

Editorials

Collegian Policy in Printing the News . . .

(Today a new Board of Editors takes over the day-to-day operations of The Daily Collegian. The policies it will follow are explained below. Many of these policies are long-standing and are merely restated and repledged.)

The first function of any newspaper is to print the news—to inform the human race of what its members are doing, feeling, and thinking, and to do this as accurately and fairly as possible. A relatively new function of the newspaper is to provide objective news analysis and background so that the readers may know not only what happens, but also why it happens and who is making it happen.

The Daily Collegian as a newspaper enjoys a measure of freedom in action and expression that is not found in many professional nor most college newspapers. Collegian, Inc., a board of members of the student body, faculty and administration who serve as the paper's publisher, has delegated responsibility for the newspaper's day-to-day operations to the Board of Editors.

The freedom that Collegian enjoys brings with it corresponding responsibilities. We pledge ourselves to uphold the responsibilities we assume in putting out a newspaper—to report the news as accurately and fairly as possible, to exercise our best judgment in coverage and display, to not knowingly print a falsehood and to correct any errors that may be printed, to keep bias from creeping into our news columns, and to treat equally and fairly all persons and organizations. This, we maintain, is the only way to operate a newspaper.

To fulfill these responsibilities, Collegian believes that within the limits of its abilities it must present to its readers what they have a right to know: what is going on in the world, with particular emphasis on what is going on at the University.

Because a newspaper does not make the news, but merely reports it, everything which fills its pages is not all pleasant. Collegian, like any other newspaper, is dedicated to printing a complete picture of the news. Therefore, it must print the unhappy news along with the pleasant.

. . . And Editorials: For a Better Penn State

Presenting the news is only one function of a responsible newspaper. It also has an obligation, we believe, to interpret the news and to comment on it.

For many years The Daily Collegian has striven "For a Better Penn State." This is our single motto—our single goal.

Some students and administration personnel have expressed the belief that Collegian should be a "house organ"—that it should print only articles which reflect favorably on the University community.

We strongly disagree. It is The Daily Collegian's belief that the best way to a better Penn State is to praise its attributes, constructively criticize its faults and present the facts about it. To do anything less would be to engage in distortion and falsification. And distortion and falsification are not the way to a better Penn State.

We believe that editorials must be fair and must present an honest, well-thought-out viewpoint. However, they need not present a popular viewpoint. We will never criticize for the sake of criticizing, and we will make alternative suggestions whenever possible.

Collegian does not claim to be a molder of student opinion, but rather a guide. In our editorials we attempt to present viewpoints, not dogma. Because at least one of the functions of Collegian editorials is to inspire students to think for themselves,

In reporting what it finds to be true, a newspaper sometimes makes enemies. People by nature wish to know the truth only so long as it does not make them uncomfortable; it is only when the truth distresses them that they condemn what they consider excesses of freedom of the press.

Acting under its cherished freedom, Collegian is able to present the news it believes is significant to its readers. As a student publication, Collegian feels obligated to print campus news; but because of limitations in space and manpower it cannot print all the news of every group or event.

Since the University is supported largely by public funds, most of its affairs are of public concern. Collegian, therefore, believes it has the right to call upon University officials for information that is of legitimate concern to the public or the student body.

Collegian is not a publicity sheet. It will print publicity only when it is also news. The decision as to what constitutes news necessarily rests upon the judgment of the editors, who have been trained to make such decisions. Because few newspapers can print all the news that comes into their offices, today's editors must be selective.

News is relative to other news of the day. The prominence any article receives depends upon what the editors believe to be its importance as compared to other articles of the day, as well as depending upon available space.

We believe Collegian reporters attending meetings have the same rights the public itself would have—to see and hear all that takes place. "Off-the-record" remarks at a public meeting are in fact not off the record by virtue of the fact that anyone could walk in and hear them.

This newspaper will pursue its reporting duty as it sees it: to find, write and circulate the news and to supply adequate background and analyze information with a maximum of accuracy and sincerity of purpose and without bias, prejudice or hope of material gain.

editorials often will present both sides of an issue.

Collegian supports no national or campus political party. It has, however, the right to comment upon platforms, candidates and actions of any and all political parties.

Collegian does not claim to represent the majority of student opinion, the faculty, the staff, the alumni or the University itself. However, its editorials do represent the viewpoint of the newspaper. When Collegian wishes to emphasize its position on a matter, an editorial is signed by the Board of Editors.

A member of the board who wishes to present an individual view or to look at a matter in a personal aspect can do this in a column.

We also welcome the views of readers through letters to the editor. Letters must be signed because we believe the writers must assume the responsibility for what they say. However, on rare occasions, Collegian may decide to withhold names upon request.

Editorials and letters to the editor are selected for publication according to the same criteria — good writing, good taste and good sense.

Lastly, but not least of all, we welcome criticism. You, the readers, have a responsibility too—to see that we do not accidentally stray from these policies to which we have pledged ourselves, from our journalistic ethics or from our goal: "For a Better Penn State."

—The Board of Editors

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"What's this I hear about me bein' on probation?"

Letters

Golfer Wants Closer Parking

TO THE EDITOR: On the morning of April 15, I was tagged for a parking violation in area 11. Reason: wrong area. I do not think it was wrong for the Campus to issue this ticket. This is their job. But I, as well as the other students who enjoy a round of golf for relaxation, park in this small area—Reason: convenience, it's right next to the club house.

I believe this area should be reserved for students wishing to play golf during the day and are inconvenienced if they would be required to walk to the course from their regular parking area. This reservation would, of course, apply to those faculty members who park here during the day, out of their regular area, for the same reason.

I would like to call on our new All-University President, Jay Feldstein, to take necessary action to have this area reserved. Further, I would like to call on those students who park in this area during the day to play golf to support this move.

—William G. Soltis, '58

Women's Building Pro Hit by Coeds

TO THE EDITOR: The decision of Dean of Women Pearl O. Weston regarding the punishment of Women's Building students for (last) Sunday night's panty raid is utterly unfair and ridiculous.

Not all Women's Building students were involved in the raid. If Dean Weston wants to blow up a silly affair into a moral catastrophe, that is her opinion and she has a right to think that way. But to punish a coed because she happened

to be quartered in the unfortunate building is an arbitrary and unreasonable action.

Dean Weston is acting on circumstantial evidence. If the courts of our country would convict a person just because he was on the scene of the crime, it would be considered a miscarriage of justice. Dean Weston's decision is no less a miscarriage of justice.

—Ruth Noble, '61
Mary Rowley, '61
Susan Lewis, '61
Margie Bishop, '61

Orchestra Performed Better Than Audience

TO THE EDITOR: At the recent concert, given by the Cleveland Orchestra, under the baton of Mr. George Szell, in Recreation Hall, the orchestra performed a great deal better than the audience.

Gazette

TODAY

Advisory Committee, 3 p.m., 215 HUB
Alpha Epsilon Delta, 8 p.m., 109 Boucke, Open Meeting
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
College of Business Administration, 1:10 p.m., 121 Sparks; John W. Hanley of Procter and Gamble Co., speaker
Department of Education, 1:30 p.m., 218 HUB
Economics Faculty Seminar, noon, HUB dining room C
Ed Council, 7 p.m., 212, 218 HUB
Five O'Clock Theatre, 5 p.m., Little Theatre, "Killlearn"
Hillel Foundation, Intermediate Hebrew, 7:15 p.m., Hillel
Indie Encampment Committee, 7 p.m., 215 HUB
Liberal Arts Council, 7 p.m., 217 HUB
Neu Bayrischen Schupplattler, 7 p.m., 2 White
Philosophy Colloquium, 4:10 p.m., 124 Sparks
Physics Colloquium, 4:10 p.m., 117 Osmond
Plant Science Club, 7:30 p.m., 111 Tyson
Pre-Vet Club, 6:30 p.m., 214 HUB
Vesper Service, 4:30 p.m., Chapel
WSGA, 12:30 p.m., 217 HUB
WSGA Judicial, 5 p.m., 216 HUB

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Dorothy Ammerman, Charles Bell, Beverly Casella, James Cook, Robert Crosby, Richard Hargreaves, Harold Heffelfinger, Janice Hiddeman, Carol Hiller, Barbara Jacques, Mark Klein, Alan Renkis, Arthur Schraevande, Gretel Soltys, Jack Stewart, Sheila Williams, Dolores Zoldan, Susan Friedman, John Kreps.

A Student-Operated Newspaper

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance est 1887

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