

# Rare exception

A popular generalization in these Watergate days is that all types of government are ineffectual, or corrupt, or both. But, as is often the case, exceptions appear to punch holes in such neat theories.

One exception at Penn State: the Student Advisory Board to University Health Services.

This group has taken on the responsibility of investigating and improving medical services — something the University has not had the resources or initiative to develop on its own.

One of the advisory board's major priorities is gathering student opinion about Ritenour Health Center.

Members of the board man a complaint center in 106 Ritenour, third and fifth periods Monday through Friday.

In the past, students' only

chance to complain about health services came during the irregular Ritenour hearings, which did little but pit angry students and Ritenour personnel against each other.

To get opinions from students who may not take the trouble to complain, the board is preparing a survey to send out randomly to 100 students to gauge attitudes toward the health center.

In another project this term, the board is compiling information on whether students in wheelchairs can use University buildings easily. To determine this, the students are investigating whether there are ramps or elevators in student-used buildings.

Another plan the board is investigating would require doctors to dispense medicines clearly

labeled with their chemical names. This would make it easier for the patient's hometown doctor to know what the student has been taking.

Related to this idea is a project to publish a pamphlet detailing the side effects of medications and the results of mixing them or taking them with alcohol.

The irregular eating, sleeping and studying habits of most students make it essential that they know whether a medicine will make them drowsy or upset their stomach.

These are only a few of the projects that the board has been involved with since its beginning last term, illustrating that students can improve things at the University. Now that the board has established its role, it must continue its work.



'YOU'RE IN SHIPPING?.... I'M IN OIL SHORTAGES!'

# Letters to the Editor

## Paying for privilege

**TO THE EDITOR:** Last week's letter entitled "We have lounges" was very interesting if you want to over look its several faults.

The fact that there have been minority lounges on this campus for years is true. However, what wasn't mentioned in that letter was the fact that sororities pay between forty and fifty dollars per person per term for the privilege of using such a lounge. Now if the blacks or any other minority group at Penn State is willing to pay that price per person per term for its own lounge, then I don't think anyone would object.

The second point that I would like to expound is the statement in the letter that the reason we are so uptight about black lounges is that we are prejudiced. Personally I don't care if the blacks get a lounge or not. I'm not uptight about the lounges, I only want to see everyone who wants a lounge to get one. I don't want to see certain minorities exploited while granting others free lounges. Everyone should pay or get a free lounge—no exceptions.

In conclusion, I would like to say lounges are expensive luxuries, not free necessities.

Name withheld

## WASPish bourgeoisie

**TO THE EDITOR:** Penn State takes great pride in its reputation as one of the nation's outstanding universities. However, if the letters of Mr. Jones, Mr. Craig and Mr. Hawkins are any indication of the education offered here, then we are sinking fast.

These letters show a total blindness of the social structure in America today and border on blatant racism. The American flag has done little for a majority of this country's blacks. Even by defending the flag, blacks have experienced racism and oppression. It takes a great deal of courage to protest among the WASPish bourgeoisie here at PSU, and I admire every black who does so.

Mr. Craig and Mr. Hawkins, I'm sorry you could not experience full and total enjoyment of the game because of a few quietly protesting blacks. But please don't ever go through any ghetto or slum—you're very likely to get depressed, which isn't fun at all. And Mr. Jones, I'm sure PSU's blacks would be glad to shine your shoes, open your doors, etc. to earn their lounges.

I can't believe I'm at a university.

Andrew B. Hegeman  
10th-biology

## One nation, indivisible

**TO THE EDITOR:** I wish to reply to the sentiments expressed by Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Craig in their letter entitled, "Disrespect For America."

These two gentlemen stated their passionate indignation at the refusal of some spectators to stand and/or remove their hats during the playing of the national anthem at the Penn State-Syracuse basketball game.

I attended that game. I witnessed the incidents, and found them refreshing. At least some Americans have the guts to "sit down" for their convictions.

I am a freshman, an undergraduate who has not quite yet recovered from the shocking segregation and prejudice here at Penn State. Here, at an institution of higher learning and intellectual thought, one should least expect to find such childish feelings as bias and animosity.

It seems to me that we'd all be a lot better off if we channeled our energies into correcting the faults in the American

society, rather than decrying those who see said faults. Work, then, to improve America. If we can rid society of its apprehensions, inhibitions, and prejudices, then, maybe, we'll be able to afford the time to worry about such trivialities as expressed by Misterys Craig and Hawkins.

As those two gentlemen stated, "In America, one can do as he pleases." If they believe this, how can they deny that we also have the right, in America, to communicate our disgust at some of its functions?

America is not problem-free yet—far from it. Worry not whether or not someone stands for the national anthem. Rather hope that this country will someday provide what it was originally intended to provide: "...one nation, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for ALL."

Dane Keller Rutledge  
2nd-physics

## Only in PSU

**TO THE EDITOR:** I am writing this letter to express my discontent with the hassles students at this university receive.

Why are tuition bills and grade reports addressed to the parents or guardian of.... instead of being addressed to the student himself?

Why must the freshmen live in a dorm, or for that matter, why must the dorm student contract for room and board, instead of just room?

Why must the majority of students receive tax forms, only to exonerate them, when the tax office could just send out forms to the proper students?

As we live in a coed society, why are not all the dorms coed (maybe by floor)?

What are the University and the students afraid of? I think it's time the students take a stronger stand on these and other matters, and I don't think the student government, with its menagerie of committees, is the answer. The students aren't here for the University, the University is here for the students.

Steve Fram  
8th-food service

## Student concerts?

**TO THE EDITOR:** I feel that the ticket sales policy for the Stephen Stills concert was unjust. There were three given days for ticket sales: the first two days for student tickets at \$3.50 and the third for non-students at \$4.50. The student tickets were sold out on the first day. Those students who were unable to obtain student tickets were required to buy non-student tickets at \$1.00 more than the student price.

Concerts sponsored by the University Concert Committee are mainly for student entertainment. Why weren't the tickets sold at one student price instead of having two fixed prices?

In the future, groups like the UCC should ask themselves who these concerts are given for: the students at PSU or outsiders, such as families, friends and employees?

Name withheld

# the Collegian

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