
Editorial Page

What About the Students?

By Michele E. Hart, Editor-in-Chief

It has been said before and it will probably be said again- change is a very slow and painful process.

And nowhere has that been more evident lately than at Capital College.

It has been with vested interest that the *Capital Times* has watched the aftermath of Dr. Robert J. Graham's proposed reorganization of the humanities and behavioral science/education divisions.

In the last *Capital Times* it was suggested the merger would go more easily if faculty and students became involved in the planning. Faculty has now taken the steps to try and become involved.

In the letter sent to the administration by the Faculty Council, the Council stated that it was "distressed" because it had not been consulted prior to the announcement of the merger. This letter stated that Graham had not followed University Senate Guidelines.

The battle lines that are being drawn are focused heavily on the political side of the issue and not on the academic.

The Faculty Council's letter does state that they feel that college leaders are "too little attentive to academic excellence... and the needs of the campus."

College leaders do not pay enough attention to academics, and now that the faculty and the administration have begun their political battle, neither side can devote as much time to academic excellence for Capital College.

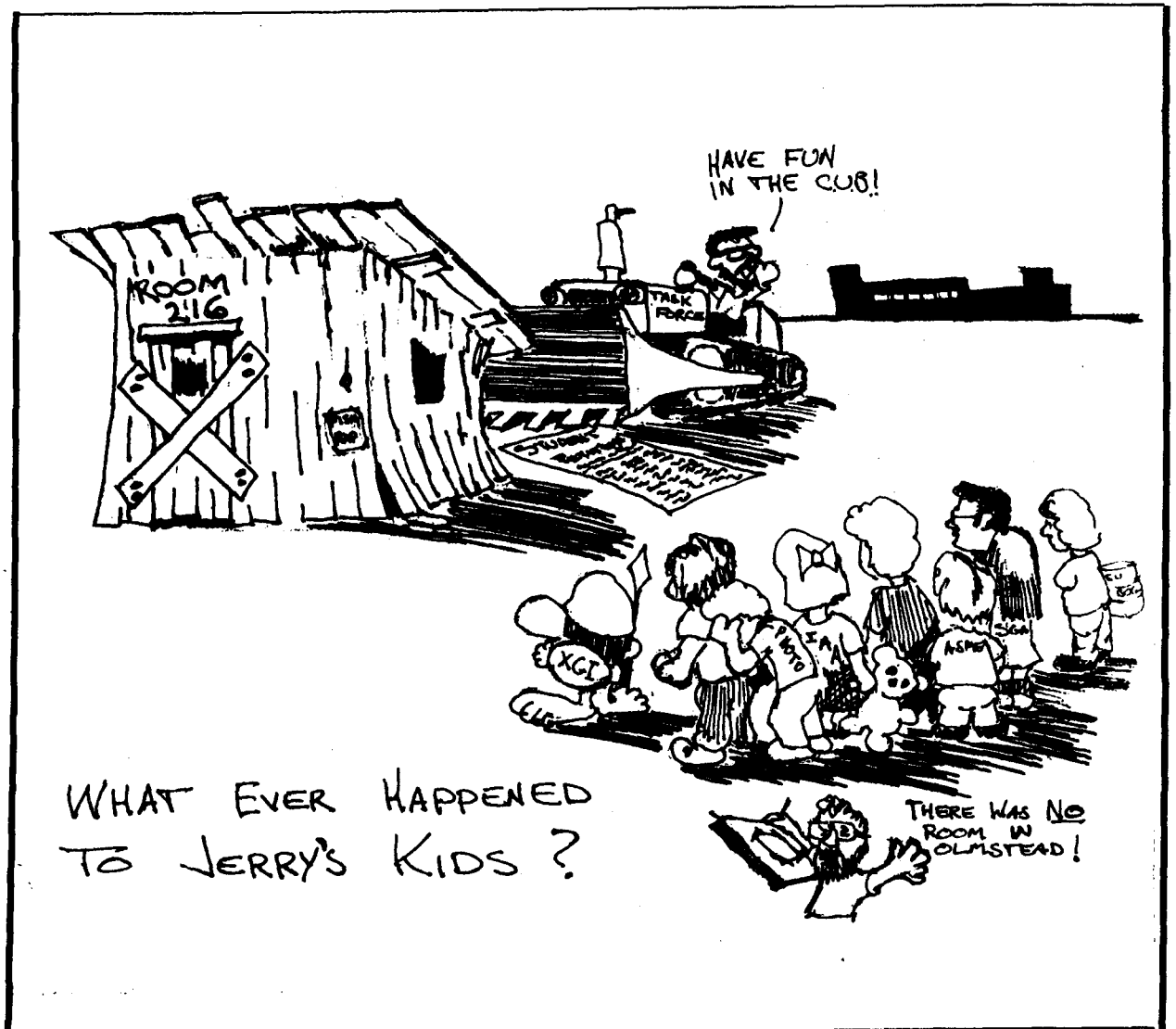
So who wins if the political struggle continues? No one. Who loses? The students and the entire university community.

It is important for faculty and the administration to maintain a political balance, and it is important for both sides to respect that balance.

Graham's proposal does not have a great impact on students, however, we will be indirectly impacted if the battle continues and the seeds of animosity are sown.

Graham and the Faculty Council should meet to discuss each other's positions and an equitable solution, that will benefit all, should be reached.

Another issue that we will be watching closely is the possible conversion of room 216 from the Clubs Meetings Room to a classroom or data center. That room is very important to student organizations because it allows them easy access to information and communications between classes. If the organizations are assigned a room in a different building, access will be cut dramatically. It is hard enough to keep continuity in organizations on this campus because of its two-year nature, let's not make it any harder.



This is Going to be "Spring" Break?

By Michele E. Hart

Ah, "Spring" Break, that relaxing time of sunshine, partying, sleeping, staying up to watch Late Night with David Letterman every night, and being able to do all of the things college students never have the time to do during the semester. In short, "spring" break is a piece of sanity in an otherwise insane lifestyle.

Even the term, "spring" break, sounds joyous to my ears. So what's the problem you ask.

Well, I have always been of the impression that "spring" break should be in spring. According to my calendar spring begins this year at the end of March. Our "spring" break, however, is the first week of March. Hardly time to break out the shorts and open the sunroof on my Toyota.

I know, I know, beggars can't be choosers, but really, "spring" break when the ground is still covered with perma-frost sounds contradictory to me. If the university, in all of their infinite wisdom, has decided that our break will be in the middle of winter they should call it winter break, or cabin fever break. Anything but "spring" break because it definitely won't be spring-like outside.

To really enjoy "spring" break in the purist sense one has to have enough money to go to Florida or the Caribbean. I don't know about you, but my measly salary wouldn't even cover the cost of peanuts on the plane to either of these destinations, and you certainly can't drive to Jamaica.

I think that the university has started a plot against students. By scheduling our so-called "spring" break for traditionally the bleakest part of winter they are ensured that the main thing most of will be doing is climbing the walls as we wait for the snow and ice to melt enough to walk to the mailbox. They think we'll be studying because we won't have anything better to do.

They probably will continue to schedule the break for the snowy season each year, thereby frustrating us so much that we won't even look forward to the time off. And once we let their ploy begin to work and start loathing "spring" break they'll just stop scheduling it. Won't we be sorry then?

In order to avoid this travesty of student sanity time I think that we should all go up to U. Park during break and have a beach party on President Jordan's lawn. We could even ask Dr. Leventhal to be a contestant in our best-body on the snow competition. We'll hold snow-castle building contests and barbecue polar bear steaks. If the brewskies thaw we could even hold chug-a-lug contests or other inane college drinking competitions.

Sure it will be cold, so wear long johns under your bermudas. The point is that we've got to show the administration that we're willing to fight for our right to be lazy for a few days during the semester and that we would prefer for those days to occur when the sun is a little closer to the earth.

Capital Times

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