

Editorial Opinion

There's Work to Be Done

Froth will return to its hearing before the Committee on Student Organizations on Tuesday. At that time, the co-editors of the publication, Andrea Buscanics and Edwin Urie and Froth's literary advisor Robert M. Pockrass, will be called upon to defend their publication against charges presented last Monday by the dean of men and dean of women.

We have, in two editorials since print work on Froth's October issue was halted, expressed our opinion on the matter.

We have:

- Supported strongly the right of Froth to publish free from censorship outside of its organization.
- Expressed the opinion that some of the material which appeared in the September issue of Froth was in poor taste.
- Strongly protested administrative action which led to the stoppage of printing of Froth before a hearing, and before the editors of the publication were notified of such intent.
- Maintained that the responsibility for a good student publication must lie with its editors and advisor rather than with an administrative edict.

We continue to support these beliefs.

Before Tuesday's hearing we propose that several things be done:

- That Froth call a meeting of its Board of Directors to discuss the problem at hand and to work out possible solutions and courses of action.
- That the dean of men and the dean of women prepare themselves more fully to explain and present factual proof to back up several extremely broad statements included in their charges such as: "material which has verged on the libelous, if not . . . being libelous" and that Froth contained "stories and jokes which, because of their vulgarity were offensive to the great majority of its readers."
- That Froth examine its trend in recent years and relate the result of this study to the concept which it holds to be its purpose on this campus.
- That the editors of Froth decide how much and what kind of responsibility their positions involve.
- That both Froth and the deans of men and women prepare for the Committee on Student Organizations a statement of standards and qualifications which each group feels should be connected with a campus humor magazine.
- That students, both for and against the banning of Froth, speak out loud and clear for their beliefs.
- That the members of the Committee on Student Organizations collect and carefully weigh all available evidence for both sides of the issue. And that they keep in mind which alternative would be more "prejudicial to the good name of the University:" a more responsible Froth or the banning of student expression through Froth on this campus.
- That the Froth staff and the Board of Directors seriously investigate the possibility of state incorporation, where state laws would demand responsibility in the publication and where freedom of expression would be guaranteed within the bounds of legal limitations.

We do not feel that the banning of an organization is the answer to curing the ills of that organization. In line with the educating purpose of this University, we feel that a definition of purpose and a strong reminder of editorial responsibility better serve the interests of all concerned.

qui sait?

Progress by Inches

by saralee orton

In the ninth year after the Supreme Court decision declaring segregation in the public schools unconstitutional, it is worth seeing what actually has been accomplished toward desegregating our public school system.

The record is not encouraging. At present only about eight per cent of all school-age Negro children in 17 southern and border states are attending schools with white pupils. Of these, 97 per cent are residents of the District of Columbia and border states as West Virginia and Maryland.

In Mississippi, South Carolina and Alabama no desegregation has occurred below the university level. Schools in Prince Edward County, Va., closed three years ago to avoid desegregation, remain closed despite efforts of the federal courts and the Parent-Teachers Association to re-open them.

Token integration, by which several selected Negro students attended all-white schools or a few primary grades of such schools are desegregated, is the prevailing pattern in most southern states.

Progress towards desegregation in the schools has been painfully slow in spite of federal court decisions forcing action. Those who think that integration is just around the corner should con-

sider the facts — integration has been and will continue to be violently opposed in all southern counties where races are almost equal in number.

Besides white opposition, there are other serious roadblocks in the way of significant integration in the schools. The greatest of these is the residential segregation existing in both North and South.

Housing discrimination and lower incomes have forced Negroes to live in primarily all-Negro neighborhoods. As a result, school districts usually do not include families of both races. Also, the time-honored practice of gerrymandering has been used to keep the school districts mainly all-white or all-Negro.

Preferences of the Negroes involved must be considered as another reason for slow progress. There is understandable hesitance to crusade for a cause when it is at the expense of exposing children to white hostility by sending them to a newly-desegregated school. In addition, some southern states are pushing through programs for completion of up-to-date, academically sound schools for Negro students; an attractive prospect for Negro families.

It would seem that desegregation in the schools cannot proceed effectively without progress in other areas where segregation runs rampant. Housing is one of these areas, and housing discrimination cannot begin to end without improvement in the economic situation of the Negro.

The unsavory situation comes full circle. Negroes cannot become

economically equal with whites until they become equal in education. Higher-paid jobs call for better education, and the Supreme Court has ruled that "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal."

Appropriately, the courts have ruled integration will start in the schools. Perhaps court decisions cannot force tolerance but they open the doors to the contact between people which can lead to tolerance.

And grade school children who do not yet understand the full meaning of prejudice are more susceptible to the influence of contact than are their older relations who understand that equal education of the Negro may mean the end of white economic supremacy in the South.

Progress has been minute, but there is room for encouragement. For each Negro student whose parents have the courage to enroll him in an all-white school, perhaps there are several white children who will not grow up feeling a blind superiority to the colored race.

For each Negro now attending an integrated school, there may be one Negro able to enter a well-rated university and get a highly-paid job. Subsequently, he may buy a higher-priced house in a previously all-white neighborhood, and perhaps his children will attend a fully integrated school with white children who have accepted the fact that Negroes are different only in color of skin.

Sometimes valuable progress is made by inches.

Letters

Army Cadets' Conduct Named As Factor in Loss of Game

TO THE EDITOR: Last Saturday's loss to Army was intensified by the partisan cadets at West Point who were unable to contain themselves while Penn State had the ball. The unending choruses of chants, rah-rah's, and "Hold that Line" were heard throughout each and every play which State ran off until late in the game, when finally our players requested that the officials quiet the crowd.

Such harassment between plays in collegiate football is to be expected, but it is generally regarded as unsportsmanlike, non-cricket, and in the poorest of taste to continue the pandemonium during the running of opponents' plays.

One might expect that these cadets, so masterfully schooled in military courtesies, would also want to display their exemplary conduct during civilian events, particularly in view of a network television audience. But such was

not the case last weekend, except, of course, when Army itself was running the plays.

When you stop to consider that Penn State came within two inches of a crucial first down in their final quarter drive, had one touchdown pass called back (due to an offside penalty) and another dropped, the difference might very well have been the result of misinterpreted signals being drowned out by the animal-like fans. Let us hope that in ensuing games, the cadets from West Point will reciprocate their opponents' respectful modes of behavior and lay aside these petty contrivances at which they are so adept.

—Harry Felton,
Graduate Student

• Letter cut

Action on Froth Seen Necessary

TO THE EDITOR: Would this university, with its present liberal policies, infringe upon people's rights if it were to censor or perhaps ban Froth's publication?

Some other questions we might ask ourselves: "Just how do we want our university represented to other people? Do we wish to have others judge our standards from viewing our literary accomplishments enclosed in Froth's covers? Can we honestly point with pride to Froth's dissertations, and shamelessly show them to our friends and relatives as being representative of Penn State?"

If you can honestly assert that you are proud of Froth, and the way in which it represents your university, then there is nothing wrong with it.

But if there is just a shadow of doubt in your mind about the content of such magazines, then further questioning is necessary.

The freedom of expression we all enjoy is fine, so long as it doesn't restrict the rights of others. At that point, higher authority may deem necessary to take away these rights. Froth has reached that point, and I for one, am glad to see that something is finally being done to remove this apparently spreading malignancy.

—W. H. Tarman, '64

• Letter cut

Froth Cites Importance Of Thinking

TO THE EDITOR: People of today are relying too much on others. They have a "blind faith" and will follow a leader for some reason which they do not know. That is why I think communism is spreading. People who don't think for themselves are following what they see to be good. Communist leaders are clever people and they can distort evil and make it appear as good.

We, the people of the United States, have to start thinking for ourselves. Of course, we need others to help us with our thoughts, but unless we search for truth ourselves we will never be completely satisfied.

We, as students of Penn State, will be or already are of voting age. Once a dog was elected to a governmental position. Politicians did this to prove that people vote blindly. They publicized widely that this "Mr. Jones" was a good man, etc. and that everyone should vote for him. People voted blindly and thus "Mr. Jones," a dog, was elected.

Take, for instance, the past AWS and USG elections. How many of you looked at the pictures and then voted for the cutest girl or most handsome boy? Now, we do need people for these positions and I'm glad someone ran. But it is up to the voters to choose the right people.

We are supposed to be of higher intelligence than most people. Therefore, let us be the leaders. Let us use our talents to the best of our abilities.

Now for the question of Froth. Do we need it? Yes! People express their inner emotions in many ways: dancing, guitar playing, painting, helping others, etc. People who feel filthy inside need to express their feelings too.

I'd rather see them expressed in Froth than kept inside. Let others who can express their feelings in a more beautiful way do so—but also let those "individuals who write filth" express their feelings too!

—Carolyn Imsick, '68

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