

# OPINION and REVIEW

## Editorial

By Angela Deal

Sometimes I ask myself why there is so much violence, suing, corruption, and injustice in our society. After watching a little television, as much as I could handle before I screamed, I realized why — because, our society thrives on these things.

It seems that the gorier the story or more ludicrous the crime, the more attention and publicity society gives to the issue.

As one newspaper speculated, if all of the countries death row inmates' executions were televised, they would become overnight celebrities.

I agree. But somehow I don't think we have to worry about that happening any time soon.

It's the little things like this about our society that make me wonder, and sometimes laugh; everyone needs some form of comic relief.

There really are a lot of things that deserve a hardy chuckle every now and then, despite the fact that they are criminal acts.

Just the mere fact that 85% of all bank robbers are caught, because they neglect to hide their faces, and write their threatening, sometimes polite, hold-up notes on the backs of their electric bills (name, address and all), is enough to make you laugh.

Or, the fact that there is a man, a convicted bank robber, who is actually suing, because some of the tellers labeled him the "clearasil bandit" (due to his bad acne). Apparently, he has been suffering a lot of mental anguish.

Why is it that as the years go by these things aren't so surprising to hear about anymore? Probably, the most peculiar to me about crime is not the act itself, but the fact that there are people who defend these criminals; the U.S. seems to protect it's criminals a little too well.



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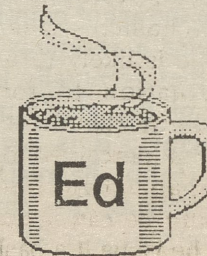
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## THE FRONT DESK

by Ed Tomezsko  
 Campus Executive Officer



Spring, more than mid-semester and I take this opportunity to talk about odds and ends. Congratulations to the men's and women's basketball teams. One of the teams is happier than the other but both teams have brought pride and prestige to the campus. Thanks to all of these players and coaches.

We are celebrating/mourning the twenty-fifth or silver anniversary of tuition increases. Resources continue to tighten for Penn State. If pride is to be taken from being frugal, and in our case it is, the educational value for dollars spent in Penn State is still the best value in Pennsylvania. It is difficult to imagine why Pennsylvania has reduced the level of support for Penn State.

I am particularly pleased with the on-going discussion and study we have had with students concerning the use of campus space. The level of involvement which students show here makes our campus the envy of several of the other campuses. Openness creates opportunity and solves problems.

Congratulations to Dorothy Watson, the Lion's Eye political cartoonist (February 7, 1992) and writer. Dorothy understood my 36-point-Times column and she stated the problem much more succinctly than I did. She reduced a thousand words into a picture. Great job!

We have read a lot and heard a lot about American quality vis-a-vis Japanese quality. There was another political cartoon in the Inquirer recently. A young student standing in front of the teacher who was asking why didn't the student do homework? The reply was "It's Japan's fault!"

The fault rests in the majority with the adoption of short term benefits at the sacrifice of long term goals, "I want it now." We see the benefits of this shortsightedness—unemployment, big time. This is an election year, and so far we have heard platitudes and nice talk about being the best. I am still waiting for the action plan to be the best. All of the candidates blame someone easily. None have pointed the way. What a way to prepare to vote.

Here's the point. To be successful requires sacrifice. Success, however defined, requires sacrifice. Success now doesn't happen. The basketball teams lost games they wanted to win. The losses helped them renew their personal commitment to be better. Our conversations over space utilization and the ultimate decisions on who uses what space will never satisfy everyone, but we will be more efficient at how we use space and space (hopefully people too) will be more flexibly utilized. Our resources (your tuition) will be carefully used. The future educated person will need to know a lot and will need to apply the knowledge in a lot of ways during a career. Prepare for it now—learn how to learn and be very good at it. Flexibility will help!