

# Misdirected Gratitude

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT Eric A. Walker has given special thanks to the vast majority of students who refused to let "education be interrupted" by becoming involved with recent campus disturbances.

But such students shouldn't want your thank you's, Dr. Walker. They were wrong.

And no more gracious insults should be wasted on the students who've been coned back into classes with only a suntan to prove they were witness to Old Main's educational atrocities.

THE ADMINISTRATION is probably just as pleased that the Strike Committee has retreated from Old Main's harrowed halls in order to quietly set up a new campaign program.

Now, with greatest thanks to the committee, the vital issues which effectively and rightfully disrupted the normal administrative mistake are practically forgotten.

The reasons why some students chose to occupy Old Main on April 15 were rather hazy and disputable. But a clear avenue of frustration was paved

when the Administration answered with injunctions, State Police and bows to the Board of Trustees.

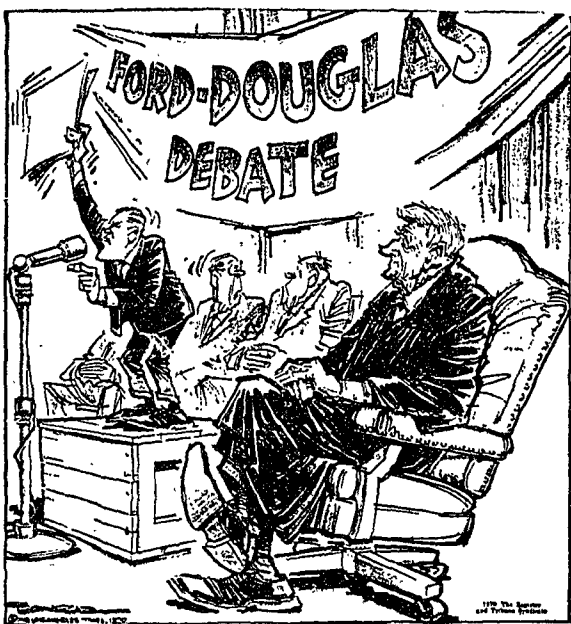
Since the Strike Committee has stopped leading daily demonstrations at Old Main, the vast majority which could openly rally against such extreme tactics has been weakened. And the only course which seems to be open now is the almost ludicrous singular harassment of administrators.

OLD MAINERS CAN'T look from their windows and hear the angry voice of the Strike Committee in the HUB. What's needed is the close, constant pressure of the many dissatisfied students trying to stop the mistreatment soon to be felt by the 41 arrested students.

Even though the University has put the most crucial disciplinary proceeding out of its hands, it can't escape the worthy cry of concerned and orderly students.

The Strike Committee must return to Old Main lawn and renew the peaceful protests against educational injustice.

IT'S GOING TO BE a thankless job.



## Grievance Policy

Members of the University community wishing to file formal grievances over news and editorial content of The Collegian should address correspondence to The Daily Collegian's Committee on Accuracy and Fair Play, in care of the executive secretary of Collegian Inc., publisher of The Daily Collegian.

Mrs. Donna S. Clemson  
20 Sackett Bldg.  
University Park, Pa. 16802

# Phone call from home

By BARBI STINE  
Collegian Staff Writer

Hello... Jong distance? ... yes... hi Mom! How is everything? ... This is the seventh time you've called today? ... Wait a minute, calm down... No, I am not dead or hospitalized or in jail... I outran the policeman who was chasing me... Hold on! I was only kidding... Really... Of course our dog is still standing... You heard eight residence halls were reduced to a smoking rubble and had to be evacuated? ... Well, you know how newspapers tend to exaggerate... What else? ... The President had to flee for his life when his home was stoned and overrun by a radical horde of sandaled hippies? Was that a quote? ... Oh, Daddy's interpretation, I see... Well, no, actually I wasn't on the spot at the time... Only about 50 energetic kids charged over to pay homage to old Eric. The rest of us were still in the HUB Ballroom listening to about 20 various leaders trying to organize a strike... Oh, did I say "WE"? ... Just a slip... Of course not, me demonstrate?... Never! ... But Mother, all the kids wanted was for Walker to acknowledge their existence and talk to them. I mean, is that too much to ask of a University president? Like Ted Thompson said "Fed"? ... He's president of USG... Yeah, he's black... Well, I don't see what that has to do with it... Anyhow, he said he's only been here for three years and has talked to more students than the President... Walker manages to appear only at convocations and graduations... Okay, I'll agree the violence was very definitely wrong, I don't appreciate seeing my campus destroyed, but bringing in police and an injunction for one incident which could have been handled seems an overreaction... I mean, we're only students... Oh! but remember the football game 2 years ago when quite a few Greeks overturned some cars and caused other damage?... nobody served them an injunction, carted them in to the clinic and cut off their hair. It's becoming the fad now to expel you for what you intended to do rather than what you actually did... yes, there were 175 cops the other day to arrest three kids... Well, the police don't like to take chances... As I was saying, the ideas behind the marches now are to grant amnesty for the 41 who were arrested, to lift the in-



MISS STINE

junction and generally to open up communications between the students and the Administration... Because there are no communications, that's why... Listen, even in deciding a course of action during the last few weeks Walker spoke with the Trustees, but never the administration, the legislators, but never the students... We are constantly brushed aside like so much dust and you've got to admit, we constitute a sizeable majority on this campus... Well, what if we did march around a bit the other night? It's our only way to make the students' presence felt here... I can make my presence felt at home if I get involved... Oh... Actually, I'm more of an I.O... What's that?... An Interested Observer... Now you're biased. How can you possibly believe every golden and partially inaccurate word printed in the Reading Times?... Just listen for one minute...

Actually it all began when the Peace Coalition presented a couple of demands for consideration... Yes, request might have sounded better... Oh, one was to disaffiliate defense research and ROTC from the University and what? ... What? I agree with the first part but I don't see why ROTC can't stay on a voluntary basis... After all, it would probably be better to have some intelligent people, generally aware of domestic problems, like the ones we're having on campus as military leaders rather than guys dragged off the streets because they couldn't make the college grade... Anyhow, the original demands are sort of irrelevant now... Don't you see?... The point is that we're going to school in the environment of an aristocratic dictatorship... Yes I thought of that myself... You can't blame everything on outside agitation... Oh, sure, we were granted a meeting last Monday but it wasn't "negotiable"... One of the student representatives is in my poli sci class and he said the Administration sat down at the meeting and flatly told them what action was going to be taken... No discussion or consideration of our proposals... Of course we tried but they wanted everything in legal, documented form... How could we have secured a legal counsel when the time of the meeting was announced only an hour before it was to take place?... Oh, go through the system... What system?... We did try... Why should we continue when the University doesn't use its own channels?... I'm referring to the Three Independent and Unbiased Personages selected to review the cases of the students who were arrested... If I'm not satisfied I can come home and go to Kutztown?... That's no attitude... If you saw changes that needed to be made in the United States would you ignore them and move to the Soviet Union?... Oh, MOTHER... Listen, isn't this costing you money?... No, I'd rather not go into 24 hour visitation again... You'd like to know why a boy answered my phone this morning?...

# Letters to the Collegian Editor

## Points of rebellion

TO THE EDITOR: Alumni should be concerned with the methods used by the present Walker administration in dealing with dissenting students. Let's ask some questions:

—Why no dialogue between administration and students?

—Why call in a large force of state troopers with buses to handle a small group of peaceful "sit-ins"?

—Why not "cool" the situation by granting amnesty—in view of excesses committed by police?

Whether we agree or disagree with student demands, the Administration should have learned by six years of "happenings" since Berkeley that resorting to a massive show of force (as President Walker did) only "radicalizes" many more students.

I suggest that Penn State Report open a column to a student opposition leader. In the absence of dialogue—comes violence.

Recommended reading: Points of Rebellion by Justice W. O. Douglas.  
Martin Thall  
Class '49

## Channels can work

TO THE EDITOR: As a relatively silent member of the "vast majority," I feel compelled to express some thoughts to whoever cares to read them.

A question was raised at Tuesday's Liberal Arts Council meeting as to the representativeness of the vocal minority, with respect to the entire student population. It seems to me that its most vocal member present answered the question himself, by pointing out the lack of enthusiasm either for or against the current student strike among those in an unnamed professor's English class. The significant yet under-emphasized point is that most students do attend class on days of purported strikes, which is itself an indication of their primary concern: the education for which they or their parents are paying. Rather than accusing them of apathy, I feel the numerical strength of these students should be recognized as a strong positive vote in support of a functioning educational institution.

One student at the meeting expressed amazement that his classmates "would not even listen" to the vocal minority members who asked to air their views during class time. Should we be so amazed that they prefer to learn something about anthropology than to hear the latest set of vague "demands" which are put forth by a vociferous few? After last Tuesday night's rally, I couldn't decide which "demand" had priority among which students from one minute to the next! Several people mentioned a fear of "repression," of being expelled for expressing an opinion; a convenient smokescreen to hide behind if you have nothing to say in the first place.

If concrete proposals are formulated, and I believe several considerations (on tenure, for instance) are highly relevant in improving (not destroying) our academic environment, I implore those who care and have the time to initiate constructive action to achieve some worthwhile changes.

By this I mean some time-consuming use of existing channels which—contrary to Wells' leading statement—were not fully exploited before physical action was resorted to on April 15 and afterwards. There is plenty of room within the University structure for those who sincerely desire positive change, however a successful outcome requires the exercise of forethought rather than impulsive action.

Cris Rivnak  
(graduate-anthropology)

## Distortion in article

TO THE EDITOR: Having just completed reading the April 23 issue of The Daily Collegian, I am amazed at the distorted reporting of the "so-called" news item about the publication of the Cub's Roar at the Scranton Campus.

In order to set the record straight I would appreciate a complete retraction of the alleged reasons for discontinuing our publication.

First, the reason for temporary discontinuance had nothing whatsoever to do with Administrative pressure regarding selection of a "local printer." We are union-oriented here in Scranton (for reasons that should be obvious to anyone acquainted with the economic problems which exist in the area). Our student body consists of young men and women whose parents are firm believers in unions—also obvious.

When we select a printer, therefore, it is voluntary—not mandatory—that the printer be a union printer and employ union labor. Our Director, Mr. Dawson, has never influenced our choice as to who that printer "must" be, and he has never censored any issue prior to publication.

Second, while our finances are not limitless, they are adequate. We certainly feel that to publish twenty-five issues of a paper with a new editor, a new adviser, and a new Dean of Student Affairs would indeed involve "journalistic miracles" as well as an onerous burden that would be impossible to carry.

I feel that Mr. Fisher's letter to the press association has been slanted to engender sympathy toward their own cause. I resent this distortion. To quote out of context is notoriously bad journalistic technique. We, here at the Worthington Scranton Campus refuse to be "used" to further a private controversy or a dying cause. Whatever reasons prompted the temporary suspension of our publication are our reasons and are not to be used as a propaganda device by any group—students, press association, or any other group not familiar with our decisions.

Please, in interest of good journalism, correct this gross injustice.

Ruth Sullivan  
Adviser  
Patrick J. Rose  
Dean of Student Affairs  
Gary Fisher  
Editor

## On to Harrisburg

TO THE EDITORS: It is becoming increasingly clear to many students that the recent events at the University—the institution of a permanent injunction, the provocative over-use of police, the dictatorial powers assumed by President Walker and the slashing of education funds by Governor Shafer and the State Legislature—are inexorably linked. There has been a conscious attempt to isolate students, not only by forcing them into meaningless actions, but by creating an impression in the minds of the working people of this state that the perpetrators of the building seizures and the demonstrators are bent upon destroying the university.

The people who wield political power in this state are attempting to create a political climate that will hope to show Pennsylvania residents that it is not in their interest to support aid to higher education, thus paving the way for the budget cuts.

What is needed is a conscious political struggle to break the isolation of students from the working people of this state. That is, a struggle must be waged that links the use of injunctions against students with those used against striking workers; that links education cuts with job cuts.

In other words, the narrow student-power perspective widely held by students must be broken and replaced by a perspective that links the events at Penn State with the wider events on the state and national levels, and which bases its political power on the strength of the trade unions.

The Workers' League, in attempting to initiate this struggle, is organizing a march in Harrisburg on Saturday, May 9, around the following slogans:

- No Injunctions Against Students and Striking Workers!
- Education Cuts—No Job Cuts
- Free All Political Prisoners, First the Panthers—Next the Unions
- All U.S. Troops Out of S.E. Asia Now
- Build a Labor Party.

The Workers' League calls on all student organizations and individuals to join us in this struggle. If interested, please notify us at our table downstairs in the HUB, anytime during the day. All out to Harrisburg, May 9!

Edward W. Bergonzoli  
(graduate-anthropology)

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