

Tight squeeze

The squeeze will be on students again next year. The University has made no changes in procedures for obtaining dorm contracts. More importantly, no changes have been made in living space arrangements for students. In the fall, when more students come to campus than there are dorm rooms to hold them, the only solutions to the overcrowding problem will be old ones.

If the overcrowding problem is the same next year, more students will have the pent-up, stifling living conditions of "not so temporary" housing to look forward to.

If the study lounge occupancy level rises, it may start a new trend: each dorm could see how many people, beds, pillows, clothes, books and anything else can be stuffed into each study lounge. A new system of occupancy may be started — dorms within dorms.

Even now, after 12 weeks already spent living as sardines in temporary study lounge housing, 37 students will have the chance

to live in double rooms this week, only because some students decided not to return this term and left empty rooms.

Students pay to live in dorms, not in wards or army barracks. If no housing is available for students, not as many students should be accepted in dorms. Without living space for arriving students, college becomes more than the usual hassle. No one should be subjected to living for even one day in a room which was meant only as a study area.

Other students in the dorm suffer as well, with no place to study in late night hours. This forces them to travel to Pattee, causing overcrowding there, or keep their roommates awake when they have a test or a paper due.

So far the only alteration to the present system suggested by the University is not really one at all. The number of converted doubles and triples will be reduced, but temporary housing areas will be increased.

Recently the University has earned praise for research in medical

technology. Strides are constantly being made in engineering and science. With all the valuable brainpower to be tapped on this campus, a solution to the housing problem should be somewhere.

Some imagination used for problems in the "outside world" should be channeled inward to solve problems on campus. No outside help can be expected to end overcrowding.

A new dorm would be financially impossible to build, especially with little or no help from Harrisburg. Also it would most likely be empty and useless by spring term. However, other possibilities must exist.

It's easy for the University to say that no new method of dealing with overcrowding can be implemented. But it's not so easy to be squeezed into accepting life inside a boxful of people.

The University has tried to come up with a solution, but the very fact that the system has not been changed for next year shows that it has not tried hard enough.



MARK C. VANDINE
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN
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Dogs are living—not toys for play

One need investigate no further than the local library to discover the cruelty dealt upon puppies by the puppy mill industry.

One need travel no further than the local pet store to discover the conditions imposed upon puppies by the pet store business.

But harder to understand is the mistreatment of dogs by masters. How do humans rate as responsible owners?

If you've discovered the number of dogs delivered to the Pennsylvania SPCA last year — 53,874 — you've seen that Pennsylvanians have little regard for canines. Indeed, if humans were humane, there would be no need for humane societies.

But there are such societies. Last year they directed 10,201 investigations of cruelty, with 125 resulting in prosecutions and 1,143 in corrections. These, according to the Pennsylvania SPCA brochure, "Animaldom," involved beatings, abandonings, starvings and

shootings. Moreover, these were only the cases reported to the SPCA.

The problem of mistreatment is caused by the matter-of-fact manner in which buyers obtain dogs. Studies conducted by animal research departments indicate that more time and patience is spent by the average dog buyer when buying shoes than a pup.



John Harvey

Dogs, however, are not shoes. They are creatures willing to bestow happiness if they are trained correctly and they are treated correctly. These are what dogs often must do without.

Unlike most mammals, canines are dependent upon others. Indeed, it is that dependency which humans find appealing.

That dependency is the dog's lifeblood. When abandoned the dog is drained of it. Yet Bruce Luse, state dog law enforcement officer at State College, says abandonment is exactly what occurs regularly between University terms. Students merely buy puppies like shoes and discard them along the road home like worn out slippers.

But dog owners who spoil their pups, who fail to punish them, are mistreating dogs also. Dogs, animal behaviorists say, want punishment. Punishment coupled with reward indicates what the master wants. All the dog wants is direction.

Knowing the dog laws is important. Fred Fry, State College dog code enforcement officer, says fines ranging from \$10 to \$300 are levied upon dog

owners breaking the law. Ordinances, read as follows:

- Dogs must be walked on leashes shorter than six feet.
- Dogs must be licensed. Licenses are obtainable in the county courthouse at Bellefonte.
- Dogs must have rabies shots.
- Dogs cannot be tied to public places.
- Dog feces must be cleaned up. Responsible dog owners probably already know these rules. Others must learn them. And hopefully we all will learn that dogs are creatures to whom we must be responsible. They are not toys, to be used and thrown away.
- Inevitably, humans, by virtue of our superiority, must protect and provide. When the time comes that humans lose sight of those responsibilities we will lose sight of our self-respect.
- For how, if we cannot maintain the safety of other species, will we ever maintain the safety of the human one?



What now for ex-leader

By SANDY STUMBAUGH
Collegian Staff Writer

With the agony of defeat over the Presidential election subsiding, Gerald Ford is now beginning to look beyond the end of his term as President. But what does he have to look forward to? What type of employment is worthy of a former President? And what qualifications does the Presidency give a person for future employment?

I can see Jerry now, filling out an application for employment with a big business corporation: previous job experience — President of the United States; duties — stamping "veto" on papers, signing pardons, greeting distinguished international statesmen at the White House; desired position with this business — President, what else.

Maybe Jerry could go into show business. He could do commercials selling non-skid shoes. First the screen would show a clip of Jerry's inopportune fall down the airplane steps upon his

arrival in China. Next the camera could show a longshot of Jerry walking confidently down a flight of stairs. The camera would then pan to his feet and come in for a close-up of each bold step he takes. From somewhere off the screen a voice would say: "Have you ever lost your dignity by stumbling down a flight of stairs like an awkward moose? Regain your self-confidence. Wear No More Fall non-skid shoes. Look at the difference our shoes make in this man's step." The camera shows a full shot of Jerry safely reaching the bottom of the steps and then a close-up of the proud smile that overcomes his face.

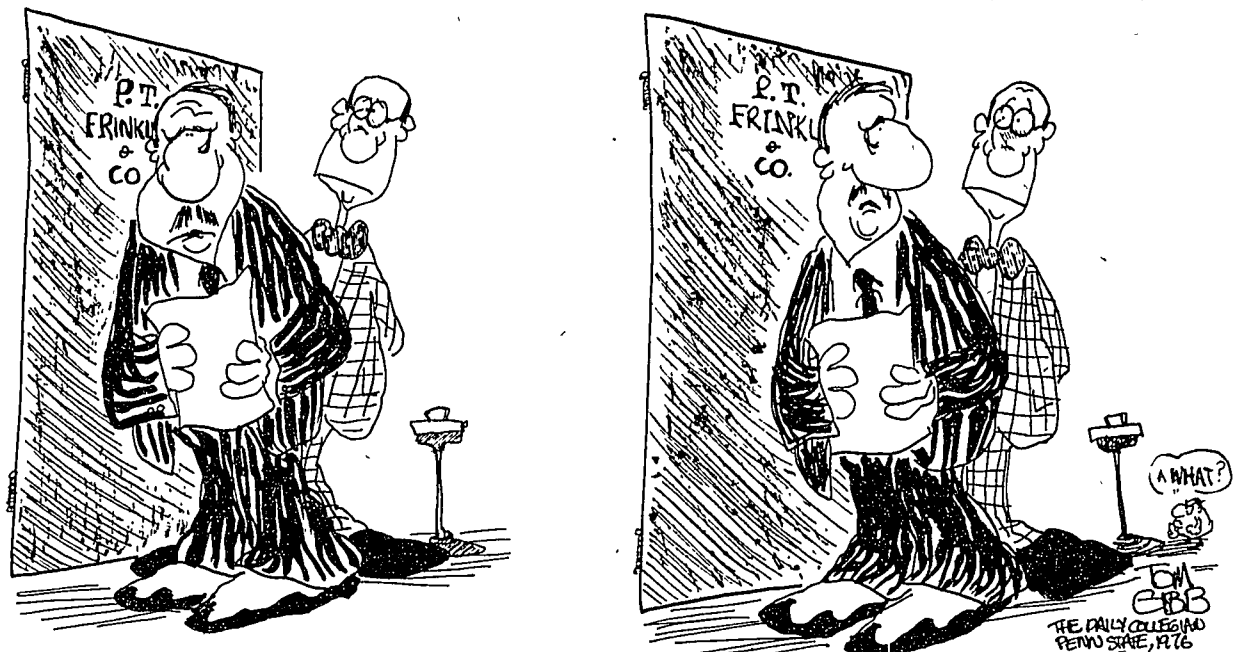
Of course if Jerry were really hard up for a job, he could always serve as a tour guide at the White House. I'm sure he knows his way around there pretty well by now. I doubt if the pay would be too good but I think the hours would be better than his last job.

However none of these jobs seem quite worthy of a former President. As a

matter of fact, no job seems worthy of a former President, so I'm afraid Jerry will have to suffer a period of post-presidential depression. He'll just have to settle for second best.

Basically he has two acceptable alternatives. He could set up a law firm and earn a starting salary of \$60,000 a year. True, it would be a decrease in pay and might not have the glamour of his last job, but he wouldn't have such burdensome responsibilities weighing on his shoulders either.

His other alternative would be to spend the rest of his life in retirement, living on his Presidential pension. Then he could go skiing with the wife and kids, help Betty with the family budget, and make any important family decisions that need to be taken care of. ("Yes Betty I'll pass the decision to let Susan move out of the house. No, I'll have to veto the decision about buying a new car.")



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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.

Money's worth

TO THE EDITOR: About a month ago, I paid close to \$500 for "room and board charges."

This morning I went to Pollock dining hall for "club breakfast." The only solid food being served was cold dry toast. I proceeded to the dining room to get my daily ration of vitamin C, but found only an empty juice dispenser, surrounded by empty glasses left by other disappointed people. I left about 10 minutes later and the juice dispenser had still not been refilled.

I live in the dorms so I can walk into the dining hall at 9:10 a.m., get something to eat, and still get to a 9:35 class on time. I pay almost \$500 per term for this privilege.

I guess that this is just another chance for the people in charge of the dining halls to laugh at me for being stupid enough to pay their astronomical fees.

Brian Cunningham
8th-chemistry

Occasional gurgle

TO THE EDITOR: The Collegian has published many absurd editorials during my one-plus terms as a student at Penn State, but the column by Sheila McCauley in the Dec. 13 issue is the most ridiculous that I've read anywhere — including junior high school papers. The rationale of wasting valuable newspaper space — space that is so valuable that a recent headline couldn't be printed because it was too long — on the advantages and disadvantages of various baby dolls, totally escapes me. Perhaps the Collegian would be better off if Miss McCauley would — to use her own words — "... do nothing but sleep quietly, and occasionally — very occasionally — gurgle."

Mark Jacket
2nd-science

Visitor blues

TO THE EDITOR: First of all, I am not a student at this campus, I am here on a Co-Op job from the Capitol Campus. Ever since the first day I arrived in this unfriendly town of yours I've had nothing but trouble, first trying to get a place to stay and second trying to find a place to park. This is the first "so called" town in which you can't park in any of the streets at night and worse yet one cannot even park in the parking lot where he is employed. Well, it just so happens that the lease for the apartment in which I lived expired at the end of November. I am now living with a friend because I am only going to be here for one more week. When I tried to park my car in the parking lot next to his apartment, naturally the "money hungry" establishment gave me a ticket — which I paid! I then decided to go and park my car at the ARL parking lot where I knew it would be out of everybody's way — but I was wrong. The next morning I found a \$5 parking ticket on my windshield evidently because the dirt and stone lot where my car was parked is supposed to be empty from 2:30 a.m. to 6 a.m. for snow removal.

I would really like to be here so that I can see how in hell they are going to manage to clean the snow out of that type of parking lot! I have been informed by a reliable source here at ARL that this particular parking lot has never been cleared in the past.

I am sick and tired of being taken in this place, and I will sleep better next week when I will be back in my home town where people treat you for what you are — not for the money you have!

Peter Santoro
8th-electrical design engineering technology

City rivals

TO THE EDITOR: It is very noble of the Collegian staff to attempt to settle the "rivalry" that exists between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, once and for all. However, you have only succeeded in angering and confusing me. I have lived in Philadelphia all my life and I am not quite sure if Mr. Newkumet was describing Philadelphia or the streets of San Francisco. First of all, if one is going to do an article about America's fourth largest city, he does not go about it by wasting half his article on interviews with seedy characters. Mr. Newkumet, did you spend all your time in Philadelphia's gutters? Between the woman that was mugged, the man that was shot in the head, the trash that you described and the picture of the girlie magazines, you could not have had any time to see anything worthwhile. If you were trying to capture the city's character, you failed miserably. You only succeeded in zeroing in on the unpleasant aspects of Center City. You told me that Philly has a variety of people — what do you expect from a city so large. Take someone who knows nothing about Philadelphia, and has never visited the city, you have told them absolutely nothing. So what was the purpose of your article? Philadelphia's character does lie in its people and history but you have done a disservice to the city with your off-color article. I think I would be afraid to visit Philly after reading that article. On the other hand, Mr. Smith seemed to hit all the good points of Pittsburgh. He painted quite a rosy

picture. After reading his article at dinner, I had no need for dessert. His article had enough syrup and sweetness for me. I felt as if he was leading me down the primrose path. Mr. Smith was your article an essay on Pittsburgh or a peachy-keen travel brochure?

Neither article did any justice to either city. The Pittsburgh article only kept alive the current myth that this city is the Emerald City revisited. The Philadelphia article only reflected the current image of this city as a rough and tumble, dirty, frontier town where the only thing to see is the Liberty Bell. Both cities are fine places to live. They deserve better journalism than was put forth by the Collegian. As a Philadelphian, I encourage others to visit the city and meet its people. Don't be swayed by seedy interviews, and by all means don't ask Mr. Newkumet about the city because he obviously knows nothing about it. Ask me — I'll tell you more than a conversation with a drunk. I would conclude by asking how a rivalry encompassing 2,600,000 people is going to be decided by two people. I suggest that the Collegian refrain from further attempts at such an asinine idea.

Michael Koslosky
11th-architecture

TO OUR READERS:

The Collegian is currently screening prospective columnists to contribute to the editorial page on a weekly basis. Applicants should submit trial columns pertaining to student interests, local, national or international issues to the editorial editor, 126 Carnegie. Put your research and creativity to use in well-written form, and submit the columns by Dec. 22.

the Collegian

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