Editorial opinion:

Protect your home

Attention has been focused on Hartranft this summer — not for the special programs there, but for the special vein of vandalism which has threaded through the past few weeks.

Many have linked the destruction to the dorm situation, citing the differences in age and background of the residents.

However, damage in the dorms is not restricted to Hartranft. Damage is also high in other residence halls and does not stem from an inner-dorm conflict but from an apparent lack of respect for the property of others.

Over the past two weeks, there has been hundreds of dollars worth of damage on the ground floor of Beaver, beginning with the destruction of a cigarette machine and a television set in the lounge.

Notices appeared in the mailboxes of Beaver residents informing them of the damage and the possible implications for their security deposits.

At least a few of the Beaver residents responded with additional destruction, using slightly more imaginative tactics. The automatic defrosting unit of an ice cream machine was disconnected, flooding the entire ground floor. The cigarette machine, which had been replaced, again was destroyed.

Presently, all vending machines in Beaver have been emptied.

The rewards of vandalism are negligible — a few extra candy bars or packs of cigarettes, added esteem with friends of a similar nature, the excitement of breaking the rules.

The repercussions are much more clear-cut. With vandalism, there is an accompanying drain on security deposits. Persistent damage results in the removal of vending machines and other benefits.

Residents of Hartranft and Beaver and other vandalized dorms may complain that the damage is done by outsiders. Although innocent, the dorm residents must pay for the damages and do without usual services.

However, all dorm residents suffer, not just those in vandalized dorms.

Continued vandalism results in increased security and regulations, adding to a lack of freedom and mobility.

If damage persists, forcing extensive repairs, the cost of room and board may rise.

Material considerations aside, the individuals involved are not completely free from punishment. Establishing a pattern of vandalism while in college can lead to more serious crimes later in life, with more serious punishments.

For many of you, the dorm will be your home while at Penn State. Take care of it.

O that I were as great as my grief,
or lesser than my name!
Or that I could forget
what I have been!
Or not remember what
I must be now!

—King Richard II,
Act III, Scene III

Letters to the Editor

Fighting the system

TO THE EDITOR: After four terms as a resident assistant, I have had access to a great deal of information not generally available. This has in the past only served as the source of frustration to my fellow staff members and myself when trying to deal with many problems in a truly efficient manner.

I have experienced short-sighted administrative policies: petty, hypocritical and self-oriented upper staff who institute mandatory "staff unity" policies where one's abilities are judged by knowing everyone's name, "strongly advised" attendance at social functions, etc.

I have seen staff members, very competent and well-liked by their students, come and go. Many were either disillusioned by the restrictions upon their individuality (certain staff members "warned" not to press a certain new policy change being debated at Old Main) or were pressured into resigning.

Other typical experiences involved incompetent Campus Patrolmen (although admittedly I am aware of a number of very capable individuals) and my students' repeatedly negative experiences with a certain Ritenour doctor to whom I had referred them upon the recommendation of upper staff for psychiatric counseling. (Later I sent a report to AWS with no apparent results.)

Despite the generally outlined problems, my experiences with the students themselves were excellent. The job is worthwhile, it seems, only if the RA buries himself in the dormitory and fails to affect himself by the blatant injustices and ignorance around you. To see what he is getting into and to maintain that awareness is difficult, since the job is structured to be a very wearing, numbing and desensitizing process.

Nevertheless, I have held this position as long as I wanted it. My work appears to have met with staff and, most importantly, the students' approval.

This is not a letter written in defense for there is nothing to defend. The conditions did exist, though, and do continue to fester.

Potential RA applicants should bear this in mind, for there appears to be no shaking in the foundations of this deeply mired, stagnant bureaucracy.

Eleanor Guerrero
[11th-anthropology]

Today's army

TO THE EDITOR: Today I picked up a brochure — nicely done in electric blue and purple — which sports a teenage version of Audie Murphy on the cover. His face is blackened with cork; his M16 Colt hangs carelessly from his trigger finger; his climbing rope, his can of mace, his waterproof torch, his drinking bottle all dangle from a multitude of hooks and webbing straps on his casually efficient uniform.

"Ranger," says his forage cap in green and gold. Underneath, in bold white frontier-style capitals, there is the invitation to "Join the Rangers." On the back of the leaflet, most important of all, one reads, "Today's army wants to join you."

Recruiting has assumed a role of unparalleled importance, for now only volunteers will be accepted into the titantic, supremely powerful, somewhat clumsy, sometimes laughed-at behemoth that is the modern army of this republic. For the first time since 1948, the draft is over.

Now the U.S. is beginning to build a volunteer army, faced with problems such as discontented young veterans who can find no employment; a youth reared on a discordant threnody of phrases like My Lai, Kent State, napalm, the gravel bomb, 46,000 American deaths. The army presently is devoid of cult figures and is grossly overladen (the ratio is more than one to seven) with officers.

Who, one might ask, might join today's army? Of course, the American army now will be much smaller than it has been during the past several decades — only 13 divisions (one airborne, three infantry, four mechanical, three armored, one airmobile and one with a special "triple capability.")

These divisions consist of some 840,000 men, compared with Russia's 160 divisions and two million men. Our army needs rather fewer than 20,000 men a year to keep it going on strength.

But within this smaller army, it looks very much as though the target figures are going to be easily met. Perhaps it is the money that attracts the volunteers — though the basic enlistment wage of $307.20 a month is not all that competitive with industry.

Perhaps it is the chance to get an education at government expense. One is guaranteed a college education on completing a three-year tour.

Or perhaps it is a curious blend of patriotism, a desire to fight, to travel, to wear a uniform and to be "someone." The advertising copywriters may be onto something when they pen such magic as "Infantry is rugged, personal and challenging. To prove yourself here is to prove yourself to the world."

But easy recruitment may stem from the state of the economy. According to Pentagon figures, some 17 per cent of the men enlisted last month were black — a figure which compares with the national Negro percentage of only 11 per cent. The black minority has the largest share of the unemployed.

A volunteer army may become a safety valve for a disintegrating economy.

J.D. McAulay
Professor of education

A resolvable conflict

TO THE EDITOR: In response to your article "Hartranft: Scene of Age Conflict," it seems to me that some of the returning veterans made false assumptions about the people who were on the third, fourth and fifth floors of Hartranft.

First of all, the age difference was not as big a factor as the veterans made it out to be. Many of the students evicted from Hartranft are 20, 21 or 22 years, although they have experienced life from a somewhat different perspective than the veterans.

In fact, a fair number of veterans (who are presently continuing students) are included in those who were moved from Hartranft.

Being a 23-year-old former Army sergeant, I also despise the comment made by one returning veteran that vets are men, while at the same time they admit to teasing the younger students. As "older men" veterans should be able to deal with the younger students in a more mature manner.

Also, I don't think the younger students resent veterans as was stated in the article. If anything, it has been my experience that the other students look up to and respect the vets.

Being "older, mature men," the returning vets should have made more attempts to deal with their neighbors in a more friendly, cordial manner, and perhaps the supposd differences could have been ironed out.

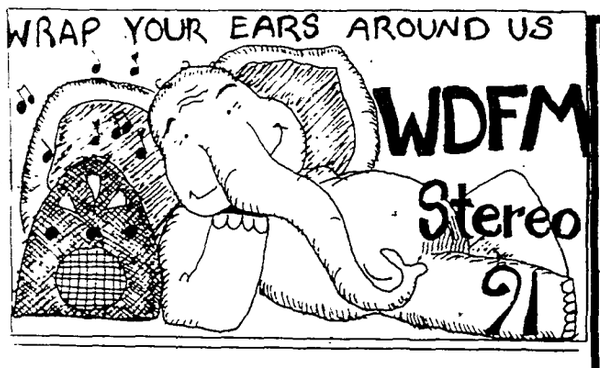
Come on fellows, maybe you proved yourself in a combat situation. Now how about proving yourself in a college situation?

Barry E. Fritzinger [Fritz]
[5th-recreation and parks]
Former Hartranft resident

the daily Collegian

PATRICIA J. STEWART
Editor

JOHN J. TODD
Business Manager



FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN THEATRE

Little Murders

By Jules Feiffer
THE KEYSTONE COMEDY OF THE 1980s!
A comedy for adults by the world-famous cartoonist whose cynical view of the American dream has a convincing perceptiveness.

Directed by Gene Feist of New York's Roundabout Theatre

The Pavilion
August 1-5, 7-11
Matinees August 4 and 11

Damn Yankees

By George Abbott, Douglass Wallop, Richard Adler and Jerry Ross

All hit, no error — that's the score on this rollicking, warm-hearted musical about America's favorite pastime: baseball!

The Playhouse
August 1-5, 7-11 Matinee August 11

For ticket reservations call 865-1884.
Student tickets $1.75 for all performances.
Sixteenth Professional Season
The Pennsylvania State University
State College, Pennsylvania

Come look at our card assortment

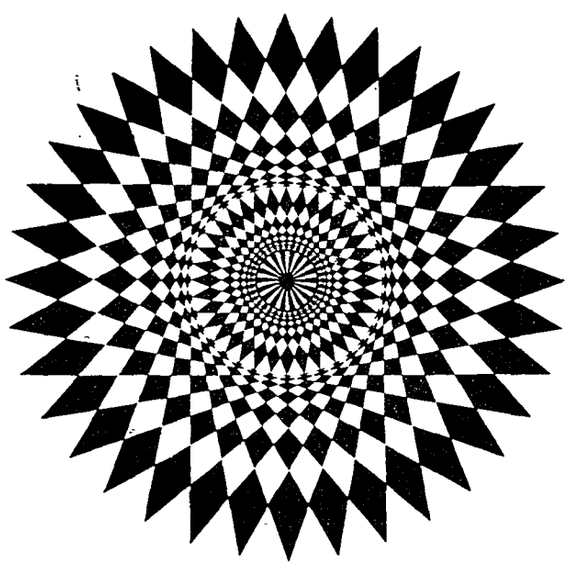
End Result
109 S. Allen St.

QWK

THE MUSIC

QWK radio information at 7:55 p.m. and 10:55 p.m. with Jon McClintock

FM 97



Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper

JACK HARPER

ORIGINAL
$ DOLLAR DAYS $
Wed. & Thurs. - Aug. 1 & 2

This original sale includes many ½ price items including suits, sport coats, sport shirts, slacks, neckwear, business, dress, leisure, town and campus wearables. A large group of long and short sleeve shirts at $5.00 apiece.

Jack Harper
Incorporated
custom shop for men
114 W. College Ave.
Around the corner from
Bostonian Ltd. in Downtown State College

Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack Harper Jack

THIS COUPON GOOD FOR

Little Caesar's

75¢ off
any Sportsman pizza

Offer expires Aug. 11

128 E. College Ave.
Across from Old Main

237-1481

ONE COUPON PER PIZZA

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR

Wednesday-Friday, August 1-3, 1973

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, August 1 — Alpha Kappa Chapter of Pi Lambda Theta second annual summer luncheon, 12 noon, Nittany Lion Inn. Initiation at 11 a.m.

Wednesday-Friday, August 1-3 — Festival of American Theatre, "Little Murders," 8 p.m., Pavilion.

Wednesday-Friday, August 1-3 — Festival of American Theatre, "Damn Yankees," 8 p.m., The Playhouse.

Friday, August 3 — Commonsplace Coffeehouse, 8-11 p.m., Room 102 Kern.

Friday, August 3 — Folk Dance Festival, 8 p.m., HUB ballroom. Spectators welcome.

FILMS

Wednesday, August 1 — Commonsplace Afternoon Theatre, 12:30 p.m., Room 112 Kern. "The Detached Americans."

Wednesday, August 1 — Commonsplace Evening Theatre, 8 and 10 p.m., Room 112 Kern. "The Maltese Falcon."

Friday, August 3 — HUB Summer Series, 8:45 p.m., Schwab. "The Peter Tchaikovsky Story," Walt Disney. 9:15 p.m., "Interlude," Oskar Werner, Barbara Ferris.

RECREATION

Wednesday, August 1 — Chess, 8 p.m., HUB ground floor lobby.

INTEREST GROUPS

Young Socialists, Thursdays, 7:30-11 p.m., Room 169 Willard.

EXHIBITS

Museum of Art — Gallery A, Prints and Drawings by Penn State Faculty. Gallery C, Permanent Collection.

Kern Gallery — Louis Marotta, paintings and drawings. Barbara Kizanis, ceramics.

Chambers Gallery — William Davis, assistant director University Art Museum, recent drawings. "Woven Art," works by Barbara Hodik, Linnea Martin, David Van Dommelen, Kent Sissel, Katheryn Mills, Nancy Harrison, Steve Grout and Annette Hobbs.

Zoller Gallery, Visual Arts — Paintings, drawings and sculpture by Jim Finnegan and David Bushman.

Pattee Library, Rare Books Room — Illuminated manuscripts in facsimile, works from 400 AD through 1600. Main Lobby — "Penn State and Postcards," by PSU alumni George and Dorothy Miller. Circulation Lobby — Black and white photos by Mary Phelan.