



# the Capital Times

The Student Voice of the Capital College

4 Pages

Volume 37  
Number 2



## CAPITAL TIMES CONCEIVED BY STUDENTS DUE TO LACK OF PARTICIPATION CLOSING

*The Capital Times* - the student voice of the Capital College - has been in existence almost as long as the college itself. But now the paper is in danger of folding because of lack of interest and input by students.

Commuter students' lives don't revolve around campus events, and typically spend less time on campus than traditional students at resident colleges. Many agree. At least in principle, that *The Capital Times* is an integral part of campus life, both social and academic. The paper provides students with a means to express their opinions, concerns and comments about the college. It

also provides students with a viable publishing outlet - a way to build their portfolios.

According to Dr. Louise Hoffman, advisor to *The Capital Times*, this is not a new problem. Several years ago, under the advisorship of Dr. Beth Haller, the paper was forced to draw up several alternatives should the lack of interest continue. The first of these options was to "give" *The Capital Times* to the Humanities Department.

This seemed like a logical solution at first glance. Humanities students are typically the students who work on the paper. And

humanities students are often required to write and have their work published as a class requirement. Giving the paper to the Humanities department, however, has inherent problems. First, as a departmental entity, the Humanities department would be required to fund the newspaper, which costs at least \$5,000 annually. More importantly, if the paper were "owned" by any department of the college, it would cease to be "the student voice of the Capital College."

Another option was to turn the operation of *The Capital Times* over to SGA, but this

solution risked the paper becoming a propaganda piece for student government. At that time, several other options were also discussed and dismissed. Ultimately - and in the nick of time - a handful of students came to the paper's rescue. Since that time, however, the paper's minimal staff has struggled to meet publication deadlines, passing down the problem from one editor to the next.

This year, the staff has decided to address the problem. Unless more students dedicate themselves to publishing a quality campus newspaper, *The Capital Times* will fold.