

'Aw laugh it up. This is just a good, clean college prank.'

# No joke

The many ideals that the letters KKK and the letters PSU symbolize should be so opposite that it is shocking to see those two groups of letters associated with each other.

The letters KKK stand for hate and terror and closed minds. The letters PSU should stand for open minds and acceptance and freedom.

Unfortunately, several students seem to have forgotten the importance of what PSU stands for. During the past year three KKK-type incidents have occurred on campus. Last fall a cross was burned in West Halls. It was not Halloween when two persons draped in hooded KKK garb visited the Black Lounge. And last term a student distributed cards inviting students to join a "newly formed

chapter of the Penn State KKK."

The student who distributed these cards says it was a practical joke. But this "joke" may have caused a black student to drop out of Penn State. Even more important, such "jokes" may mean the loss of many more potential minority students at Penn State.

The percentage of minority students enrolled at Penn State definitely needs to be increased. But if PSU is associated with KKK, minority students would shun all of Penn State's recruiting efforts.

All of the incidents were probably "practical jokes." But a joke is supposed to be funny. And a joke that results in giving Penn State a bad reputation, not only among minorities but also in Harrisburg, is about as funny as filling a squirting flower with

hydrochloric acid.

Neither it is not funny when three incidents are thrown together and called indications that a KKK chapter is budding on campus. The three incidents were unrelated and cannot be added together, just as elementary math teachers will say apples, oranges and bananas cannot be added together. And even if they could be added together, they would equal stupidity, not KKK.

Both the students who participated in the incidents and those who claimed they were the actions of a Penn State KKK are guilty of the immaturity of not considering the ramifications of their actions.

The "jokes" and the rumors must end now before all the principles PSU stands for are injured any more.

## The real issues facing students

By MARK SINGEL

**Undergraduate member of University Council**  
Over the past term, students of Penn State were victimized by a red herring of gigantic proportions. While the Undergraduate Student Government wallowed in an insurance "scandal" that generated resignations, accusations, and a virtual collapse of student government, many important items were being ignored. Though efforts were made in some critical areas, including landlord-tenant relations and the calendar change referendum, the student body remains, by and large, unaware of some critical issues that must be dealt with.

I present these issues to you with the belief that students must be aware and involved in these areas.

### Collegian forum

and that the resolution of these issues will determine what course the Penn State University will take in the years to come.

**Faculty Governance.** Generally, the Faculty Governance Report (or the Friedman Report) may be looked upon with some degree of favor by students. After all, are we not kindred spirits seeking the same goal: a slightly larger chunk of the decision-making authority on campus? But the report is conspicuously lacking in student interests. True, it is a faculty report seeking to further faculty aims, but will the heightened effectiveness that this document recommends for the faculty lessen the visibility of student needs? Recommendation 13, for example, would emasculate the University Council and would virtually eliminate the

most balanced example of student-faculty-administration interaction that exists on this campus.

Rather than vie for positions of greater relative "power," shouldn't faculty and students align themselves with the administration in a real system of shared responsibility for governance? It has worked elsewhere; it can work here.

**Unionization.** What is the PSUPA? What is the AAUP? It is appalling that students know so little of the collective bargaining effort underway at Penn State.

From a student's standpoint, it does seem that an organized faculty would have the balance of governance tipped in its favor, which would make any type of shared governance unlikely. (Particularly, given the nature of a currently unorganized faculty that insists on limiting student involvement in its Senate to a mere 10 per cent.) **Students' Role in University Governance.** Perhaps as a reaction to the loss of credibility of the USG Senate and very definitely as a reaction to the faculty's recent attempts to enhance their effectiveness, a subcommittee of the Student Advisory Board is presently working to determine what role students should play in University Governance. The rationale for and the benefits of student input in governance today are widely accepted. It is time for students to demonstrate their potential; it is time for this subcommittee to embrace a philosophy and implement a system by which students have an equal share in governance — as equal members of the academic community.

**The Buckley Amendment.** On Nov. 18, a federal law went into effect giving college students the right to inspect and review any and all official records, files, and data directly related to them. In its study of the implications of this act, the University Council has noted

that the Penn State administration's policy on record-keeping and accessibility to those records is generally in accord with the new law. Still, there are records on file to which students do not, and perhaps, should not have access, for example: confidential letters of reference and psychiatric and medical records.

But certainly each student is entitled to know what records are kept on him or her and which the administration says are available for inspection.

**Student Participation in Academic Affairs.** A student-faculty-administration committee dealing directly with President Oswald's executive assistant has been working for more than a year assessing the level of student participation in academic affairs throughout the University and is now embarking on a process of encouraging SPAA and developing new avenues for it. Are you tired of senseless requirements? Would you like to sit on departmental committees that deal with faculty and course evaluation, course design and advising programs? This group is functioning toward those ends.

Change comes slowly in any large bureaucracy. It is attained through constant study and work. Most change is not accompanied by splashy headlines and scandals blown up into Watergate proportions.

To be listened to, you must be respected. And respect is earned, not taken. Support those student leaders who have earned respect and are quietly working for major changes. They need your attention and concern.

Students have a right to the very best education possible. But each one of us also has an obligation to contribute to that education's excellence.

## the daily Collegian

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# Letters to the Editor of the Collegian

## It was apathy

TO THE EDITOR: What happened on Election Day past for democratic candidate Yates Mast and his bid for Representative of the 23rd Congressional District was not a sin, it was not a crime, it was not a shame; it was apathy.

There is a very disturbing formula which creates apathy in this district. It is the unawareness and lack of interest of the district resident and the lack of care and concern of the student. Those of you failing to register and those of you failing to vote lost your chance to help government for your own benefit. You had the chance for good representation, now we will have to struggle for two more years. The excuses given for not voting in this election by the students were just as sorry as the students themselves. The people of the district had no ideas for the issues and in some cases didn't know the issues involved. The students and the residents have remained on their buttocks and believed they would have the system crumble beneath them. You are mistaken. You have bartered incentive for dole and have nothing. You have traded freedom for benefice and dignity for all of the handouts which are so seemingly available in our society. Unfortunately, the handouts have been disguised, and your ignorance has kept you a humbled citizen unable to see the light.

The representative of this district does not represent this district. He has supported the vested interests of the elite few and has not represented the interests of all. This is a rural district of 10,000 square miles, not ten square blocks of Wall Street in downtown New York.

There are people who know where they are, others who think they know where they are, still others who don't know where they are and finally others who don't care. It's when you know where you are, you are not; and you don't know because you don't care.

I know there is not enough concerned people and students in this district. The people just don't care about who or what governs them. Yates Mast is the best man for the job, but he is not representing this district and it's constituents. Unfortunately, he is not representing you.

Gary David Romanic  
8th-environmental resource management

## Ritenour Board

TO THE EDITOR: On Monday, Oct. 28, 1974, the Undergraduate Student Government Senate elected me to assume the position of USG Representative to the Ritenour Advisory Board. This position has been vacant since early 1974 and virtually inactive as far as I can perceive since it has been established.

In a memo received from USG President George Cernusca, it was stated: "As the Undergraduate Student Government's Representative to the Ritenour Advisory Board you have as your responsibility insuring that the student body is not subjected to unfair and immoral practices at the Health Center." I want it to be known by the student populace that I have accepted the responsibility of this position and that by being the USG Representative, I am their representative, and I

am willing to work in their favor.

I have no personal commitments to anyone in USG or the University administration and feel that my only commitment is to the student body of the Pennsylvania State University.

If anyone has a legitimate complaint about the University health services, I hope they will forward that complaint to me. My address is: 710 S. Atherton Street 104, State College, Penna. 16801. My phone number is: 238-2147.

Matthew M. Gura  
10-biological health

There are many more arguments for and against the term system, but I feel everyone will lose something in a change to semesters.

Ever wonder why this issue came up? Go ask your advisor. Rumor has it that it's faculty dissatisfaction. Did you ever hear of a faculty member paying a fee for the privilege of teaching here?

David J. Morrissey  
11th-chemistry

## Pro-abortion stands

TO THE EDITOR: I would like to make public my protest against the inclusion of an official position in favor of the legalization of abortion by the organizations of such leftist social and political movements as women's liberation and socialism.

I feel that these and other leftist organizations by their official pro-abortion stands are losing an important block of support by their inflexibility on this controversial issue. I personally am in basic agreement with the socialist theories of Marx, Lenin and Trotsky, and have been unable to uncover any conflict between their theories and my anti-abortion convictions. Yet I am unfree to join in the organized efforts to promote a socialist order through such organizations as the SWP or the YSA because of this conflict.

Similarly, my sentiments are strongly behind all of the many efforts and endeavors of the women's liberation movement, except for those involving the legalization of abortion. But once again I am prohibited from becoming a member of one of this movement's organizations such as NOW and AWS, because of consequent disagreeable implications that my membership would signify unspoken approval of their position in favor of legalizing abortion. I would not consider the "illegalization" of abortion to be an infringement upon my rights as a woman, but rather as a means of protection of the rights of the living fetus as a potential human being.

Ellen Dressman  
5th-history

# Please go to Boston

By JAMES M. CORY  
of the Collegian Staff

Jim Crow supposedly was buried by the dramatic "Brown vs. The Board of Education" Supreme Court ruling of 1954. Of course, the fact that white American justice happened to be in a giving mood changed very little. The progress that has been made in American race relations over the course of the last 20 years is chiefly the result of the valiant struggle waged by Black people for their Civil Rights. Nonetheless, racism, rooted as it is in the development and decay of American capitalism, lingers like the odor of rotting garlic. Jim Crow, segregation as law, reflected segregation as a way of life. Now, for the most part, we are simply minus the legal assertion of the sociological fact.

Busing has aroused an inevitable storm of American passion. Bigotry has remained submerged like an emotion which occasionally, and far too frequently, rises and explodes on the surface of the national personality. Therefore what took place in Boston, the old cradle of abolitionism, was shamefully predictable. "We are not opposed to the colored, just to forced busing," declares the white community of South Boston. That is a cheap and disgusting lie which sullies every thread and fiber in the hypocrite-fabric of Irish Catholic morality. Their actual beliefs are scrawled in chalk or spray paint at night and read: "Nigger meat for sale

here." "Kill niggers" or "Niggers go home." Their most profound sentiments are expressed in the showers of rocks, spittle and vile invective hurled at Black students who, somehow, in some horribly strange and undefinable way, are "unfit" to enter the halls of South Boston High School.

The baseness of such people reached an animal zenith with the attempted lynching of Jean-Louis Andre Yvon, a Haitian immigrant dragged from his car and savagely beaten while brutal, insane, and indistinguishable white-mouthed faces screamed "Get the nigger!" "Offer him up!" The white man's burden is a heavy load to bear these days.

The political maggots of the Far Right know instinctively where there is sustenance. Nazi, Klan and Birchite station wagons ascended upon South Boston in droves. David Duke, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, arrived in South Boston and spoke to an enthusiastic audience of several hundred zombies. Nazis materialized to recruit and peddle their repulsive toilet-paper, White Power. Of course, these vermin received a far more polite reception than do the scores of Black bus and taxi drivers who daily risk their lives driving through South Boston. At any rate, South Boston's belated bigotry quickly found itself some fitting friends.

What is at stake in Boston is the right of black people in America to attend quality, desegregated schools. The racists are opposed to busing precisely

because they are opposed to the right of black Americans to receive an education equal to that of white Americans. The President of the United States, a former Department Store window mannequin, declares that he is opposed to "forced busing." Poor Kennedy emerges from the bootleg-millions of his own crucible offering to ... pray! Rockefeller is too occupied, Christmas shopping on Wall Street for the Congress to say anything of substance on the question. The Supreme Court sits in its gilded, plastic elegance, ready in a moment to acquiesce. Leather-Brain Ford has virtually gotten away with fanning the flames of racism. Madison Avenue has convinced him that 60 per cent of white America consists of TV-robots culturally aroused by flag decals and Grand Canyon bumper stickers. It is another lie.

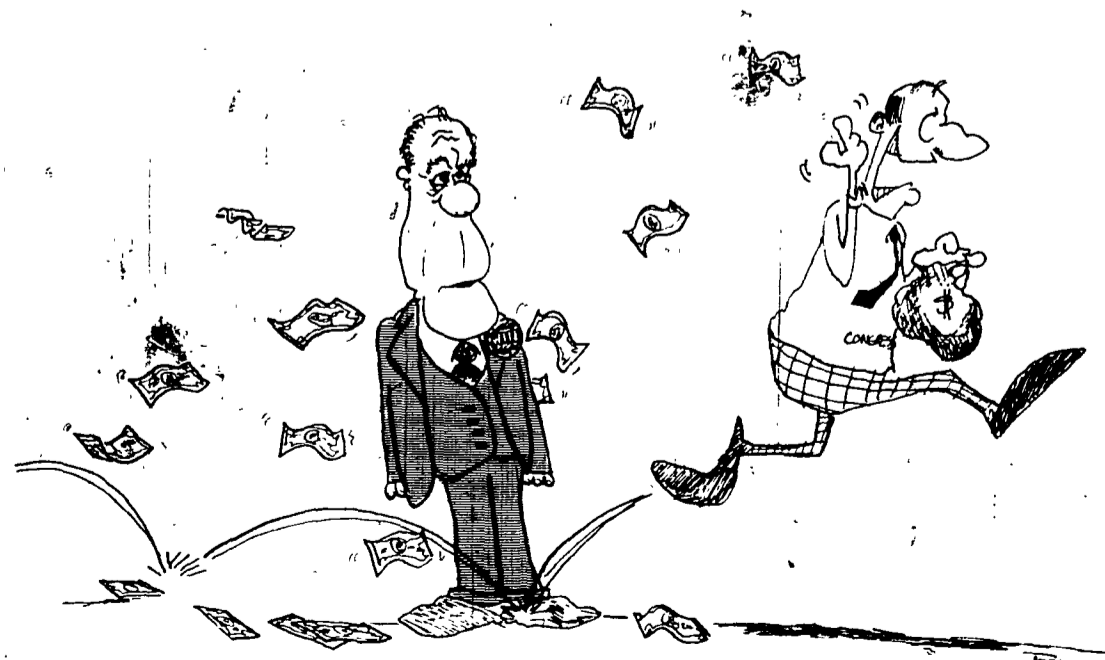
Racism is no more innately human than any other disease. One has to pick up the germs somewhere, and there are various means of inoculating the population.

A National March Against Racism will be held in Boston on Dec. 14. It is sponsored or endorsed by a wide variety of trade union, black and student organizations. A mass rally will assemble and demonstrate to the nation's bigots that they are isolated, alone and defeated; that their backward and medieval conceptions are now utterly beyond the scope of human intelligence, that their civilization is a barbarism. Please go to Boston.

## For the term system

TO THE EDITOR: I was wondering how well the University Calendar Commission's arguments against the term system will stand up when President Oswald goes to Harrisburg to ask for the money it will cost to make the transition? Of course this isn't a fair criticism of the UCC because their job is to weigh the academic considerations. I feel that they have not done this but rather acted as an ad hoc committee to abolish the term system. The first sign of this attitude was the UCC's dropping the term system right away. If this system has no merit, why did the University ever adopt it? The second indictment stems from the commission's character assassination reply to the first wave of student opposition to a change away from the term system a paraphrase of which is: students will vote only for what they know.

I feel that there is quite a lot to be said for the term system, primarily the versatility it offers the student. What will happen to all the two credit courses (20 class meetings) that are meant as sideights, etc.? Are they to meet once a week for 15 weeks if there really isn't enough material to warrant 30 class meetings? Or what about the student who changes his or her major and needs 24 extra credits? Do they have to go two extra semesters (one year)? Personally I am looking forward to Spring term, my twelfth, when I will be able to pick up a few courses that I always wanted to take, but would hate to be stuck in for 15 weeks.



'Y'know, it's getting more and more difficult for me to believe that you're honestly trying to stop inflation.'