

Editorial Opinion

For a Better Froth

Last week the October issue of Froth appeared on University newstands and soon after its appearance, it evoked a storm of controversy.

The sales record for this issue was good; student reaction was mixed, as our many Letters to the Editor indicate.

Some students have urged that Froth be banned by the University administration or that some sort of clearance channel be initiated to review material being prepared for publication.

We defend Froth. We will fight for its staff's right to comment and express opinions freely. We are opposed to any censorship which could be imposed by either the University administration or the faculty.

The concept of a student magazine devoted to wit and satire is a good one. There are many occurrences at the University which, brought to light by such literature, ever remind us of the realities and the humor in life. While providing an outlet for student talent in this phase of composition, such a publication also serves to keep members of University organizations aware of public opinion and "on their toes."

There is definitely a need and a place for satirical and humorous writing on our campus. It should be allowed to flourish here, and even the threat of censorship, posed by indignant students, is an insult to the right of free expression and to the academic climate which thrives on thought.

Because student publications at this University enjoy the cherished freedom of expression, however, their editors must bear with dignity the mammoth responsibility of reflecting humor and wit in good taste.

The editors of Froth should and must reflect the realization of their responsibility by publishing articles of merit.

From reading the October issue and recent past issues of Froth, we feel that the quality of the articles has degenerated.

This current condition must not be allowed to continue. We urge students who have criticized Froth to participate in rebuilding its quality, both by persistent verbal pressure and by participating in its publication.

Froth is a vital part of the University. It has been rated as one of the top college humor magazines in the country. Students have a right to expect well-written and tasteful articles. The editors have the responsibility to provide them.

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58 Years of Editorial Freedom

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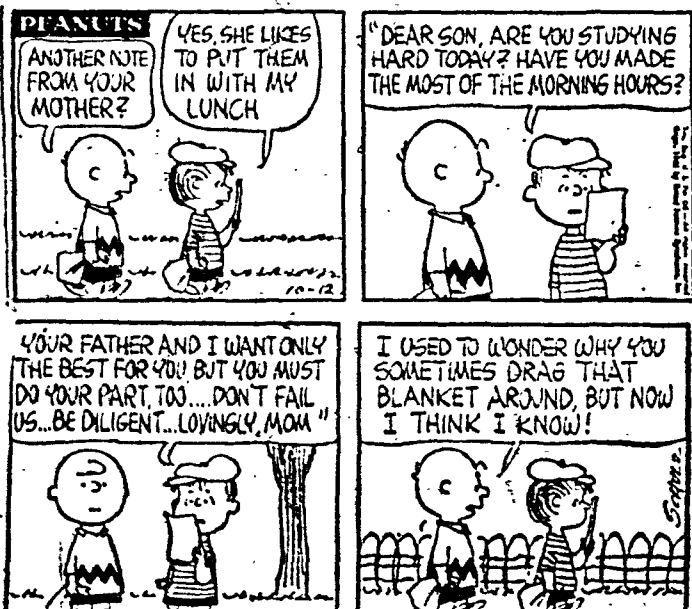
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Letters

Doubt Expressed About University Needs

TO THE EDITOR: In last Saturday's issue there was a rather singular column entitled, "What This University Needs" by Saralee Orton. Upon completion of the article the reader may be in doubt as to its purpose.

Here, then, an attempt shall be made to attach purpose to the thoughts of a woman, at best a difficult task for the male mind. Miss Orton's patience is begged as this article is written purely in the interest of science. Let us now consider Miss Orton's article in detail.

At once we are impressed by Miss Orton's somewhat contradictory apathetic, experienced and exalted position. A further remark indicating that PSU students would have a tough time getting into any other institution adds insult to injury; an unpalatable dish indeed.

Miss Orton also felt "called upon to make a few suggestions for the University family." How fortunate for the University.

At this point many upperclassmen (in this case all undergraduates not yet seniors) may feel a bit humiliated by the exalted, apathetic, experienced, and "called upon" condition of Miss Orton. This is a natural response and the author can offer no means of relief as he is not exalted.

Now confusion mounts as we read Miss Orton's list of "gems." We wonder if she is being humorous or serious. Some suggestions have a serious tone showing thought and concern. Others, however, are beyond the limits of feasibility. To illustrate this a few of Miss Orton's suggestions are listed below. Comments by the author are based strictly on opinion.

● An "in" with Governor Law-

rence. Can you imagine that?

● "A nicer exterior for Beaver Stadium . . ." Perhaps curtains around the outside would help.

● "Bus service from Pollock to the new education building." East and South Halls must be vacant this term. At any rate it is a wonder she didn't suggest moving the education building to Pollock.

● "Fewer pop quizzes in 8 o'clock Saturday classes." Perhaps Miss Orton should be a little more careful on Friday nights.

● Miss Orton wants dates for all coeds every weekend. This would certainly further their lust for a degree in husbandry, known as a Mrs.

● Also, she is tired of "Short-Yell-Beer." She must sit in a very interesting section of Beaver Stadium.

And so with the thought of beer we end our search for understanding. If you are still in doubt as to the pattern and purpose of a woman's thoughts, that makes two of us.

—David Russman '65

'Surprised' Writer Disputes Argument in Froth's Defense

TO THE EDITOR: I was very surprised upon reading Miss Blecker's letter to the editor the other day. She apparently has done something I thought was impossible — defend Froth. However, her reasoning about the merits of Froth, I believe, is slightly warped.

First, she suggests that the tremendous sales of Froth are a direct result of its worth. However, she should be aware that any filthy book or magazine need not have "humor or understanding" in order to make good sales. This tremendous sales record of Froth may, in fact, be attributed to the large, unsuspecting number of freshmen that have bought Froth for the first and last time.

In Miss Blecker's letter, she also mentions how Froth has survived through 50 years of criticism. Perhaps she should also mention that only recently has Froth attained its present position of being one of the filthiest magazines of any college.

Miss Blecker also noted that Froth is the least filthy relative to 7 of the top 10 college humor magazines in the country. I do not know who made this survey, or how many years ago it was made, but I am sure that we have undoubtedly reached the top in the production of filth.

The comment on how Froth provides a market for student expression and talent is particularly funny. The ideas expressed in Froth are the type that a student should keep to himself. I would imagine that most students would be ashamed to publicly express ideas of such low caliber. Don't get me wrong. Sometimes by accident, a good article will appear in Froth; but of course a magazine cannot be 100 per cent filthy, principally because there are advertisements that make up a portion of the magazine.

We get a proud feeling when Miss Blecker tells us how other colleges look to Froth for their filth. We also feel good when she mentions how we are looked up to by other colleges because of our freedom of censorship and our liberal-mindedness. If we are the leaders, let our leadership be worthy of followers. If we are going to be respected by other colleges, let them respect our football team, and not our filth. This is Penn State, one of the best, if not the best, colleges in the country. Let us be best in all things.

Remedy for Yelling Suggested by Froth

TO THE EDITOR: I believe that the majority of students are aware of the existence of quiet hours and the reasons for their existence. Near the dormitories there is a great deal of yelling during quiet hours. I would like to point out to the few parties concerned that noise from outside easily carries into the dormitories, disturbing all who are studying.

With this in mind, wouldn't it benefit everyone much more to yell less near the dormitories and yell a great deal more at our poorly attended pep rallies?

—Scott Calahan, '66  
—Robert Beuther, '66

our minds, our sports, our magazines.

In closing, I would like to say that sex is a beautiful thing given to man by God; however, when it is lowered to some dark alley affair, as is done in Froth, many people get the wrong idea. If we can accept sex for what it is, and not masquerade or shade it, someday we will be grown up in our attitudes toward morals and sex.

The best argument that Miss Blecker has is that if you do not like or approve of Froth, DO NOT BUY IT!

—Michael Russo, '65

Senior Satirizes Froth Dispute

TO THE EDITOR: The University should purge Froth. It should expel its editors. Froth is gross; it is almost as gross as some of the "girlie" magazines on every newsstand. The University should demonstrate its contempt for freedom of publication and the rights of students to criticize by expressing Froth.

In spite of the fact that college humor magazines have been using the "God given expression of love" as their prime source of humor for as long as they have been publishing, Froth should be expected to stay far above this. It should be purged to demonstrate that no one in this University can slander or distort the "God given gift of love" without censure.

Certain slandered groups should press libel suits to help suppress Froth. While the "slanderous" story would not have been as funny if another group had been mentioned, implying some truth, the group should refuse to take things humorously and should press libel suit.

The University should suppress all that it disagrees with. It must not allow a publication freedom from censure (it might damage our scholastic reputation). It should not allow any students to think differently from those in power, it must mold students and not allow non-conformity, for a much much better State Penn, pops, Penn State.

—James M. Lucas, '63

Argument Refuted

TO THE EDITOR: Concerning Integration Leaders, may I point out to Miss Kunkleman that the students at Ole Miss are also recipients of advanced education, the panacea that she touts so highly. These students, as well as Penn State students are (to paraphrase Miss Kunkleman) given the benefit of a place to broaden their views, overcome prejudices, and form their own philosophies. However, some students at Ole Miss disagree with her notion of desirable action and are condemned for their immaturity.

Is it that she is inconsistent in her argument or is it that education is somehow better at Penn State than at Ole Miss?

—Kenneth Hanson,  
Grad Student

Briton Views U.S. Image

TO THE EDITOR: I was most interested in the article, "American Image," by Ann Palmer, (The Daily Collegian, Oct. 5). I came from England in 1957, returning for a vacation in '59 and again this summer. Now I love England as much as Miss Palmer loves her country, but on both visits I was literally heartsick at the contempt displayed for Americans and the American way of life as the Englishman sees it.

When I was staying at a charming hotel in my beloved Cotswolds, I mentioned to the manager that I would be sure to recommend the hotel to my many American friends. To my dismay he answered, "Frankly, I'd rather you didn't. We don't like American guests — we've had some!"

I felt an almost personal hurt, and tried to find out what was objectionable about Americans. I gathered that apparently they do not control their children's behavior and generally act as Miss Palmer indicates.

The crux of the problem, to me at least, seems to lie in the question, "Who goes abroad?" If I could transport the cultured, friendly people of State College to England, I am certain that the "American Image" would be destroyed. Unfortunately these are not the wealthy Americans!

Now with English visitors here, the boot is on the other foot. With the class system still, to some extent, prevalent in England, wealth is usually synonymous to culture. This is not to say that all English visitors behave well — far from it! We are often rude, arrogant, supercilious and most condescending.

However, Miss Palmer has hit the nail on the head. Please don't always play the rich uncle. He is often heartily disliked by the so-called "poor" relations. There is ironical truth in the biblical saying, "It is more blessed to give than to receive!"

—Florence Rowlands,  
Faculty wife

WDFM Schedule FRIDAY

- 5:00 Dinner Date
- 6:00 Washington Analysis
- 6:15 Weathercast
- 6:20 Ballet Theatre
- 7:30 News
- 7:35 Highlight
- 7:45 Album of the Week
- 8:00 Marquee Memories
- 8:55 Sports News
- 9:00 "What's the Problem?"
- 9:30 News
- 9:35 Send Off
- 12:00 Nightground
- 2:00 Sign Off

SATURDAY

- 2:00 Opera
- 5:00 Chamber Music
- 7:00 HI PI Openhouse
- 8:00 Spotlight
- 9:00 Offbeat
- 12:00 Ken's Korner

SUNDAY

- 1:00 Sunday Moods
- 4:00 Poetry and Music
- 5:00 Chapel Service
- 6:00 Mormon Tabernacle Choir
- 6:30 Chamber Music
- 7:00 The Third Program
- 12:00 Sign Off

We've heard that the men working on the tower of Old Main are really Army cadets in disguise. So don't be surprised if a sign saying "Beat Penn State" suddenly balloons from Old Main.

—Prof Wayne