

# Tax break

Everyone wants a break — especially a tax break.

Congress might, just might, give students a \$100 tax rebate starting next year. The rebate would serve as an indirect subsidy of higher education, an area which has been losing governmental support in recent years. Best of all, the break would be given to students from every economic stratum, with a reduction for the upper middle class and rich.

The tax rebate, unfortunately, is languishing in a Congressional committee for political reasons. The problem isn't with what the committee is doing; it's with what they can't do.

Because of Rep. Al Ullman's (D-Arizona) refusal to appoint members for a required committee, House Speaker Carl Albert is letting time run out on the rebate bill. With only five working days left

in this session of Congress, the committee snag must be worked out today if the rebate is to have any chance of reaching the House floor for a vote. It doesn't matter what the committee does once it meets — it is just a formality — the bill goes onto the floor. Once there, the nose-counters say it has a very good chance of approval. The Senate will then almost surely give the bill its support.

No one really knows why Ullman and his cohorts are against this indirect aid to students. They give a projected \$500 million treasury loss as their public reason.

But they apparently haven't considered that, as an indirect subsidy of education, the rebate would help keep young people in school and off the unemployment or welfare rolls. They must not believe other projections which

show the higher taxes paid by college educated workers would more than make up for the rebate loss to students. And they can't have thought of the human side of the issue.

Some students go through agony to scrape together the money for tuition, books and living expenses. Others are supported by husbands or wives while trying to hurry through degree requirements so they can get a job and pay their share. The \$100 tax rebate would be a godsend to a graduate student living on a \$4,000 fellowship or a married student struggling to give his children necessities.

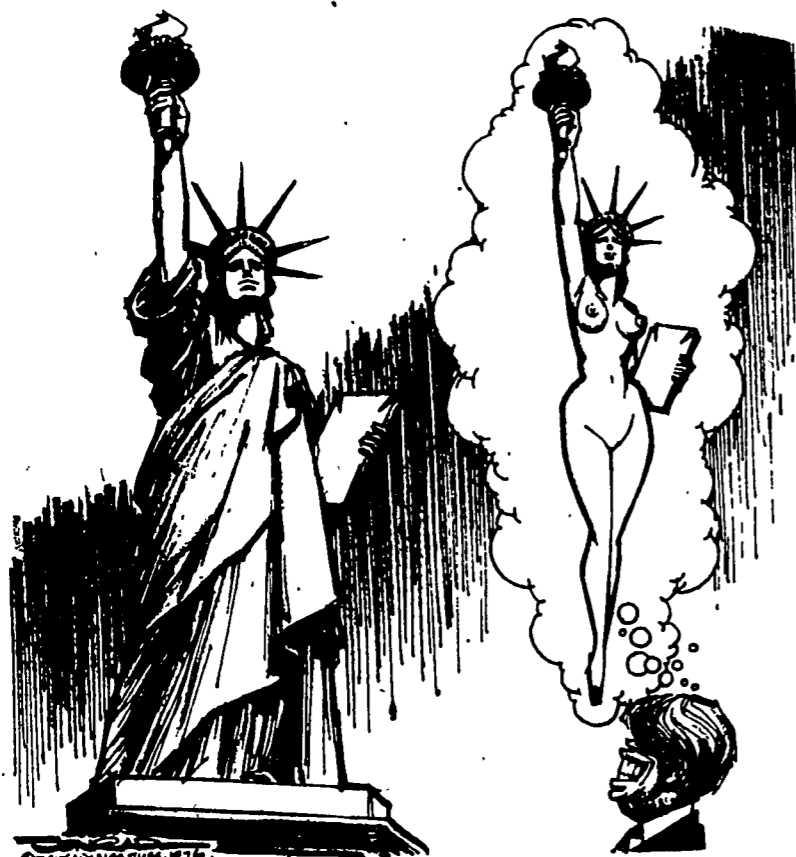
The rebate would ease the financial burden to students' parents, no matter where they stood on the economic scale. This rebate is for the benefit of the poor, the middle class and the rich;

the rebate is reduced, however, if taxpayers earn more than \$22,500 a year. This rebate is the closest thing to an across-the-board student grant we've seen yet.

And the \$100 rebate isn't fixed — it will be increased by \$50 each year until a ceiling of \$250 is reached in 1980. This will keep pace with creeping tuition hikes and other rising costs of higher education.

It's too late to take individual action this session. But if the bill does die, get in touch with your congressman and urge him to support the bill when it is reintroduced in January.

But we may be saved the wait. Carl Albert is retiring with this session — it would be a fitting and gracious last act for him to give the students of this country an educational gift.



## Sorry Charlie, all booked up

Charles was seething as he turned his alarm clock off. It was his one day of the week to sleep late, and this was the fourth time an alarm clock had awakened him that morning. First to wake was James, his ROTC roommate. James always woke up at 6 a.m. and ran to and from the Nittany Mall before first period.

Another roommate woke up just before first period, throwing his pajamas on Charles's face in his haste to get dressed. A third roommate who awoke before second, had a peculiar habit of retching in the morning.

Charles did not like living in a study lounge. Living in temporary housing was like living in a flop house; he felt like he was living out of a suitcase, or perhaps in a suitcase. And then there was his girl friend, a comely ERM major named Polly. He had given up on trying to clear out his roommates for a tryst with Polly, and now had to be content with holding her hand while he ate taco dogs, a difficult feat in itself.

But the University said that this was necessary. The University said that the dorms must be overbooked, but that there was a fairly good chance that a number of students would drop out or try to chug a half-gallon of Southern Comfort, allowing Charles to move into a real room by mid-April.

In the meantime, Charles would have to put up with the hassles, and the glares from floormates who desired a lounge in which they could study and have birch beer parties.

Charles grumbled some more as he stood in line to take a shower. He was hungry, but he decided against the idea of going over to the dining hall for lunch. The dining hall was overbooked, and the lines would be long. He rejected the idea of standing in line for meat loaf sandwiches as an affront to his dignity.

Instead, he decided to stop in to see his adviser. He wanted to know if there was some chance he could pick up Sewer Engineering 101; his major was overbooked, and he had been trying without success for four terms to pick up that vital

course. But his adviser was overbooked that day, and before he got to see him, the next period had begun.

He dashed up to the Forum, but he was too late. His course was not overbooked, but two Econ 2 students were still asleep in their seats from the previous period, and thus there were no seats for Charles and his friend Leroy. They sat on the steps, and gazed at the knee of a football player seated on the aisle.

Inspired by the view, Charles began to daydream. He remembered fondly the football game had not seen the last weekend; he had season tickets, but the stadium was overbooked, and he had to be satisfied with watching the cheerleaders do absurd things on the sidelines.



Jerry Schwartz

He remembered having read that the stadium was going to be enlarged by 16,000 seats at a cost of \$4.5 million. They were going to add more seats by lifting the stadium, probably using the defensive line to give it the old heave-ho. Charles was certain that the new seats would not go to students, but he did look forward to being overbooked out of a seat in a 76,000-seat stadium.

Rousted from his reverie by the end of class, Charles decided to bag his fifth-period class and call Polly, that comely ERM major. They had a date for that night; they intended to go to Mr. C's, although there was always the chance that State College's newest venture in bad taste might be overbooked.

But it was not to be. Charles slammed the receiver down and walked away from the phone—Polly, absent-minded ERM major that she was, had made two dates for that night, and he had lost out to a Bavarian soccer player who looked like Joe Paterno.

To hell with her, he thought. He'd study, instead. He packed up his books, and started the trek to Pattee.

This is where we must turn away. There are some things that are too painful, too scarring for the editorial page. But I'm sure some of our more astute readers have foreseen what happened to Charles on that fateful evening.

Yes, Pattee was overbooked.

# Schorr line ebbs at networks

I was working on a column about the ruthless competition among TV correspondents when the news came over the wire that Dan Schorr had resigned from CBS. A bitter irony, that, because it seemed almost as if Schorr had resigned to prove my point.

At age 60, after 23 years as a network correspondent, the crusty old man of broadcasting wrote a "Dear Dick" letter to CBS president Richard Salant and announced his resignation. Schorr said that his ability to function effectively as a reporter had been undermined by the controversy over the Pike Committee report.

Schorr, who is as hard on himself as he is on his opponents, said that his reinstatement would be a source of tension within the network, an organization Schorr says he still cares about. Controversy and tension have never been far from Schorr; he's on

nearly every correspondent's list of unpopular people.



Kathleen Pavelko

It is interesting to note that Schorr identified "the controversy" over the Pike Committee report, rather than the congressional investigation itself, as what made it impossible for him to continue as a correspondent.

What Schorr was implying — and what he said very clearly on "60 Minutes" a few days ago — was that office gossip, and not Congress, had ended his career.

His so-called "colleagues" in the media were so anxious to air gripes and petty hatreds long savored that the real issue in Schorr's decision to publish the Pike report was obscured in a haze of recrimination and grudges.

Much of the air time devoted to the "Schorr case" included interviews with slighted correspondents who attested to Schorr's bad temper and overweening ambition. The commentary on the First Amendment issue at hand was clearly less interesting to reporters covering the story than the decades-old gossip about Schorr's ruthless "scooping" of competitors.

Schorr, after years of handling this sort of peer jealousy in his own, hard-edged way, finally gave in. "No alternative remains for me under the circumstances," he said.

The real sadness is not Schorr's

obvious regret over leaving his craft, but our loss of a fine reporter. What his seven-month suspension from CBS had taught him, Schorr said, was that he could live without broadcasting. He could live without the daily "fix" of a few minutes air-time each day. At 60, there were still things he wanted to do.

For us, Schorr's departure represents the triumph of the bland and non-controversial over the gifted and the quirky. A correspondent may not offend in speech, in manner or in private life. Soon everybody will look and talk like the harmless Tom Brokaw.

We need the Schorrs of the world. They inevitably are the ones who take, upon themselves the unpleasant tasks, the difficult decisions. No matter how ineptly Schorr handled the publication of the Pike report, still he got it to us, and we owe him a lot more than seven months back pay for that.

# U.S. soft on nuke stand

By CORBETT S. KLEIN  
10th-microbiology

One of my professors read an announcement, reportedly from Washington, about what to do in the event of a nuclear attack warning. It was a hoax and the class obviously enjoyed it. This article is not a criticism of the joke. However, I feel that the joke might be characteristic of a popularly held lack of appreciation for the realities of nuclear war. The fact is that nuclear war is conceivable and that we can and must take action to defend ourselves against it.

It is not true as many people believe that nuclear war would totally and automatically eliminate man from the planet. Mr. Haaland, physicist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and Mr. Wigner, a member of the Princeton University Department of Physics and recipient of the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1963, lambast this point of view in their article, "Surviving a Nuclear War," published in National Review, September 17, 1976.

This means that nuclear weapons can be used as an effective instrument of war without bringing the annihilation so many predict. In fact Lt. Gen. Daniel O. Graham, former chief of the Defense Intelligence Agency, quoting from a Soviet military journal says that to the Kremlin nuclear weapons mean that "immeasurably more effective means of struggle are now at the disposal of state power" (Reader's Digest, September 1976).

The Soviet Union is a nation well equipped for struggle. According to Lt. Gen. Graham, 75 per cent of production goes to building the military power of their country while only 25 per cent goes to providing goods and services for its citizens. Presently the Soviets have 600 more ICBMs than the United States and 13 more nuclear missile submarines than we. They surpass us in numbers of

tactical aircraft, major surface ships, ground divisions and tanks. Are the Soviets technologically behind the United States? Maybe, but Graham reports, "Their new MIRVed missiles and improved warhead accuracy approach our own technology. Their new ships have the latest in propulsion and bristle with sophisticated missile systems."

If the Soviets could blow up the world 10 times why do they build more missiles? The answer is that the Soviets can't blow up the world 10 times and, moreover, they don't want to. They want to rule the world, not destroy it. Brezhnev would get no joy out of a cinder. If we actually had a nuclear war you quite likely wouldn't be lucky enough to be among the ones slain. You would have to witness and survive the devastation.

If nuclear war isn't going to automatically destroy us then the line that, "all defenses against nuclear war are futile," is invalid. The Soviets themselves are actively involved in constructing an elaborate system of shelters which will protect 240 million of them from the short term effects of an all out nuclear war. They practice evacuation of large cities such as Leningrad. They even plan to store 2.5 billion bushels of grain to feed their population for 300 days while the effects of radiation and fallout recede and new crops can be planted and harvested. The Soviets obviously don't expect to be wiped out by a nuclear attack.

When the Russians realize that they can survive nuclear war but we can't they hesitate to deploy their superior military strength in Yugoslavia, in the Middle East, in the Persian Gulf? Will we be forced to acquiesce in these and other situations because we did not feel the need to retain a sufficient lead in military power over the Soviet Union to deter them?

In order to avoid these situations we need to take a more serious attitude towards nuclear war. The object is not to fight a nuclear war but to prevent it from being used against us. To do this we must resist temptations to cut the defense budget and go ahead with building a fleet of the B-1 bombers and develop the cruise missile system. The Soviets dread our implementing these technological advances because they would require them to provide more additional protection for themselves if they want to launch a nuclear attack.

No one will dispute that building weapons seems a tragic waste of human resources, but if we are prudent enough to adequately protect ourselves we may never have to use them. Also we should regard seriously the plans being made by the Civil Defense Preparedness Agency to counter evacuate likely targets in the United States should the Soviet Union undertake full-scale evacuation of their major cities.

Are SALT talks a deterrent to nuclear war? The Soviets have consistently demonstrated that they are willing to talk about arms limitations while they forge ahead with the development of more arms and refuse us information concerning them. Meanwhile we set limitations which are disadvantageous to ourselves and at the same time create the euphoric impression that we are doing something to avert nuclear war. The Soviets will only keep a treaty as long as it's to their own interests. Inasmuch as SALT talks allow us to fall behind in weaponry they actually diminish our deterrent to nuclear war.

The Soviets are preparing to fight and survive nuclear war. We must realize this and prepare for it. If we do not demonstrate a readiness to be able to fight and survive nuclear war ourselves, we will become the object of nuclear blackmail. To the Soviet Union, nuclear war is no joke.

# Picketers protests sexist crimes

Cynthia Zuikowski  
State College resident

The editorial page has recently carried considerable criticism of those who picketed "Tender Flesh." As one who took part in the protest, I faced all the objections you and your readers have raised. I thought them through and decided to stay in the picket line. Let me tell you why.

One letter to the editor pleaded the case for freedom of expression: filmmakers should be free to photograph what they choose and moviegoers should be free to see it. Understanding first of all that we did not physically prevent anyone from entering the theater. A good many patrons crossed the line unharmed and bought tickets despite our chant that "You'd have to be sick to see this flick."

Realize, secondly, that our society sets the limit of personal freedom at the point where one's actions threaten the safety and well being of others. No one has the right to injure anyone. To the extent that we did seek a curb

on expression, it was my judgement that this movie's potential harm outweighed the otherwise great importance of first amendment rights.

What harm? That's my second point. One of your readers complained that "Tender Flesh" was neither as violent nor as obscene as advertised. You yourself chided us for not picketing "Straw Dogs" or "Taxi Driver." But it was not the obscenity I objected to; I've seen my share of porno flicks. Nor was it the violence alone. Brutality is too all-pervasive in our entertainment for me to even dream of stopping it. What I object to is the depiction of murder, dismemberment and cannibalism in a sexual context, the implication being that these are exciting and erotic acts. It seems clear to me if not to you that these are dangerous ideas, ones which could well threaten my safety and well being.

Finally, you charged us with female chauvinism in ignoring violence against males. I, too, yearn for the day

when treating both sexes the same will lead to equality and human liberation. But when the sexes start out from such vastly different social positions, no amount of traveling in parallel will ever bring them to the same place. It's true that men suffer from violence in our society. But the source of their oppression is different, and the consequences are different and the problem must be fought in a different arena.

Right now it is women who are predominantly the victims of sexually motivated assault. Given this imbalance, it is fair for me to concentrate my efforts on stopping abuse of women. When the day comes that female rape victims are as scarce as male victims, when wife beating is as unheard of as husband beating, when women no longer fear the attacks of a Richard Speck or a Boston Strangler, on that day I will cross out the word "women" on my banner and replace it with a plea to stop abuse of "human beings."

# Letters to the Editor

## No thanks?

TO THE EDITOR: In response to Donna Lurie's letter to the editor that appeared in the Daily Collegian, Friday September 24, 1976.

Ms. Lurie, in her letter, maintains that not one newspaper article or press release mentioned the generous support of AFSCME Local 1203-B in the current State College-wide voter registration drive. Let's keep the record straight.

On September 7, 1976, Paul Stevenson, Director of USG's Department of Political Affairs, held a press conference that dealt specifically with the current voter registration drive. In a printed statement that was distributed to all members of the local news media, Mr. Stevenson personally thanked Jeff Zinser—Shop Steward of the CATA Bus Driver's Local of the AFSCME of the AFL-CIO, along with Donna Lurie—Central Pennsylvania Coordinator for Frontlash, and a number of other organizations and individuals. If my memory serves me correctly, Donna Lurie herself attended that press conference and was handed three copies of Mr. Stevenson's statement.

Perhaps what Ms. Lurie was most concerned about was the fact that our "thank you's" were not put into print by the local news media. Ms. Lurie must understand that in many instances, because of space limitations, all details of a story can not be included. With this in mind, Ms. Lurie should direct her comments and criticisms to the local news media — not the Undergraduate Student Government. We have not forgotten our obligations. We have not acted hypocritically.

In the future I hope Ms. Lurie will be certain of her information — including a thorough review of her memory, before making unjust accusations in public.

Grant R. Ackerman  
Director, USG Department of Communications

the Collegian  
daily

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