don't get paid. We don't get academic credit. We have a strange delusion that somehow this work might help to get us employment.

That's not all the compensation though. Well, for instance, if you are reading this, even though there are few ways in which I know you are, that's some compensation. And we can also make issues here on campus.

Everybody knew, well everybody with some sense, that our duly authorized campus police officers would not be permitted to carry guns. Since 1956 directive has been in effect that stated so. If at University Park campus police are not carrying guns, then it would certainly follow that Capitol Campus Police would not carry guns. And that is sound logic.

As it was pointed out to me, in the final editorial of last term, something like this appeared in it. "If a rabbit has to be pulled out of a hat, it will." This term we've reached into our hat and we first came out with, Energy. Since it was a bad winter and everybody was freezing, it was a timely subject. And since the faculty had had a sort of conference on the future of energy we could stretch it out even more. But energy is not a very controversial subject.

We then got into BSU and how organizations spend money, and what is the morality of spending money. It was topical, but only to those organizations directly effected.

This is one of the problems we face. Different people have different interests. Everyone is different. So, when we put together a paper, we must put something in for everyone. Which then means, somebody won't like something. Tough. Paper will tolerate anything. And who's to stop us? We have freedom of the press on our side. It's the first amendment.

Finally, as you all know, we got into the issue of guns. And we dragged it out, and out, until eventually the administration thought it best to make a statement. So ends yet another issue.

As for the future, you can bet we'll be informing and entertaining you for yet another nine issues, or trying to anyway.

Have a vacation. I might've said, have a good vacation, but, good, connotes a value judgement, and "one man's ceiling is another man's floor," so have a vacation.

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Ace McGursky Pulls An All Nighter

By Tim Adams

The day of reckoning, also known as exam week, is again confronting us. For some students it is a time of relief, for others it will be a race to see if we can fit 10 weeks of undone assignments into one night.

Since this is a common occurrence, probably dating back to the Greeks, I decided to get some expert opinions and advice for the harried student from my good buddy, Larry "Ace" McGursky.

I hadn't seen "Ace" since the 60's, when we went to the same college.

I met him at lunch one day. He looked a little peaked.

"Ace", I said, "how's it going." "You look great."

"Don't bullshit me, Tim," he said (Ace was never one for pleasantries), "I feel as bad as I look."

"What's the matter Ace," I asked. "It's my job," he replied. "Oh, I make good money delivering beer, but there's no challenge in it. The only thrill in it is trying to get my deliveries done faster than I did the day before."

"Why don't you change jobs?" I offered.

"It's not the job, Tim," he

replied. "I miss college."

"You were sure something at exam time, Ace. I still drool when I think of the time you had only three hours to complete a term paper and take a final exam. You aced both of them. I'll never forget it," I said.

"Those were the days," Ace agreed.

"I never did ask you how you accomplished that remarkable feat," I said.

"Bennies," Ace answered. "I ate 20 of them and I was loaded for bear. It was a challenge. Everyone was saying it wasn't possible. Here I had a thousand dollars in bets myself."

"Well you know I'm back in school Ace, and times haven't changed. There are still a helluva lot of students who are facing that same challenge."

"Ace," I asked, "how would you handle it?"

"Well," he said, "it would depend on which courses I was behind in. Just manufacture theories. On essay tests, diversions are best. A limited amount of knowledge can carry you a long way if you scatter it correctly. If it's a math exam, get somebody else to take it for

you. (this only works if you managed to be in a large class and have remained anonymous for the term.)"

"But how do you get psyched, knowing the task that lies ahead is an unpleasant one?" I asked.

"Stay calm," Ace answered. "Think positively. Don't dwell on what you don't know, but concentrate on what you do know."

"How can you stay calm when you know you only have one night to learn 10 weeks worth of work?" I asked.

"It depends on your nervous system," Ace said. "Some people say, 'The hell with it, if I don't know it now I'll never know it' and they go to bed. Others like myself get psyched by taking pills and meeting the challenge hour by hour and tred on."

"Well," I said, "I'll certainly pass on this information to my colleagues."

"If nothing else works," Ace said, "take the courses again next term. At least you'll be better off than me. You will have prolonged the challenge and think how much better you'll be prepared the second time around."

Letters And Other Such Things

Once again, I have to wonder if you could write a good, responsible editorial with intelligible comments. I refer to (among others) the March 3 editorial "Shoot the Bastards."

Granted, there has been some overemphasis concerning "para-professionals" on campus. Still, I feel that a good, informative editorial stating why guns are unnecessary would influence more people than some off-beat nonsense on everyone carrying them.

Maybe next time, please try to write a serious comment. You will have more people see your viewpoint if you appeal to common sense, rather than relying on a sarcastic piece on

another's ideas.

Thank You,
Joseph Cloonan

Bastards!

You hypocritical bastards! Your paper supports a "no guns for police on campus" policy, then it runs a full page advertisement on Army ROTC.

Since when did the military presence become so popular on campus?

Please print this, I would like a response.

Glenn A. Steinhauer
11th Term MDET

Editors note: First of all Army ROTC are not police. Secondly, we are not a newspaper that can afford to

adhere to ideals. If we had an unlimited amount of money, we could accept or reject advertisers as we please; besides it saves time in lay-out.

Guns Contd.

and the possibility that accidents could result from having firearms on campus.

As was the case last summer, there is no justification for changing the policy. Thus, for the foreseeable future the policy of an unarmed Safety and Security staff will continue in effect.

James D. South



We certainly hope this is our last snow picture.

Photo By: Mike Urban