

Attend a debate

Last year's Undergraduate Student Government elections attracted 7,780 out of 30,000 eligible student voters. Last year nearly all of those remaining 22,000 were disenchanted with USG officers they did not take the trouble to elect.

Once again students face a USG election. Most view the elections with apathy because USG, they say, does nothing and has no power. They say the same political hack-types that ran the organization last year are running for election this year.

Maybe they're right. But if

they're too apathetic to attend the debates held in dorm areas they will never know for sure until it's too late.

Most candidates are willing to accept suggestions about how USG should be run. And USG should represent the students but it can't unless enough students make their views known.

Some voters figure they can read all about the debates in the next day's Collegian. But if a reporter leaves something out because there's not enough space to print it all, the reader won't have the true picture.

It's pretty easy to recognize a hack. His promises may sound good but they sound too good and most people know nothing will be done about them. A reporter can recognize a hack too, but can't put that value judgment in a news story. If students went to the debates they'd see for themselves exactly what the candidates are.

Stop by for one of the debates. That way you can never be accused of voting in a bad candidate you didn't know anything about, but whose name you liked. And you may help remake USG into an effective organization.



Letters to the Editor of the Collegian

Stars and stripes

TO THE EDITOR: As a former CIA agent and Daughter of the American Revolution, I would have to say that I know a blatantly subversive publication when I read one. Having just read a copy of Froth, I feel it is my duty to point out that it is undoubtedly the most shamelessly salacious example of Communist propaganda I have ever seen.

The decadence begins with the cover. Notice, if you will, that there is a couple on the cereal box in actual physical contact with each other (cheek to cheek!). This kind of immorality cannot be permitted if the moral fiber of this Great Land is to remain strong. In an effort to disguise their connection with radical Bolshevik factions on this very campus, the editor of Froth even went so far as to leave the first page of the magazine unnumbered so that the average reader would not be able to find the page and thus the words (in small print!). "...will cause much pain to any relatives still living in Germany." This feeble attempt to dupe true Americans into believing that the publication is written by radical members of the American Nazi Party is typical of the cleverness of these insidious Trotskyites.

Since I put nothing past the evil minds of the Red Peril, I am now spending eight hours a day writing down the first letters of each column to ferret out the secret messages that the writers of Froth have placed on almost every page. So far, my searches have revealed the following: (page 9, column 1) "SOT"; (page 8, column 1) "SAP" and (page 11, column 2) "BHT." The meaning of the first two messages is clear; for those without a background in organic chemistry however, the meaning of the last message may be somewhat more obscure. As all of you readers who avidly peruse cereal boxes know, BHT is a so-called "preservative" that defectors like General Mills put in foods to inspire lust in our young people.

My search is far from complete. I will not rest until every last bit of obscenity, propaganda and vice has been uncovered.

When it has, the results will be privately published by yours truly and will soon be available at a modest cost to decent Americans everywhere.

Stars and Stripes Forever!

Name withheld

More research

TO THE EDITOR: For the past few months readers of the Daily Collegian have been exposed to several letters referring to the medical services on campus. I am specifically referring to the letters claiming inadequacies in the ambulance service and personnel, the supposed inefficiency of the Gravindex Test for pregnancy, and most recently concerning the medical practice of a particular Health Center physician. I will in no way attempt to refute or corroborate with those who have expressed their opinion and exercised their right of free speech. My purpose is solely a caution to those who would consider writing similar letters or articles that can be both helpful and damaging. It is most important that the authors of such information be accurate in their description of accepted medical practice, tests and procedures. A careful review of the literature, for example, reveals the logical reasoning behind the use of the Gravindex Test. It is reliable, highly accepted by the medical profession and relatively inexpensive. It is the test of choice in many clinics today.

Common medical practice dictates the use of professional judgment and expertise backed by experience. Practitioners are as variable as the procedures they perform. While a particular physician may be viewed as negligent one day, he may be considered a consumer advocate the next when he declines to use an expensive test on a population of low-risk. All of us are subject to human error. The most extensive training in any field can never insure total success.

To the readers of such letters or articles, I implore you to research further before accepting as fact the opinions of a few. "There are two sides to every story" is offered here, not in

defense or support of any past opinions, but simply to emphasize the need for critical review of a lone viewpoint. A truly responsible person reads critically and writes from multiple perspectives, a lesson frequently forgotten by newspapers, researchers and the public at large.

Gerry Hyner
Graduate-health education

Paterno and Rattray

TO THE EDITOR: After reading Tim Panaccio's humorous article, "Mr. Dooley Meets Joe Paterno At His Table," we would like to set the record straight on the incident as originally reported in Sports Illustrated.

Joe Paterno has been done an injustice by being credited with arrogant behavior in an incident which occurred without his knowledge. The incident involved the logistics of seating diners in a restaurant, and the responsibility for any misunderstanding must be borne by the owners and the staff.

The reported episode refers to a dinner party of ten couples, including Joe and Sue Paterno, who dined at The Tavern Restaurant. The only space large enough to accommodate them at the time of their arrival was in a dining room where Miss Rattray's group was seated. The location of her table was such that there was no way to seat the large group until that table was available. After the couples had waited about 30 minutes, the host asked Miss Rattray's party if they would mind being served their coffee at another table. At this time, the waiter, obviously a football fan, mentioned that the waiting group included coaches and Joe Paterno. On learning this, Miss Rattray told the waiter to inform Mr. Paterno that the women's hockey coach would leave when she was ready. The waiter relayed the message to Joe, who appeared to take it as a good-natured joke. It is the host's recollection that both parties greeted each other cordially when Miss Rattray's group left.

Although they are not as dramatic and humorous as your account, these are the facts as they occurred.

Ralph M. Yeager and John C. O'Connor
Proprietors
The Tavern Restaurant

Reminder

Students wishing to submit letters to the Editor about the University discipline system are reminded to bring them in no later than 6 p.m. today. All letters must be typed, double-spaced and accompanied by an identification of the author.

Letters will be printed on the editorial page of Thursday's Collegian.

the Collegian

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