

No lottery

First a group of student leaders picks six names to form a committee. Next, that committee gets together and picks five to seven names to form another committee. Then the second committee picks three to five names to send to the state secretary of education, who picks from the last group a student nominee for the University Board of Trustees.

At first the entire process seems like nothing but one big lottery. At other times it appears that the name of the game is little league politics.

But neither of these descriptions now applies to the student trustee selection process. The USG-GSA joint committee to choose a trustee selection committee has developed a workable plan to begin the selection.

As proposed, the selection committee will consist of five to seven people, a group large enough to

represent different student interests but small enough to work together efficiently.

The selection committee will include one member from both USG and GSA. This is logical and fair, since members of these bodies are elected representatives of the students.

The University's major purpose is education. The committee has wisely taken this into consideration and included a member of Academic Assembly on the selection committee.

The committee has not forgotten women, minorities or special interest groups. Nine major student groups will be guaranteed an interview for their representatives before the selection committee is named.

Nor has the committee left out individual students who do not represent organizations but who wish to participate in the selection

process. Any student may apply for a seat on the committee.

Such bureaucratic devices as applications and interviews may seem absurd in choosing a selection committee. But they are not nearly so absurd as leaving students unrepresented on the Board of Trustees for six months while student groups quibble over the selection process.

Any student or student group who feels the committee's proposal is unfair must protest the plan now, before the selection committee begins its work.

But the plan to select the selection committee is fair and considers the interests of all the students. Now it is up to student groups to approve the plan and start the trustee selection. No more time can be wasted on deciding the mechanics of the process.

Letters to the Editor

Is Nixon possessed?

TO THE EDITOR: I like to make the analogy between the current public appetite for entertainment, such as what "The Exorcist" has to offer, and the current public sentiment toward the quality of our political life, and the state of our President. The scars of Watergate are most evident to me in the long lines of people waiting to endure the epoch of a demonic possession. They wait in quiet resolution, expecting to be immersed in a uniquely horrifying and despicable experience. Is little Regan the product of Nixonian possession? Are we not burdened, nationally, with the almost demonic possession of the presidency? Are we all being submitted to daily horror and spectacle that seems to cast an aura of evil imbalance, disequilibrium and political possession over the Richard Nixon we keep locked away and hidden? The president is in desperate need of an exorcist. The people need the burden of this demon lifted from their shoulders!

The fake "happy" image that our possessed president tries to sell, refusing to admit to his own deviant brand of possession is a sight as despicable and degrading as Regan's fits of demonic pleasure. The fact that an analogy between two such newsworthy and powerful characters, personalities and images coincides together in time and with such unique juxtaposition makes one marvel at the present state of Western culture.

Louis A. Tenaglia
graduate — elementary education

complete lack of planning. This is the sale of tickets for coming musical events and concerts.

I'm sure people have been suggesting remedies for the long lines as long as they've existed and I think that these suggestions should be considered: First: rather than two ticket sellers at one point in the HUB, designate several locations around campus, perhaps each residence hall area or other areas around campus, where a certain amount of tickets will be sold. This would decrease both the crowds and the wait a tremendous amount. Second: if the first suggestion can't be arranged, set up three or four ticket lines in the HUB rather than the one line now employed. This will facilitate movement a great deal and cut down the length of time in line for everyone.

It seems quite practical to use one of these two methods. Either will decrease the wait in line and keep student areas like the HUB uncongested.

Kevin Todd Michael Johnson
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the Collegian

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Tickets sales

TO THE EDITOR: Though I haven't been at Penn State very long, I have noticed several procedures which impress me as being surprisingly inefficient. However, one procedure shows



Nicholas Von Hoffman

Streaking to the sandbox

And here they come, ladies and gentlemen, closely followed by television cameramen, inquiring reporters, columnists, psychiatrists and serious social thinkers. And there they go, and now you've had it, a small interlude of old-fashioned fun and ritual. So enjoy it, and remember that at any given moment, day or night, the chances are that no college student is streaking.

Alright, Officer Jones, if you'll speak into the microphone, we'd like to ask if you've seen any streakers around here? "Not yet." Is the Department prepared just in case? And if so what will you do? "If it's a girl streaker, we'll take their pictures, and if it's a boy streaker, we'll flick their butts with the end of a wet towel."

Now, Dr. Big Shrink, could we ask you if streaking is akin to gold-fish swallowing, or is there a deeper significance? "Mr. Interviewer, to give you a fast answer right off the top off my data, I'd have to tell you we wouldn't have any streakers if our institutions weren't so confining. Streaking is a non-verbal form of asking adult society for fewer rules. I predict they'll soon be streaking in the exercise yard at Attica."

Possibly, but only if some assignment editor sends somebody out to cover it. "Harry, listen, the next time those kids drop their pants, let's get a profile of one. You know, family background, a little socio-economic

stuff, a bit of parsley on the pornography. The readers want to know if this is a trend."

Next, Harry, discovered on the Quad, is running step-for-step with a young nudie, as he explains that, "My editor wants to know if your socio-ethnic-economic group makes a distinction between flashing and streaking?"

"Look," says the breathless boy in reply, "I'm only here because you are."

"Well, I'm only here because you are," reporter Harry answers back, and the two curve away from each other; the boy to get dressed and figure out what the hell got into him, and Harry to go back to the office with his story and pictures which the editor will say need to have the pubic hair air-brushed out.

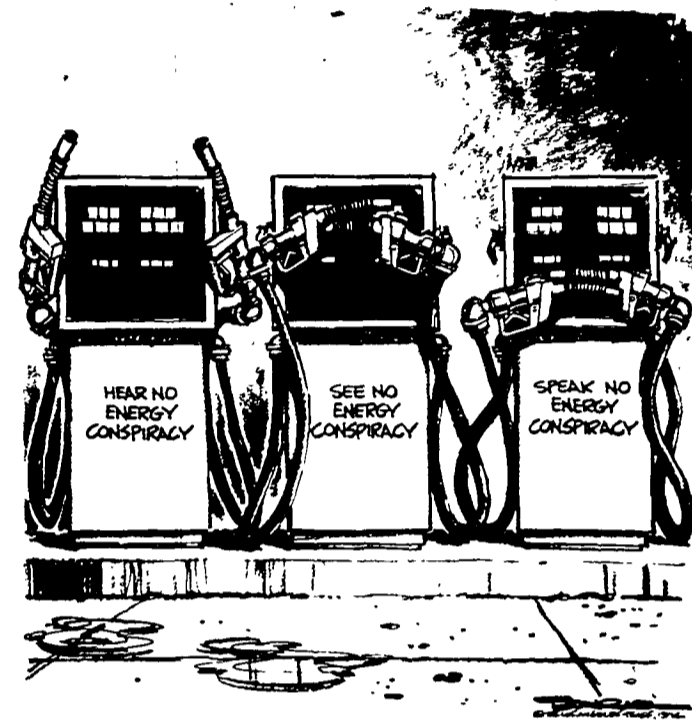
The avant-garde clergy, however, wants to know why mooning never caught on the way streaking has. There were some vivid shots of mooners in "American Graffiti," but by and large mooning has gone un-commented on and unreported in the mass media. The reason may be that the mooner comes close to making a social statement. He or she, who sticks a perfectly undressed fanny out the window of a moving car and points it at well-dressed strangers, is struggling to express some pretty sentiment.

On the other hand, the streaker was discovered,

developed and pushed by the same assignment editors who gag and turn white in the face when you tell them you've taken their daughters to see "Deep Throat." Pause and consider. After a decade of nudity everywhere, on stage and screen, copulating in front of the White House, splashing in the reflecting pools in front of Congress, a hundred-thousand strong and stoned at Woodstock, after all of that, how can a few impromptu sprints be considered news?

The answer is that what editors say is news is news. And they've made this news to reassure themselves that the age of thinking youth has receded, and that juveniles are back in the sandbox. All the other nudity we've had in the past 10 years has meant something—radical politics, sex, fun, contempt, humor—but this is perfect; its only content is a belittling debasement by the nudes of themselves.

That a reporter-and-photographer team can un-faithfully find some young'uns to romp around in the altogether proves it isn't true there are no more good, obedient kids. There are a lot of them and, if some of them can be gotten to perform any act on command of a third-party, it may offer a little forgetfulness to older people who fear the best years may be behind their children before they've lived them.



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James Eisenstein, Prof. Political Science, Penn State University

Robert O'Connor, Prof. Political Science, Penn State University

Roy Austin, Prof. Sociology, Penn State University

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