

Letters to the Editor

The Daily Collegian encourages comments on news coverage, editorial policy and campus and off-campus affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double spaced, signed by no more than two persons and no longer than 30 lines. Students' letters should include the name, term and major of the writer.

Letters should be brought to the Collegian office, 126 Carnegie, in person so proper identification of the writer can be made, although names will be withheld on request. If letters are received by mail, the Collegian will contact the signer for verification before publication. Letters cannot be returned.

Flight from reason

TO THE EDITOR: Rock bands, witches, and astrologers appearing at Penn State are reviewed on the front page of *The Daily Collegian* but when the eminent British writer, C. P. Snow, presents a lecture on campus not a word is mentioned. In this light the subject which Lord Snow chose to speak on is particularly apt. The Flight From Reason.

Ken Schere
Graduate-meteorology

The Occult

TO THE EDITOR: I am writing in answer to the letter titled "Destroy the Occult" which appeared in the Oct 28 Collegian. I do agree with Mr. Christoph that the Colloquy programs were given front-page priority, and Josh McDowell wasn't, but then the occult lectures were very popular as the full-house audiences proved. What I don't agree with is his term "servants of Satan" in reference to people involved in the occult sciences.

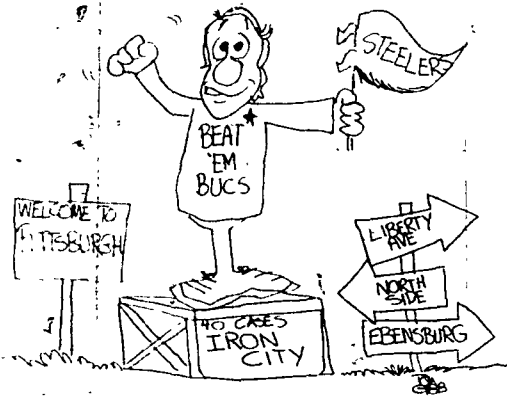
All too often, many varied subjects are lumped together under the heading of "occult." It's up to the individual to decide what to include in the definition. Satanism is sometimes included by many people. The one I want to make is that of the three lectures Colloquy presented, one was about Satanism. Raymond McNally spoke about Vlad the Impaler who was a strange person, but who was considered to be a very pious Christian none the less. He was hardly a servant of Satan. Alan Oken talked about astrology, which doesn't involve religion, God or the Devil in its studies. The final lecture was the only one which could have been considered to be about Satanism.

Witchcraft, the topic of the third lecture, is usually thought of synonymously with Satanism. But as Dr. Raymond Buckland pointed out true witches are non-Christian, not anti-Christian. They worship older pre-Christ gods. Witches don't believe in Satan, and they definitely don't serve or worship him. So none of the Colloquy programs featured "servants of Satan."

As to occultism destroying the United States, all I can say is that there are plenty of other things that will destroy it first, like bad politicians, inflation, over-population, apathy, etc. These have no relation to the occult. The occult tries to enlighten people to a more peaceful and harmonious way of life.

Personally, I am interested in the occult sciences, and I read Tarot cards. But I am not a Satanist and at least I don't force my beliefs on others. If they don't believe in the cards, I don't mind. Let them ignore it, but please don't force me to accept their beliefs.

Mr. Christoph, did you happen to attend any of the lectures?
Mildred Schlain
4th-geological sciences



Wooder

TO THE EDITOR: When I read Bob Putro's ignorant letter pertaining to Pittsburgh culture, I wondered if he was, perhaps, one of the select from Philadelphia—the city with its nose in the air. These people seem to think that theirs is the only existing, normal culture. People from other areas are strange because they say water instead of "wooder" or because speech doesn't form out of their sinuses; it is a shame that some have this type of ignorance. I had to try to write this much, but it was out of a sense of disgust for Mr. Putro. Personally I have nothing against people from any designated vicinity, but this guy asked for it. The University of Pittsburgh would probably not publish such gross and ignorant shit. Obviously, Mr. Putro has never had to relate to anyone outside his immediate peer group. Having lived in "The West" I know this area seems strange to Bob because people there are warmer, more open, more down-to-earth, more hospitable and less neurotic than those from further east. Pittsburgh is not the dirty city it once was. Philly and Pitt both have pollution. Heaven knows each city has both good qualities as well as bad; how can somebody 10th term have the stupidity and bias to write such trash about so many beautiful people? I never have said "yens," and I am from the West; would Putro like to "potty" with us sometime? May I suggest that Mr. Putro go to a church service at the Point, and see how people come together and be real. That is what counts about a culture, B.P. You have got one of the most empty biased heads we have ever read about. Bobby Kennedy and Sigmund Freud both talked differently from you. Why don't you publish another idiot letter about them? Nothing like making a public fool out of yourself. It is a good thing your major is not public relations, or you would be up some pole. You are Jife, Man, you are really Jive.

Drann Michewicz
8th-music education

Join the union

TO THE EDITOR: If the Wascomb decision to convert to a mandatory 12-month lease (without a significant decrease in rent) is an indication of future trends in housing, the student tenant is in trouble. Spiraling rents, combined with overall inflation, make it difficult for low and middle income students to remain in school. Unfortunately the options are limited. Substandard housing is overpriced, and stuffing five or six people into one or two bedroom apartments is uncomfortable, unsafe, and, in some cases, illegal.

Unfortunately there are no knights in shining armor to rescue the student tenant. Rent control on a state or local level is unlikely. Although OTIS has been effective in some areas, they have had little influence on the high rent situation. Landlords are committed to the philosophy of charging "what the market will bear."

Recently a tenant's union was formed at Penn State. Although there has been a favorable response from tenants, only a fraction have actually joined. A successful tenant's union requires the active participation and support of the tenants.

If you're seriously concerned about high rents, at least try joining the tenant's union. Collective bargaining with landlords is a realistic alternative. One thing is clear; complaints are not enough. If there is, hope for change, it depends on commitment from the tenants.

Dean Phillips
Graduate-sociology
State College Borough Council

Repulsive practice

TO THE EDITOR: This is in reference to Margaret Bentzel's letter to the editor printed in the Collegian on Nov. 5.

The "practice of University administrators" maintaining political histories of students is repugnant to the fundamental principles of a free and open society and is particularly repulsive when we consider that a university is intended to be a place where freedom of expression is explicitly sanctioned and protected. Revelations that such a practice is the policy of this University demand an open and honest investigation and, if the allegations prove founded, the removal of all administrators who have so violated their obligations to students.

But who will conduct this investigation? Can it be imagined that the University administration itself will engage in anything but a whitewash as Dr. Hargleroad and others scramble for cover and call in long-standing political debts? While the crack Collegian staff may investigate, if it does so in the same style that it covered the insurance and impeachment controversies, it will earn the annual award for journalistic incompetence. And what of the student government? There we find that personal friendship and pill-pushing experiences with the good Doctor constrain the highest ranking officers of the USG from making even the most elementary inquiries. In brief, no investigation will occur and the practice will continue unabated unless Congressman Riegel, D-Mich., whose office I have contacted, takes interest in the matter.

Outrageous rents

TO THE EDITOR: I am totally perturbed at the apartment situation in State College. I am at wits end trying to find a nine-month lease within a reasonable price range (which is totally unreasonable to begin with). Why does the monopoly corporation I&A insist upon changing their lease to a yearly basis? Have they no heart for the people who can't wait to get the hell out of this place at the end of spring term with no legally binding contracts. Where does my future lie, within these four drab walls of Simmons Hall? God forbid, I'd have to make my closet into a sitting room. How am I supposed to keep in physically fine condition when I survive on dessert and midnight snacks because I can't stand most of the food. How would you like to have "American Shop Suey" for lunch? Help, I can't stand to live in the dorm any longer, but what am I supposed to do? My parents are not millionaires, and they can't afford to plunk out \$600 a summer in the case that I don't sublet my apartment, and I can't take that chance. I refuse to dish out \$250 just for the option of having a nine-month lease. It's ridiculous and a rip-off to students. Something has to be done. I should think that they would be making enough money on their outrageous rents alone!

Name Withheld

Wreck hall

TO THE EDITOR: I'm pissed! I attended Saturday's concert at "wreck" Hall and heard Danny O'Keefe and Loggins and Messina. Some comments: First UCC did its usual fine job in publicizing the concert. I didn't know until he came on stage that O'Keefe, a major folk-rock musician, was to perform. Second, O'Keefe is a musician — not an entertainer. Perhaps that's why the Philistines in the audience did not know how to react. While O'Keefe was onstage, the audience gave him the usual "warm-up band" greeting — noise and ignorance — that sucks! And third, most UCC members, hosts of the concert, joined the mob in the "reception" for O'Keefe. Thanks!

Lindsay McConahy
10th-education

Interest houses

TO THE EDITOR: With the new 12-month lease requirements and increased dissatisfaction with the quality of both apartment and dorm life, we feel that now is the perfect time for fellow students to investigate the University's interest house program. Primarily located in North Halls, the interest houses provide an alternate, more personalized environment where men and women of similar interests can live and work together. Social and academic activities of the house give members a greater opportunity for student-faculty interaction and provide a sense of community to the residence hall that is often lacking in a large university situation. People, both faculty and students, interested in this co-ed living-learning experiment should contact the office of residential life or the North Hall's coordinator for details.

Joshua Kavett
4th-animal science
Debbie Bloom
7th-accounting

Free world at stake

It is indeed a shame that student government officers are unable to differentiate between social and political roles. This inadequacy has already cost the USG in terms of diminishment of capacity to responsibly and effectively represent the interests of students and has placed barriers in the realization of what otherwise would be bright futures. And now we find that it even prevents the most perfunctory representation of student interests which are most clearly defined and when the cry for help is so loud that it demands intellectual acrobatics to avoid. Unless USG officers are very quickly possessed of the proper mixture of courage, integrity, dedication and intelligence, it deserves to be abolished forthwith. Then officers may as private citizens drink, smoke, solicit sexual pleasures and abuse students in moments of emotional insecurity without the more general student body suffering adverse consequences.

Gregory Fisher Lord
Graduate-political science

Ignorance at concert

TO THE EDITOR: Having attended both the Browne and Raitt and Loggins and Messina concerts, I'd like to thank the UCC for jobs well done. Both were fantastic!

Those attending the Browne and Raitt concert deserve mention too. They were a very together and considerate group of appreciative fans, and I think we all enjoyed that concert tremendously!

But to those obnoxious individuals who found it necessary to disrupt Danny O'Keefe's performance at Saturday's 10:30 show with unnecessary requests of departure, I have a few comments. If you have no more class or common sense than to display your ignorance in public, please stay at home. If you can wait in lines for hours, both for tickets and the concert itself, surely you can wait another 45 minutes to hear L. and M. And if not, be impatient, but be quiet! Some of us wish to hear.

And to those who felt compelled to rush the stage, you disturbed a helluva lot of people. Think of the rest of the people on the floor. Because of you, no one could see.

Neither the performers nor the audience should be subjected to such rude and uncouth behavior. Please learn to be considerate before attending another concert.

Dorthean N. Haynes
7th-theater

Discrimination?

TO THE EDITOR: This letter is in response to the letter to the editor which appeared on Oct. 30, and which claimed discrimination in the Blue Band. The claim was made that a person who was female and five feet tall was discriminated against since there are few smaller-sized uniforms. The closing comment was "I wouldn't want to charge outright prejudice here, but something is awfully suspicious." Before this student writes another letter not wanting to charge something, she had better check the facts.

Uniforms are issued each year on a seniority basis. Candidates are immediately told that if they can't be fitted, they can't be in the band. Normally uniforms are issued on a first-come-first-served system starting with four year people, then third year, second, first, and then alternates. Last year blatant sexist discrimination occurred when the uniforms were issued — women were fitted first regardless where they were in line. The same thing occurred this year. Alternates were fitted last since we must first fit the regular block band. Due to her size, Ms. Weissman was specifically warned she would have great difficulty being fitted before she reported for fitting. This year we issued every uniform we had; therefore, little choice was left when the alternates' turn came for fitting.

Ms. Weissman cited the fine Iowa State band and noted the low percentage of women in the Blue Band. For a more representative picture she should check the percentage of women in the Michigan or Ohio State bands which went coed in the last two years. The Blue Band does not accept members on a quota basis, but on the basis of quality. Ms. Weissman also inferred some stalling action by the directors until next term when the budget comes up. There is no stalling; the budget simply isn't available until Winter Term, and current delivery on new uniforms is six months.

Ms. Weissman has portrayed a rather distorted view of women and the band. If she believes there is any type of discrimination in the band, perhaps she should have asked several of the women in the band who are 5'0", 5'2", 5'3" and so on.

Susan Nowlin (5'3")
8th-anthropology
Chris Sweltzer (6'1")
10th-computer science

TO THE EDITOR: Mission impossible. Good morning Mr. Phelps. The man you are looking at is King Faisal of Saudi Arabia. These men are the rest of his compatriots representing the stronghold of the Arab nations. They are threatening to drain the money supply of the United States and the rest of the pro-democratic nations of the Western Hemisphere. They are using the all-ubiquitous product of oil, the life survival resource as a means of political blackmail only for the means of monetary satisfaction. They are starving out nations with exorbitant prices, while they feed, excessively, on their profits.

Via clever manipulation and employing astute tactics, they are now offering astronomical amounts for our precious land and soon — all to soon — the Western Hemisphere will be property of the Arab nations. The American people must not capitulate, buy with such devastating and outlandish offers, the ones even Vito Corleone could not refuse. There is little hope, the light is beginning to flicker. The fate of the free world is at stake.

Your mission Jim, if you decide to accept it, is to stop this consummation of our money supply via belligerent blackmailing of the "black gold" and put an end to this "land-rustling" so that the Western world may operate fearlessly and freely again.

As always, Jim, if you should fail and get caught or killed in action, the secretary will disavow any knowledge of your being. This tape will self destruct in five seconds. Good luck, Jim.

Larry A. Wernick
10th-accounting



Native Americans

TO THE EDITOR: In a recent discussion within the University I used the term "Indian" to refer to pre-Columbian North Americans. A younger person in the group in effect corrected me, saying that the term to be used is "Native American." I let the matter rest for the moment, but later reflected that this term is inappropriate, if one has concern for the legitimacy and accuracy of our language.

I was born in this country, as was my father, and his father, and his father, back through eleven generations. But even if only I was born here, I am a native American.

Using a term to describe only part of those persons covered by it, to the exclusion of others who properly should be covered by it, is a perversion. Our language is a wonderful device, and misuse of it should not be permitted to stand unchallenged.

The term "Indian" for a pre-Columbian American has been in use for nearly 500 years. Some persons so designated may well object to it, even though I doubt that anyone can claim to speak for all Indians, scattered as they are, and of such great differences in language, customs, life styles, etc. I recognize their unhappy status in contemporary society, and wish them well, but applying a term inappropriately to them will not help matters, as I see it.

Gordon C. Godbey
Professor in the College of Education

Wasted energy

TO THE EDITOR: We as a nation constitute six per cent of world population, yet annually consume 30 per cent of the world's energy production. This often quoted statistic, emphasizing America's energy wastefulness, reinforces itself upon me nights when I'm in or around Willard Building. Light can be seen pouring forth from many rooms, but there are no people in them. Someone forgets to turn the lights out despite signs asking for that action. The energy wasted due to this negligence may or may not be significant. However, it emphasizes in my mind that most of us need a greater energy and resource conservation consciousness. Let's discard our flippant ways for some personal effort.

David Watts
7th-economics

Peace and justice?

TO THE EDITOR: When the United Nations was established in 1945 it was to be a forum for world peace and justice. Now one would be hard pressed to find outcries for world equity there. But this past Monday, an appeal for justice finally emanated from the United Nations' steps. Ironically the appeal did not originate from the General Assembly, but as a protest against the actions which were taking place within.

Over 100,000 people organized in front of the UN building in New York to protest the UN's invitation of the Palestine Liberation Organization to take part in the debate on the Palestine issue. They were protesting the UN's invitation of murderer of Puerto Rican pilgrims at Lod airport, of American diplomats in Khartoum, of children at Maalot and Kiryat Shmonah to speak at an international forum. They assembled to protest the UN's recognizing as spokesman for the Palestinian People an organization which represents only a small group of terrorists. Yassir Arafat was never elected by the Palestinians. His only claim to power is his ability to terrorize innocent people, and to get money from the oil rich nations to permit him to buy arms from the Russians, so he can continue his terrorism. He has done nothing constructive for the Palestinian People, nor has he encouraged any of the other Arab leaders to do so.

Moshe Dayan, who spoke at the rally, emphasized this point by reminding the participants that the PLO has never been able to establish a base within Israel's borders. The Arabs who live within Israel enjoy the same rights as the other Israeli citizens enjoy such as full voting and educational privileges.

Roy Wilkens, national coordinator of the NAACP, likened the UN's decision to Congress recognizing the Klu Klux Klan as representatives of the South. Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash., labelled the UN action an appeasement to blackmail. He cautioned that this course of action could only lead to more blackmail. He praised the people of Israel as setting an example to the world of high moral in the face of this great blackmail.

Sister Rose Thering, leader of the coalition of American Nuns for the National Roman Catholics spoke out against the murders of the PLO and the universal injustice which they have perpetrated. She called upon all moral nations to support Israel in their struggle against these murders.

Abba Eban, Israel's former foreign minister and representative of the UN, speaking on the moral bankruptcy of the present UN said, "With the UN's present composition and mood, they would probably vote against the Ten Commandments because they came out of Israel." He also stated that although Israel cannot keep the PLO out of the UN, they can keep the PLO out of Israel.

These leaders plus other representatives of the various state governments, together with the 100,000 other demonstrators, joined to protest this abominable action by the UN. They voiced their unanimous support of Israel and called upon all free people to support Israel in her battle against terrorism.

Howard Katz
8th-animal science



Mother knows best

TO THE EDITOR: which will it be folks: semesters or terms? First a few collected facts and opinions. Read and decide which system is for you.

Número Uno, in 1961 Eric Walker, past president of PSU, switched the calendar year. Why? The answer was: enrollment had zoomed, efficiency came first in mass edification and political pressure pointed to the change. Financially, costs were enormous as curriculum changes were hatched. Being that semesters left the summer months empty: all students and faculty vacationed with school months only nine months in 12. The hullabaloo students and faculty raised in 1961 went unheeded for PSU, the political paradise, operates not on the student or staff desire, but on what is best fiscally and politically for the administration. I advocate this statement. If the students thought then (and now) that they affected the result; they'd been snookered into believing: it. Back at Old Main the jingle rings: Just try it you'll like it.

I believe, as many faculty and collegiates will agree that the semester is superior for these reasons: students retain material better due to the longer assimilation period; more personal and relaxed relations between class and prof are feasible (nobody is a number); everyone can enjoy a fuller life each day without the speed pressure now; when one is ill, absence means missing a smaller percentage of classes; profs don't face teaching year round; and albeit it is toughly possible to stay bright-eyed for 75 minutes, prime-time attention spans are proven to be one hour. My patience grows issue paper thin as I see friends cracking under accelerated education's stress; they're discouraged by loneliness, overwhelming academia, misinformed advisor's advice, partying wildly to "forget it all."

I am underwhelmed by the term system. Perhaps I speak prematurely for a frosh. However, my mother can boast a long collegiate career on semesters; I cannot. You know what some say: Mother knows best!

Lucy Jordan
1st-microbiology

the Collegian

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Successor to the Free Lance, est. 1887
Member of the Associated Press
Charter member of the Pennsylvania
Collegiate Media Association

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