

# OPINIONS

## Student opposes cancelled classes

Editor:

If we shell out ten bucks for a pair of movie tickets we won't be too excited if the manager tells us we can't see the film have our money back, either. We wouldn't dream of paying for a load of groceries, then leaving the store without them. If we pay for air conditioning on a new car, we won't be happy if we discover our car doesn't have that option. When we go to a restaurant, we don't pay for our food and then leave without eating it. We want a lot of bang for our buck. We expect--we demand--our money's worth...except when it comes to education.

If you're an undergraduate student and a resident of Pennsylvania, twelve credits at Penn State costs you \$2,166. Missing one class is equivalent to losing twelve dollars. But rather than become upset over losing that amount of money, some students respond to cancellation of class with uncontrollable joy. They streak to the parking lot so quickly they create a sonic boom in their flight.

When the new semester schedule of classes are issued some students hungrily peruse them in search of the fabled

"cake" courses. Professors are deluged with phone calls from prospective pupils asking questions like, "Do you have a final? Do we have to write a paper? How many pages?"

Fellow students are interrogated with detective-like insistence. "Does he grade on a curve? How much reading do we do? What are her tests like? Multiple choice? Great; let's sign up. All essay? NOOO!" Quick scribbles on the class selection form. We too often rate courses on little more than the popularity of the professor or the amount of effort required to receive a passing grade.

Assuredly, some classes are less worthy of our dollars than others. But we need to GO to class, to be able to participate in a class, in order to make that determination of quality, or whether the class is worth the money. We're more than happy to complain about the sorry state of education and the spiralling cost of tuition, but yet too many of us accept the personal okey-doke of taking the easiest classes we can find, doing the least amount of work possible.

If we're taking classes for entertainment only, that attitude is acceptable; we're absolved. But if we're enrolled for any other reason, shouldn't we be more concerned about what we're getting for our money? Or what we're NOT getting?

Ron Wortz

## Reader Responds to "Voice"

Editor:

I am compelled to respond on the comments by Mr. Caton in his column, "Voice from Hell," that appeared in the August 26th edition of the paper. My comments are two-fold:

First, I have been at Penn State Harrisburg for three years as a part-time graduate student. Throughout this period, the Capital Times has maintained a very professional image as a quality newspaper. News was objectively reported and the paper prided itself on maintaining excellent standards in its reporting and writing capabilities. These standards have "gone to hell" in the article by Mr. Caton. His use of expletives and general substandard language would be more appropriate for an article in a supermarket tabloid than the newspaper of a nationally respected academic university. Yet, the article was printed, as is, without censorship or editing.

Second, my question to Mr. Caton is why are you still attending Penn State Harrisburg and the Penn State system?

You are obviously very displeased with the system's management, tuition rates and course offerings. Why have you not attempted a transfer to another institution where the tuition might be lower and the course offerings different? Certainly the opportunity to "blast" the management of the university in a newspaper has not been the motivating factor to remain at Penn State.

I recommend Mr. Caton relook at his own motivation to be at Penn State and do a better job at "investigative reporting" on why some of these changes were made before he takes the shotgun approach to criticism. He may just find people involved in the decisions who are much more dedicated to improving the entire Penn State system of education than someone who prides himself on drinking enough cheap beer to incapacitate the Ecuadorian Navy or who is still searching for the John Holmes Institute for Penis Enlargement.

Paul Mertel

# WPSH fall '91 radio schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 AM	TBA	The Fungis "Glam Rock"	Karen Simmons "Not Top 40"	TBA	Dave Ancharki "Alternative"
10:00 AM	TBA		The Morning Show With Larry Luv "Crazy Mix"	Fast & Hard W/Larry Luv	The Dickster "Alternative"
11:00 AM	Joe Silver "Alternative"	Tammy Siegfried "Big Mix"		Mark Slater "Alternative"	Tom Wagner "Alternative"
12:00 PM	Terry Wolf "Classic Rock"	Android Andy "Unreal Rock"	Mark Slater "Alternative"	Android Andy "Unreal Rock"	Ron Welsh "Classic Rock"
1:00 PM	The Dickster "Alternative"	"Talk Beat"	Caleb Smith "Alternative"	The Ripper & Brian "Classic Rock"	Mark Slater "Alternative"
2:00 PM	Lee Schmalbach "Classic Rock"	Bunny & Clyde "No Format, Format Hr"			Jerry Eltringham "Alternative"
3:00 PM		John Bedova "Dance/Alternative"	Aaron Croop "Alternative"	Scott Wolfe "Top 40 Dance"	Aaron Croop "Alternative"
4:00 PM	Sharon Barris "Rock"	Simmers & Zeiders "Dance"	Kevin Kremmerer "Mix"		Bruce Priestner "Old & New Rock"
5:00 PM		Joe Silver "Alternative"			
8:00 PM	Jim Foster "Classic Rock"		The Infamous Mike Stone "Rock & Comedy"		