

Editorial Opinion

A Stepchild of the State?

Penn State's legal status today rests upon a relatively obscure ruling which relates the University's public character to a gasoline tax.

The ruling made clear, what had been supposition or unwritten law for many years—that this was in fact THE State University.

To those who respect the law and its customs of president it must indeed seem strange that this simple matter should still be debated.

That Penn State's legal status has remained foggy in some minds is a kind of testimonial to the political doings of State officials.

In cases where it is convenient for these officials to consider this a State University, they will glibly do so.

As Dr. Walker nicely put it, "If the Governor wanted to fire me, he could."

In addition, the University acts as an instrumentality of the State in dealing with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Further, our appropriations bill is an amendment to the original bill of 1863 with which the State accepted the Federal provisions of the Morrill act, while other State-aided institutions must have a new bill introduced each year.

Recently, however, the Governor and various legislators alike have suffered memory lapses concerning Penn State's status.

And it is not coincidence that these lapses have coincided with Penn State's budgetary woes.

To admit that this is The State University would be to admit that definite responsibility towards its improvement rests with the Commonwealth.

By virtue of the fact that Penn State has to get on its knees and beg like a stepchild for its budget each year, the Commonwealth obviously is rejecting its responsibility and thereby ignoring our legal position.

That State officials would like to think of the University as a private institution is evident from statements of these officials.

Mr. Polen would have us believe we are only a Land-Grant College; Mr. Fulmer on the radio has called us a "quasi" State institution with reference to the budget request.

And Governor Lawrence THINKS we are the State University.

In order to avoid this conflict we would urge that University officials press this issue and clarify it once and for all in the record books.

This University has, with its long-range expansion plans, repeatedly demonstrated its sense of responsibility to higher education in the Commonwealth.

We see no valid reason why the convenient overlooking of legal evidence should continue, nor why this University should be denied the rewards which its responsibility and status merit.

Letters

Encampment Resignations; Trampled Toes

TO THE EDITOR: I do feel that Dennis Foianini has a say in the matter of Student Encampment appointments, especially since SGA couldn't meet to approve or disapprove them. My objection, however, is that he gave me his okay and then, after a whole week of work had been completed, vetoed some of the chairmen selected. This caused considerable embarrassment. We didn't agree on all of the present appointments. I was told that his decisions were the "final authority."

As far as resignations are concerned, I feel that, while they are somewhat justified, they indicate an attitude which is not necessarily in the best interests of student government.

I am disappointed to see that a few student leaders aren't going to live up to their responsibility of representing their groups.

It is only natural that personal interests may be neglected in representation — but when a "student leader" gets HIS toes stepped on, that doesn't relieve him of the responsibility of his position.

I have been criticized for not resigning along with Duane Alexander and Rich Pigossi as a protest against Denny's "high handed" tactics.

I doubt that I would solve any problems by resigning as Encampment Chairman — it would only prove that I wanted to play the game my way or not at all.

Denny's list of workshop chairmen is, to say the least, quite interesting. While they aren't my personal choices, I think they are certainly capable. Every one of them represents a "new" attitude towards student government, and perhaps they'll make these encampment discussions the best yet.

It has been quite evident that student government is headed for quite a change; these people are, for the most part the ones who helped bring about this change.

Denny's idea of the "new" student government is the reason behind his veto of my appointments, and I'm not yet sure which one of us is right. Regardless of his "power" approach, I'm sure that Denny is doing what he thinks best.

His decisions should at least be respected, since he was elected by such a definite majority.

—Nancy Williams, '62

Encampment Chairman
(Editor's Note: Miss Williams' letter refers to Duane Alexander, former SGA reorganization chairman, and Richard Pigossi, IFC President. Mr. Alexander resigned as chairman of the Encampment "Rules, Regulations and Welfare" committee after Foianini appointed Dennis Eisman as Alexander's co-chairman. Mr. Pigossi resigned as co-chairman of "Four-term Adjustments," although Foianini had approved his appointment.)

Events Noted?

TO THE EDITOR: I was very pleased with the first edition of The Summer Collegian and all of the noteworthy news in it.

Without the knowledge that the FFA was on campus I probably would have had to spend my time wasted on such activity as watching a movie.

Also glad to see that the Underwater Acoustics Seminar is being held here.

A paper directed towards the students will make for "A Better Penn State."

—Neal Keitz, '61

WDFM Schedule

- Today
- 6:00 p.m. Summer Serenade
- 7:00 p.m. Washington Reports
- 7:15 p.m. Album Review
- 7:30 p.m. News and Weather
- 7:45 p.m. Album Review
- 8:00 p.m. Show Music
- 8:30 p.m. Starlight Review
- 9:30 p.m. Opinion 15
- 10:00 p.m. Chamber Concert
- 12:00 midnight Sign Off

Snowed

'Red' Lava

by joel myers

Events in recent weeks have proved beyond doubt that the Communists are marking time until they are in a position to destroy the United States without suffering devastating consequences.

The threat they pose to our way of life is more real

than the menace of Germany or Japan in World War II because their armies of infiltration are invisible, and their aim is our complete annihilation.

We are a peace-loving nation and we try to interpret the news in a hopeful way. This works to the advantage of the Communists because major defeats in the Cold War are made to appear as temporary setbacks. We soon forget them and are confident that things will get better.



MYERS

Confidence in the American system is not enough to guarantee its perpetuation. Confidence alone would not have stopped the British at Lexington or Concord nor the Germans in World War II.

To save our system we often must face unpleasant tasks and stoop below our usual level of thought and action. The periods following both the major wars have proved that Democracy cannot be fostered in other nations and among other people simply by declaring those people are free.

Rapid developments in mass communication and transportation and tremendous progress in technology have caused every nation's policy to become international.

Each major power — if it hopes to survive — must adopt effective methods of fostering these beliefs among the uncommitted and undecided peoples of the world.

The Communists have achieved the upper hand in this battle by employing psy-

chology, military tactics and economic devices, but they still lack the strength to physically destroy us.

They are waiting and gaining. When they secure the capabilities to destroy us nothing will deter them. Until they reach that position they want to negotiate with us, but will concede nothing. The deadlocked conferences on Laos, nuclear testing and disarmament are examples of this policy.

The string of Communist successes has painted a global picture of an invincible red lava that flows from a volcano in Moscow.

Supposedly, the advance of the lava can only be stopped temporarily. It seeps and burns and finally destroys all barriers in its path, and then begins to flow again.

This concept of the undetectable flowing red lava is the major premise upon which the advance of Communism is predicated. However, it is false.

We tend to forget that behind the red lava are many bubbles of trouble, some of which burst in the mid 1950's in Hungary, East Germany and Poland.

The advance of the lava can be stopped without touching its generating volcano. A highly-trained professional army taught to fight with the latest weapons of psychology, guerrilla tactics, sabotage and espionage could be infiltrated into the areas where people cherish freedom and long for its return.

This army would merely be the counterpart to the "Communist liberators," but it would prove more successful since it would have the cooperation of the natives.

(Continued on page eight)

accents

The Chipmunk

dick leighton

I was walking down the Mall near Sackett early Monday morning when I noticed what might be considered the stereotype freshman engineer.

He was 16 or 17 years old, had a sliderule strapped to his belt, a pocket full of pencils and an armful of books.

He appeared to be getting a great deal of amusement from watching something in the grass just in front of Sackett.

This aroused my curiosity, so I edged over to see what the young man was so interested in. It was a little brown chipmunk which was either burying something or trying to dig something out of the ground.

Whatever it was doing, every time it raised its head (and it did this frequently to keep an eye on the young man) its little snout was covered with dirt. The chipmunk disposed of the dirt by putting its two front paws up to its face and pushing it off.



LEIGHTON

As all this was going on, a multitude of morning students was making its way down the Mall. About 30 or 40 of these students rushed right by the freshman without even giving him a second glance, but two upperclassmen-types slowed down their pace long enough to give the young man and his chipmunk a lackadaisical look.

The freshman, seeing their interest, perked up and said, "Look, he's washing his face."

This brought a strange response from the upperclassmen,

who, by the way, had not stopped walking. One immediately broke out into gales of laughter and the other, in a high-pitched, mimicking voice repeated, "Look, he's washing his face."

The freshman mumbled something, which at a distance of 20 feet sounded (or appeared to be) "Gee," and with a fleeting, self-conscious look at his rodent friend, he joined the passing throng and ambled off to class.

Upon reflection, the situation appears rather ironic. Here we had a member of the first four term class (a type of high-pressure education) who was foolish enough to take time out to look at a chipmunk. He was, in a way, reprimanded for his actions.

Let us hope that this is not an indication of things to come. Let us hope that students will be able to take the time to look at a chipmunk every now and then. And let us hope that looking at chipmunks or some similar divergence does not suffer from being labeled "immature" or "uncollege-like."

A young man's pride was hurt Monday, but let us hope that this was all that was hurt. It would be sad if this incident led the young man to become what so many college graduates have become — technical robots without either curiosity or imagination.

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Summer Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est 1887

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