

Editorial Opinion

Play the Role Fairly

Many students—far more than we expected—were surprised to read in this newspaper that Penn State technically is not the state university.

This has appeared in this newspaper before, and mistakenly, we thought it to be somewhat common knowledge. It appears we were wrong.

Under law the University is the land-grant institution of the Commonwealth. In reality—but not under law—it is the state university. Under law, however, it is a private corporation and a "public instrumentality" which receives state aid.

The University has long been playing this dual role to its advantage. When it's advantageous to be the state university, it's the state university. This can be seen in its dealings with labor unions, claiming to be a state university to avoid possible strikes.

When it's advantageous to be a private institution, the University plays this role. This can be seen in floating its own bond issues to build residence halls, which the General State Authority, the borrow-and-build branch of the state government, will not finance.

This dual role has its good points. It works both ways. It's advantageous to the University to play it, as we have noted, but it can also be advantageous for the state and the taxpayers that University plays it.

We then have no quarrel with the dual role of the University. Where the trouble comes in is how and when it is played.

The closed meetings of the Board of Trustees is a current example of the University playing the dual role. Now it's playing the role of the private institution to avoid having the trustees meetings open to the public.

Since the University is supported mainly by tax funds, the public has the right to know how the trustees spend its money. The public has the right to sit in on trustee meetings through the press.

Closed meetings of the Board of Trustees is an example of the University playing its dual role unfairly to the taxpayers of the Commonwealth.

Though we may give advice, we cannot give conduct.—The Farmer's Almanac, 1802

Editorials are written by the editors and staff members of The Daily Collegian and do not necessarily represent the views of the University or of the student body.

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The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est 1887

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Letters

Experts on Art Should Criticize

TO THE EDITOR: I would like to personally criticize The Daily Collegian for publishing the article by Bobbi Levine which is, I feel, an affront to journalistic ethics.

I do not deny that you had every right to print opinions on a controversial subject. I do, however, feel that in printing the opinions of people who are not qualified to criticize, you are placing future cultural programs in jeopardy.

I know virtually nothing about art myself, but I feel quite proud that I can see the works of such men as Picasso on my campus. When this welcome status is threatened and endangered by unqualified opinions of people who criticize that which they do not understand.

In short, The Daily Collegian would do well to overlook the criticisms of "garage-door impressionists" and confine themselves to differences of opinion among those who have proven their interest and sophistication in the arts by more than momentary dedication.

—Thomas L. Mentzer (Editor's Note: Since the paintings were exhibited for the benefit of the students and faculty, Collegian believes their opinions should be considered.)

'Let's Make Pool Out of Snack Bar'

TO THE EDITOR: As top dogs in the West Halls Domination League, my pals and I have just approved the greatest project ever: Let's convert the Waring Snack Bar into an indoor swimming pool!

After all, the snack bar isn't used very much any more... and think of all the guys who don't feel like walking down to Glennland every time they want to take a dip...

Anyway, that's what we're going to do—like I say, I'm sure all the students are behind us, so why bother to ask them?...

—Alan Elms

Letter cut

Gazette

TODAY

American Statistical Association, 4 p.m., 3, 9 Willard College of Agriculture Forum, Dr. Russell B. Dickerson on "Agriculture in the Philippines," 4:30 p.m., 112 Buckhout Forestry Hall, 9 p.m., HUB Ballroom Freshman Towneas, 12:30 p.m., Grange Rec Room Hillel Sabbath Eve Service, 8 p.m., Foundation Players' production of "Burning Bright," 8 p.m., Center Stage UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL Raselle Stallop, Angela Black, Carol Popet, Harriet Doutr, Anne Gardner, Donna Gipe, Judith Norton, Janice Summers, Fonda Ghiardi, John Mahay, Robert Horvath, Ronald Kohler, John Lessig, Henry Kwiacinski, John Goginsky, Joseph Wachel, Michael Sapovitz, Ronald Derby, Charles King, William Kershner, James Naurle, LeRue StellFox, Michael Robrueck, Azher Ansari, John McCarron, Zigmund Boquck, Prabhada Rao.

WSGA Forms Required Today

Application blanks for Women's Student Government Association offices must be returned to the Dean of Women's office by 4:30 p.m. today.

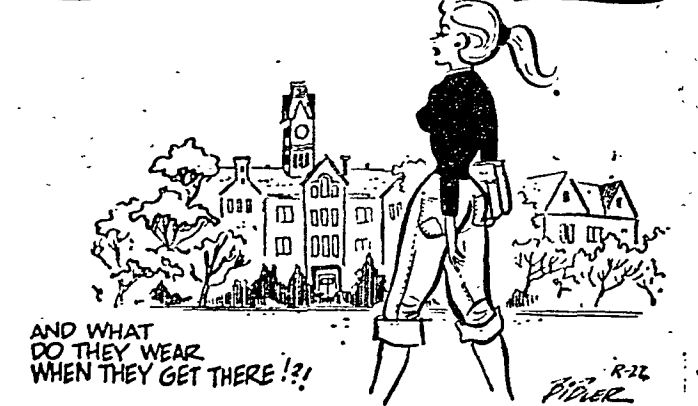
Applications may be filed for president, vice president, senior senator, junior senator, sophomore senator and town senator.

Screening of applicants will be done by senate officers and members of the elections committee.

Candidates will meet at 8:30 p.m. March 3 in 215 Hetzel Union building and their pictures will be taken March 4 at the Penn State Photo Shop.

Applicants must have a 2.5 All-University average and no major judicial record.

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



From Here

Over 20 Years—Without an Ulcer

By Ed Dubbs

Ray V. Watkins is a man no one seems to envy around here. And for good reason.

He's the reason why your eight o'clock class is in Sackett and your nine o'clock is up on Ag Hill. He's the reason why you have six eight o'clock classes. And he's the reason your class meets on the fourth floor of Boucke instead of the first.

Watkins is the University scheduling officer, a position he has held for more than 20 years—without getting an ulcer. And that's quite an accomplishment in our book.

And, as anyone can see, he's not the best liked man on campus. It just seems that someone has to meet on the fourth floor of Boucke and someone has to have eight o'clocks.



Does Watkins get a lot of complaints? Well, what do you think? He thinks he gets enough. At least he says he wouldn't want any more.

And faculty members, he says, complain more vehemently than students. It seems that faculty members, like students, want all nine o'clock classes and no eight o'clocks. They too dislike Saturday classes.

And the students aren't the only ones who complain about having an eight o'clock class in Sackett and a nine o'clock class up on Ag Hill. The faculty does too. Just ask Watkins.

And as for coffee breaks, many faculty members want them too, while others would

prefer three classes together—all in the same building, of course.

And does Watkins hear it from faculty members when there's a slip up? Sometimes, he admits, small classes get in large rooms and large classes get in small rooms.

Sparks, Watkins says, is the most popular building for most faculty members. However, they all like to have their classes in the building in which their office is located.

And faculty members, Watkins says, come up with dandy excuses as to why they can't meet this class at this time at this place. The excuses would rival any a student could dream up, he says.

One faculty member once told him he couldn't take an eight o'clock class on Monday mornings because his wife made him do the family wash.

When we stopped by his office the other day, Watkins was busy at work on the final examination schedule. That too is one of his jobs, in addition to preparing the timetable and working with the registration in Rec Hall. He also has the difficult task of making up the conflict examination schedule.

What does Watkins think of his job? He puts it this way: "I wouldn't wish it on my worst enemy—but I enjoy it."

