

Editorial Opinion

Telephone Charge Evasion Is A Campus Disgrace

In every residence hall and in almost every other building on campus, there are both coin telephones and extension phones.

The extension phones are part of a University telephone system and their range of use is limited to on campus calls and off campus calls in nearby areas.

However, the coin-operated telephones are administered by the Bell Telephone Company and can be used to make calls to any part of the world or receive them.

The misuse of the coin-operated telephones by some students has caused a problem which could eventually lead to limiting this service.

In an unofficial review of the misuse of coin-operated phones on campus, the local branch of Bell Telephone Company found that in a recent 14-day period almost 350 calls had been made where students did not deposit the full amount owed for the call. It was pointed out that some students had asked to be billed and others had not waited to be given the additional charges for overtime.

It has been the policy of the telephone company to bill students for overtime charges, if asked. However, requests for billing are now so frequent that the cost involved has risen sharply. It was estimated that service of billing costs the telephone company almost \$150 monthly.

There is also a definite problem of students receiving bills for their calls and not paying them. In a review of outstanding debts since April, 1962, the company found that almost 300 bills had not been paid.

After talking to a telephone company official, we feel that the company is more aware of and more concerned with the problems than ever in the past and rightly so.

But in spite of the problems students have presented, the company is extremely willing to cooperate with students and to help them in any way possible.

We feel that the Bell Telephone Company of State College has valid complaints against those students who abuse the privilege of having coin telephones in the dormitories.

We urge students to consider this problem from both sides and will appreciate any suggestions through letters to the editor concerning its solution.

We think it only fair to warn students of the company's policy stated by the Penal Code of Pennsylvania and reprinted in all telephone directories:

"Anyone with intent to defraud, who gives information to the operator or agent of any telephone company, so that the charge therefor is made to the account of another without his authorization, shall be liable to \$50 fine or 30 days imprisonment or both."

Judging from the number of outstanding bills piled up by students, we believe this situation is a serious blight upon the image of the student body of this University. We urge that students recognize the significance of their actions in this area and immediately halt such abuses on their own; before an outside law enforcement agency must step in and settle the problem permanently.

Any such action of this type would, of course, humiliate the University and present a very poor image of the Penn State student.

A Student-Operated Newspaper
58 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

Mail Subscription Price: \$6.00 a year
Mailing Address: Box 261, State College, Pa.

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HERBERT WITNER
Business Manager

Member of The Associated Press

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Persons with complaints about The Daily Collegian's editorial policy or news coverage may voice them in the letters to the editor column or present them, in person or in writing, to the editor. All complaints will be investigated and efforts made to remedy situations where this newspaper is at fault. The Daily Collegian, however, upholds the right to maintain its independence and to exercise its right to report as to what it thinks is in the best interest of the times.

Letters to the Editor

Baker Defends Congress' Actions on Froth

TO THE EDITOR: In view of what I feel has been somewhat inaccurate Collegian coverage in the past weeks, I would like to explain the USG Congress' position concerning the Froth issue.

Following the decision of the Committee on Student Organizations to withdraw official recognition of Froth, several members of Congress, as well as many of their constituents, felt that perhaps Froth was not dealt with fairly. At the USG meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 24, a bill was proposed which only would have expressed our disapproval of the action taken by the committee. After several amendments and a great deal of debate, the motion was tabled and a committee of four Congressmen set up to examine the problem in its entirety.

Rather than yield to the pressures of a crusading, emotion-evoking student press and condemn something without offering

any possible solution, the Congress decided to investigate, to ponder future paths of action and to come up with a mature and constructive solution. This is evidence that the new USG Congress is assuming a level of maturity seldom, if ever, before seen in a student government at Penn State.

The following week the original bill was withdrawn, and the report of the committee was heard. Also, the results of the USG Student Opinion Bureau were heard, and further discussion of the problem ensued. Finally, after taking all the possible facts and opinions into consideration, Congress passed a bill setting up a committee composed of the USG President, the editor of the Collegian, a representative of the Alumni Association, one of the two student members of the Committee on Student Organizations, and a member of the Congress to meet

with the co-editors of Froth.

The purpose of this meeting, the bill stated, is to work out changes in Froth so that it can become an acceptable publication. The bill also said that the USG Congress felt that proper consideration was not given by the committee to the possibility offered by Froth to "clean its own house."

I think that the Congress of the Undergraduate Student Government has been unjustly accused of lack of action in this area. Quick, emotional action is not in direct correlation with realistic, solution-centered action, nor are all of the idealistic and theoretical statements of The Daily Collegian's expert staff of crusading pseudo-journalists going to be able to bring back a responsible campus humor magazine to Penn State. I feel sure, however, that USG's action will be a definite step in the direction of the aforementioned goal.

-Morris B. Baker
USG Vice President

Senior Accuses Collegian Of 'Leftist-Liberal Editorializing'

TO THE EDITOR: Now I've heard everything! After three long years of enduring leftist-liberal editorializing in The Daily Collegian, I finally came upon the nadir of political journalism in Joel Myers' so-called "Election Analysis."

Myers happily acclaims that The New Frontier may soon be free to torture the Constitution of the United States as mercilessly as Roosevelt did in the 1930's. He cheerfully calls attention to the "increased power" of the liberal GOP wing while ignoring the election of a conservative in Colorado and the bid for power of California's conservative wing.

He blissfully overlooks the Republican governor in Oklahoma and the narrow defeat of a Republican conservative in Alabama, while discounting the Republican gubernatorial victories in four of the nation's most popu-

lous states.

Further, he gleefully points to the election of younger congressmen, hoping that they will see their way clear, to abet creeping socialism by ramming Medicare and aid-to-education down the throats of the people of a formerly constitutional America.

The Kennedy victory is hardly "significant." It is barely even existent. Myers' hopeless distortion of the facts is galling to me. The Collegian's constant leftist hammerings are galling to me. If your brand of journalist is indicative of those being processed by other major universities in this country, the state of the American press is in for a long, unhappy decline from responsible, impartial, two-sided editorializing to biased yammerings such as those of Myers and the Collegian staff.

-D. A. Kenagy, '63

Frosh Urges Froth Spirit

TO THE EDITOR: That Froth should be banned from this campus is a much greater disgrace to Penn State than the type of literature it formerly published. I think that any student should be ashamed of his university if its administration can exercise so much power over any student publication to stop its printing.

No student desiring to live in a free society can mature properly under such totalitarian rule. A student, as a person, is guaranteed the freedom of speech and the freedom to read what he pleases by the United States Constitution. However, the Constitution grants no one the right to regulate thoughts or the expression of thoughts.

Any humor magazine contains a certain amount of satire. Whether one condones the type of satire in Froth or not has absolutely no bearing on the administration's decision to revoke Froth's charter. The administration has usurped power not granted them.

Any student who wants freedom of expression and moreover the right to think and decide for himself is urged to support Froth in any endeavor to regain its charter.

-Tom Ruth, '68

Telephone Service Praised

TO THE EDITOR: Before Michael Wexler criticizes the phone service at this University as he did in Friday's Collegian, let him first discover a few facts about PSU's telephone set up. In the two-plus years that I have attended this university, I have had the opportunity to visit many universities; none of which have the comprehensive telephone service available to students of Penn State who live under housing contracts.

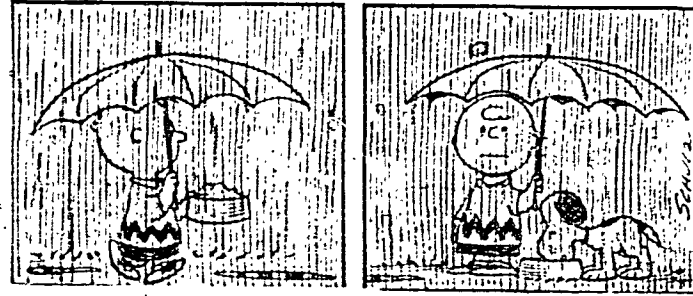
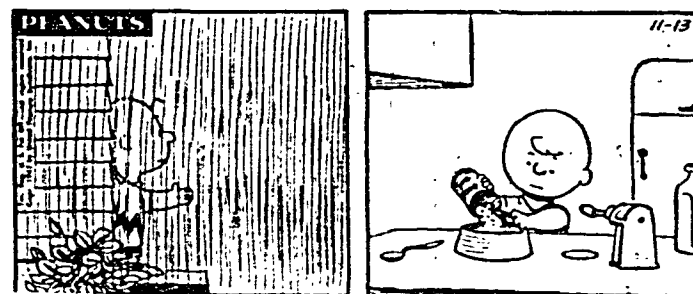
If Wexler lived downtown, he would in all probability find himself paying a dime for each call he made. Had he been here last year, he would have found himself able to make only on-campus calls without charge and would have paid to call the four outside exchanges—a feat which can now be done free of charge.

If Wexler attended another college, he might have something to gripe about. Villanova, for example, provides something like one phone for each 100 students. At the University of Massachusetts, there is no free phone service. There are three pay-phones in each dormitory building. Even on-campus calls to another dorm cost a dime.

The Bell Telephone Company in the area is to be commended on the fine quality and quantity of the telephone services available to students on this campus. It is certainly one of the finest systems available to college students anywhere. Wexler should be grateful that this service is

available for his use, rather than complaining when he could be faring a lot worse.

-Carl Thormayer, '64



WDFM Schedule

TUESDAY, NOV. 13

- 5:30 Dinner Date
- 6:00 This Week at the U.N.
- 6:20 Contemporary Classics: Music of 20th Century
- 7:30 Highlight: Report by IFC President Enail Sow
- 8:00 Sound of Folk Music
- 9:00 Meet the Professor: Denis Stevens, distinguished visiting professor from England; music
- 10:00 Symphonic Notebook: Contemporary American Music