

# OP-ED

"complexity of dating" would have instead been more appropriately concluded nonsense.

Joe and friends

## Penn State Proud

Dear editor:

I am writing to express my concern over the January 24, 1990 edition of the Capital Times. Although many of the articles within the publication were interesting, as a Penn State student I was appalled and embarrassed by the numerous typographical and grammatical errors in this edition. I feel the publication should have been edited and proofread much more closely.

This suggestion to improve the editing of the Capital Times is made because it negatively reflects on our basic education--the very fundamentals of English, spelling, punctuation, and writing as a whole--which we are building on here at Penn State. I am a proud "Penn Stater" and feel we should all take more pride in our student publications and education. I hope future editions are edited with more scrutiny.

Sincerely,  
Michele Shannon

Dear Michele Shannon and other concerned "Penn Staters,"

The Capital Times staff appreciates hearing your opinion, and have already taken action. Since the January 24 edition of the paper I became the copy-editor, so I hope to correct the

typographical and grammatical errors in future issues. At the time the January edition went to press, the Capital Times did not have a copy-editor or even enough staff to write articles, help with lay-out, etc. On Tuesday, March 20 we will have a meeting in room W-315 at 12:15 for anyone interested in joining the staff. We are also proud Penn State students and plan to make the Capital Times the best it can be!

Sincerely,  
Victoria Cuscino, Copy-Editor

## Unfair Auto Rates

Women can't count on Casey for Lower Auto Premiums

Car owners shouldn't count on Governor Casey's new auto insurance law to deliver lower premiums this year. Look at what happened last year when the Casey administration "eliminated" sex discrimination. Starting March 1, 1989 young women were hit with big premium increases that make them pay double what young men pay per mile for insuring their cars.

Women with "adult" class cars are overcharged the same way because insurance premiums aren't tied to miles actually driven and, at every age women average half men's annual mileage and exposure to risk of accidents. Whether it's fraudulent "unisex" for young drivers or "adult" for the rest, pricing that overcharges most women is sex

discrimination.

Governor Casey could have done an honest job of ending sex discrimination by having premiums tied to each car's on-the-road exposure. How? By ordering insurers to convert each class rate-defined by territory, car type, etc.--from dollars per year (say \$900 per year) to cents-per-mile (say, 9 cents per mile), as used for some commercial vehicles. The odometer is the car's exposure meter.

Besides providing genuine unisex rates that don't overcharge women, metered insurance coverage:

-Allows consumers to control their insurance expenditures to the same extent they can control expenditures for gasoline.

-Provides for the first time a valid statistical base line for meaningful cost comparisons among territories and other risk classification.

-Ties premiums to driving and prevents insurer windfalls when driving decreases for any reason.

-Provides direct economic incentive to drive less and use public transit or van pools more. Air quality and energy conservation would benefit.

The fatal flaw in Governor Casey's new law is that promising everybody a discount does nothing to end cost-shifting. Owners of cars driven fewer miles than average for their class should not have to subsidize the cost of insuring cars driven more than the class average.

Our representatives in Harrisburg can guarantee everyone premiums based on individual cost by adding one sentence to the Rate Regulatory Act: "For driving

coverages of private passenger automobiles, the exposure unit shall be the mile as recorded on the odometer of the insured car." Like gasoline or electricity, auto insurance is too expensive not to meter.

Chris Niebrzydowski, President--National Organization for Women

## Poor Taste

Dear Editor,

A sketch portrayed to look like me was inserted in the January 24, 1990 edition of the Capital Times.

The sketch had the following caption: "I get all my news from the Capital Times, shouldn't you?" This caption is untrue as I read other newspapers besides The Capital Times. On page 11 the same sketch is smaller and the following caption says: "Cap. Times Sports run with them!" This caption is also untrue because I do not follow the activities of the sports teams at Penn State Harrisburg on my own choosing.

Last semester Jenny Cahill misquoted what I said to her in The Capital Times. She wrote that I didn't care about the Holocaust. Again this is untrue. I am distressed about the Holocaust! I wrote a letter to the past editor stating the error but it was never published.

I did not appreciate the sketch. Nor did I appreciate the misquote.

Sincerely,  
Scott Alper

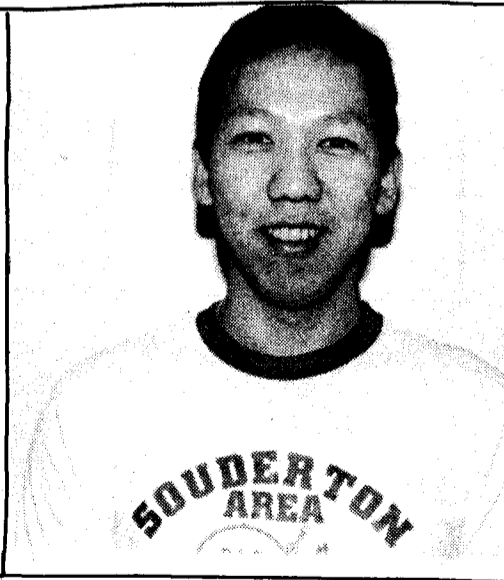
# Students Speak out: What Do you think?

Students were asked the following questions concerning date rape: 1. How would you define date rape? 2. Should an automatic jail sentence come with a date rape conviction?



**Carol R. Graff**  
Major: Communications  
Age: 25

1. Sexual assault upon one person by another whether they are on their first or hundredth date.
2. Yes. The extent of the attack must naturally be considered when trying to decide on the sentence. However, an attack of this nature whether by a 16 year-old or 60 year-old must be enforced by law and with a jail term.



**Oai Lam**  
Major: EET

1. A rape is a rape, whether it happens on a date or not.
2. Yes, it may not help the victim, but it will prevent at least one more victim.



**Karen Surace**  
Major: Accounting  
Age: 20

1. Anything after the word "no"!
2. Yes! Rights should be taken away from them as they were taken from the victim.



**J. Panetti**  
Major: EET  
Age: 28

1. Forced sexual intercourse by someone you thought was your friend.
2. No, each case should be judged individually.