

This one's for you

The Daily Collegian believes that the editorial page is really the readers' page, an outlet for the public's criticism and praise. Because we have received so many letters to the editor which would not otherwise be printed because of limited space, the Collegian will forego today's editorial in order to accommodate as many of our readers as possible.

Letters to the Editor

Word for word

TO THE EDITOR: The article on Greg Stewart's candidacy for mayor, Feb. 9, contained several misquotes that need correcting.

a) Greg Stewart never said "The chief importance of the mayor's job is his veto power as presiding officer of council." The statement he made to the reporter was: "The most important duty of the Mayor is serving as the representative of the community. He also serves as presiding officer of council but does not have a veto. The one power he does have is the power of veto." Greg then went on to say: "I feel this power should be used judiciously and that I would be hesitant to use it because council should make the decisions."

b) In regard to why Greg Stewart chose to run for mayor, and not council, he said: "I looked at the duties of both offices and felt I could serve a more valuable role as mayor." He did not say the role of mayor could be more valuable.

c) Greg Stewart was also misquoted on the matter of council salaries. The statement made was: "Council members work very hard and the job is very time-consuming." Greg then went on to say: "If the community's size were to increase to the point where full-time council members would be needed, consideration of salaries would be in order."

Greg's supporters thank the Collegian for publishing notice of his candidacy and hope that errors of this sort can be avoided in the future.

Jim Scarantino
Stewart for Mayor Campaign

Literally trite

TO THE EDITOR: In the "In Edition" portion of Friday's Collegian, the following headline appeared (italics ours):

And don't forget the fluorinated water.
What, may we ask, is fluorinated water? We assume that the person who made that headline actually meant fluoridated water.

It is quite ironic that the "fluorinated" water headline appeared above an article addressing the causes of illiteracy. Kudos to the semi-literate headline-maker who made this error and to the semi-literate editor who failed to notice it — why not add The Collegian to the list of contributory causes of illiteracy in America?

Some time ago, The Collegian was rated "tops" among college newspapers. We fear that it has fallen to a new and lower level; the evidence for this statement abounds. The error pointed out above is only one small piece of evidence, but there are others: the entire "In Edition" section is an example of the cliché-ridden, trifling material that regularly appears in The Daily Collegian. Also, the "artistic" photographs which regularly grace the front page, featuring such subjects as "an enlargement of a fly on a window screen," "a shaft of wheat (which was actually a corn stalk)," etc., are neither artistic nor newsworthy.

This criticism may come as a shock, but we hope that it will result in some positive and constructive changes. Give your readers what they deserve — quality coverage of news events and information, not trite "fillers" which we see so often. To counteract the pleasant isolation of "Happy Valley," we need all the news that we can get.

Susan L. Flaherty
11th-political science
Carol Jursik
8th-geo-chemistry

Note of thanks

TO THE EDITOR: This letter is directed mainly to those members of the Undergraduate Student Government Department of Legal Affairs, in particular Mr. Edward Mervine and Mr. Sam Umstad. The time and effort put in by these two gentlemen on a problem which I came to them with is deeply appreciated and I believe that they and the organization of which they are members deserve a great deal of praise and credit not only for what they have done for me but also for what they have undoubtedly done for others here at Penn State.

It is reassuring to know that, despite the size and impersonal atmosphere of the University in general, there exists a group such as the USG Department of Legal Affairs which is made up of students and staff who are willing to give up their time in service to others. Mr. Mervine and Mr. Umstad unselfishly gave up their time to assist me despite the fact that they too are carrying full course loads and preparing for final exams. To these two gentlemen and all the members of Legal Affairs, I commend you on your efforts and thank you for your time and consideration.

Chuck Dietrick
8th-business administration

Behind the eight ball

TO THE EDITOR: We (Association for Women Students) would appreciate it if people stopped telling us that our People Pools sound like a great idea — and then don't use them.

We would appreciate it if people would stop giving their library books and briefcases to our volunteer in Pattee — she's there to organize "Pools."

We have been asked to extend this group escort service to town. We will, when it starts to work on campus.

If you want help, you should be willing to give it. If you've come to Pattee or the HUB with a friend, stop by our yellow sign when you leave on the half hour — maybe you can escort someone else back to your dorm area.

One of the main benefits of the People Pools is the peace of mind it gives to those going long distances across campus late at night. Use it now, and prevent trouble in the future.

If you have any suggestions, please send them to the Association for Women Students, 215 HUB.

Betty Spector
president-elect
Pat Mulligan
AWS

Fond farewell

TO THE EDITOR: It has been almost five years since I have come to Happy Valley. I am leaving in March to do a practicum, and I can really say that I enjoyed my stay in this town. I've met some really fantastic people who were definitely worth knowing; I've had some great experiences, and I can honestly say that I have learned a great deal from my Penn State "education," both inside and outside of the classroom setting.

I just wanted to say goodbye before I leave this place, but first I would like to share something important with all of you out there: an experience that has definitely altered my life in a most positive way. First let me tell you that I am extremely proud to be a Jew. But I consider myself somewhat "different" in my beliefs. I am a Messianic Jew, a Jew that believes and knows that Jesus Christ is everyone's Messiah, and not just for the Gentile population. Many of the people in Biblical times who followed Jesus were Jews, like the apostle Paul. Jews today are not brought up and taught in the synagogue to recognize Jesus as their personal saviour and Lord, but that doesn't mean that it should not be seriously considered. It makes more sense than anything I have ever thought about; it is not contradictory, inconsistent or hypocritical. I am Jewish by my birth and Christian by my faith. I am not converted, but completed. The day of the Gentiles is coming to a fast finish, and with the heavy outpouring of God's spirit, many Jews will come to see the truth and God's plan for their lives.

You can argue all you want about the Bible and its interpretations, but you cannot rob me of my story of how my life has been changed. I am truly no longer the same — many people can testify to that. My attitudes, behavior and my entire lifestyle are different. I have discovered there is more to life than partying. And there are at least 333 reasons — Old Testament prophecies that cannot be denied. Why is God plural ("Elohim") in Genesis' Hebrew translation? I thank God for His love for me. I gave Jesus a chance, and indeed He has made me kosher. Boruch Ha Shem Yeshua Ha Mashiach!

Abby Dorfman
9th-rehabilitation education

Costly privilege

TO THE EDITOR: This letter is written in response to Debbie Dull's letter to the editor on Feb. 14 entitled, "Ripped Off."

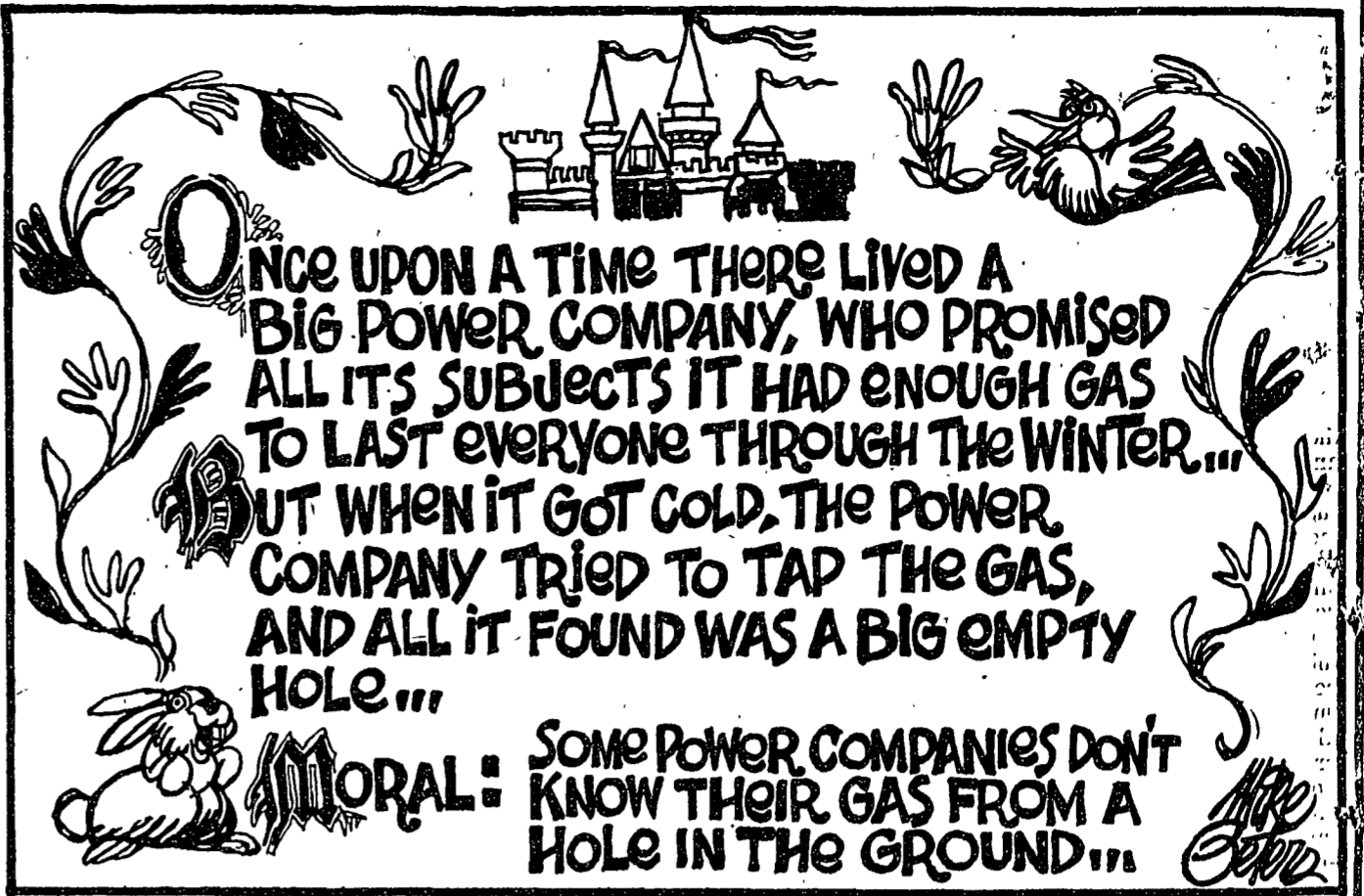
I agree that the situation you described about the driver not telling you the ride cost beforehand was unfair, but I disagree that a driver or any driver makes a profit by having a car and offering rides.

Owning a car has cost me at least 50 per cent of all the earnings in my entire life. Buying the car and putting gas in it are the least of my worries. License, upkeep, and the killer, insurance are the major irritants for the "privilege" of having a car.

Even paying \$10 for a round trip is a 50 per cent savings on any other offered alternative not to mention quicker, more pleasurable, and, in most cases, closer to home. I fail to see any profit a car owner can make by offering rides at that cost.

This may sound renegeed, but I'm in love with my car and I wouldn't want anyone telling me what to do with my own car! If you still disagree about the cost, take the bus and leave the driving to us.

Curt Smith
8th-journalism



Price of justice

TO THE EDITOR: Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's statement Thursday that the United States supports a rapid but peaceful transition to black rule in Zimbabwe is yet another fabrication of the Carter administration and shows our "new" government running rapidly down the path of past U.S. officials. If the rulers of this country wanted peace in southern Africa there would be peace. Unfortunately, in the United States the pocketbook still holds sway over justice.

For fear of losing economic, military and diplomatic ties with a country that exports 12 of the 17 American strategic minerals and harbors pools of cheap, black labor for the involvement of close to 400 U.S. corporations, the Carter administration refuses to withdraw the economic and diplomatic support which fuels the Smith-Vorster regimes.

Until the American public awakens and demands that we get out of southern Africa, the guilt for all atrocities committed (including the death by starvation of 50 per cent of the black populace before age five must rest squarely on our shoulders.)

The National Student Coalition Against Racism, a nationwide student group which opposes racism and oppression around the world, will be holding national days of protest against U.S. complicity in South Africa this March. We urge all supporters of the struggle to attend our weekly meetings, Wed. at 7:30, in 324 HUB.

Allen Walsh
National Student Coalition Against Racism

Great loss

TO THE EDITOR: "Women unite stand up and... Our government can spend 92 billion dollars on... Come out this Saturday and show your support." Action-oriented slogans like this are a part of her repertoire. She has the vitality of a student from the sixties and the broader perspective (those of us who kept a perspective) of a student from the seventies. I've asked her where she gets the time and the energy to give so much to socio-political issues and still maintain a graduate student status. I don't remember her exact words, but they were something to this effect: "discrimination on the bases of sex, race and religion are extremely important issues. The fight for human rights requires action. Where do I get the time? I find it."

She will support virtually any suppressed individual who is struggling against a society who often times falls short of respecting basic human rights. She has an incredible sense of "feeling for a victim of injustice;" she is driven by moral imperatives. By her active involvement, it is obvious that she has the capacity for empathy but unlike the three German men who gave their own life to show their sense of responsibility to the innocent Jewish victims, this woman clenches hands with those of whom are oppressed and strives to have them stand up and fight for their rights. She is the antithesis of martyrdom and the synthesis of hope, strength and human dignity.

The woman to whom I'm referring to is Lynda Joyce. She has been active in the Young Socialist Alliance and National Student Coalition Against Racism; she was the originator of ERA United and she is a member of the Centre County Chapter of NOW.

Lynda has just completed her master's thesis and consequently, will no longer be a member of the student body. I personally have been touched by this dynamic woman and, without a doubt, Penn State is losing something when a personality like Lynda leaves.

Patty Gould
12th-individual and family studies

Bad shot

TO THE EDITOR: Well, Figi has done it again. Last year's "in" thing was gang-raping. This year (in trying to outdo themselves) the fad is snowball throwing at innocent pedestrians.

My girlfriend and I were walking past the fraternity last Friday night about one o'clock, when about six brothers or rushees who were "out for a good time" started throwing snowballs (which were mixed with ice for texture) and hollering obscenities at us (or was it their pledge chant.). Well, luckily for us, the winter is the off-season (they certainly were rusty) and neither of us were hit. But, the fact is someone could be hurt seriously by such a "cute" prank.

I hope the "gentlemen" who participated in this "practice session" read this letter (if they can) and realize the seriousness of such overzealous "fun" (a very bad cut or even loss of vision could have been the result). If not, let me offer some suggestions of "how to relieve your jollies on these cold winter nights."

How about instead of rush taps you have "whips and chains" night. Or better yet, chip in a buy a stretching rack for the den. It could be a lot of "fun."

Name withheld

Tables will turn

TO THE EDITOR: I read with interest James DePietro's articles on Behavior Modification and, although I would not consider myself an advocate of this or any other particular psychological theory, I was disturbed by the criticism by Dr. Flay that acting on this theory constitutes "outright conditioning" to the end of accepting "their simple-minded middle class values."

While I am unsure of what exactly it is that the middle class values, except, I suppose, that lifestyle that places them in that class at all (and, when pressed, a great many of these commoners would admit, I'm sure, to there being "something more" to life, albeit they may not go about finding that something in the most sophisticated ways), it is the "outright conditioning" complaint that I cannot buy. It seems clear that if our behavior is indeed determined by the reactions, rewarding or otherwise of those around us, then the deliberateness of these reactions would not change the impact of them. I cannot see where freedom is on the line here: we are either conditioned totally by our experiences in interpersonal interactions or we are not, i.e. we are "something more."

There is, of course, always a danger in any person or group of people working from the basis of "I know what is good for you better than you do" and we feel this threat more acutely as we grow older. We must be on guard not to allocate too much power to any such faction; the fight to keep alive the free expression and exchange of ideas must be continued. I do not mean to suggest that behavior modification supporters are necessarily working from the above assumption. Rather I

would warn against anyone, psychologist and philosopher alike, who claims to have The Answer. For in the end one can never be too sure who will lose. One little boy stubs his toe and quietly moves on, the second cries and hollers. I suppose we are to assume that the first's behavior is more appropriate for social situations; certainly it is easier for the adult if the child doesn't make a fuss no matter how much he hurts. Ah, but then, esteemed Eagle Scouts have been known to climb in towers and pick off people like targets in an arcade game.

Ms. Fosberg hit on the key when she said, "... we can never be sure what the children are thinking in their heads." Let not your faith be shaken: when anyone expounds the inflated idea that he has unlocked the workings of the mind, it is most certain that the table will one day be turned.

Nancy J. Endres
1975 graduate, Juniata College

Mismanagement

TO THE EDITOR: The University offers baccalaureate students the right to graduate in 12 terms. We as students in the management major ask why we should be an exception. For "normal degree progress" every student must complete certain prerequisites before advancing to the next level. What happens when a student cannot complete prerequisite requirements?

Overloads occur in every undergraduate management course. This term approximately one out of every six students will be unable to obtain needed management courses. Without these courses normal advancement in the major cannot take place. This problem is compounded by the fact that certain higher level courses are only offered once a year. Thus if one is in tenth term and cannot get a required course his only alternative is to remain enrolled additional terms.

Short-run solutions such as enlarging classes have already been implemented in this department. To increase the size of a specialized 400-level course to more than 35 would reduce the interpersonal nature of the course and quickly lead to overloads and discontentment on the part of the faculty as well as the students.

Another short-term solution is establishing a priority status for management majors in assigning management courses. In Winter Term 1977, 15 per cent of the students enrolled in a 400-level management course were non-majors. In the same term 66 per cent of the students in a 200-level course were non-majors. If a major can't get a 200-level prerequisite how is one to reach the upper levels? Though the priority system would cheat non-majors out of courses which will provide them with a broader base it should be implemented unless more money and staff are provided in this high demand area.

As Department Head Dr. Hottenstein stated, "We know the demand for management courses is increasing, we've enlarged class sizes but we only have 23 staff members when we need 43." Clearly there is a need for more money. Dr. Hottenstein claims his department is bankrupt. The College of Business Administration claims its funds are depleted. Where is our tuition? Obviously Old Main has not budgeted our tuition to reflect our needs.

Clearly some pressure is needed to secure appropriate funds, both for immediate needs and for permanent adequate staffing for the department. This pressure must be applied by the students, faculty and staff of the College of Business Administration. Individuals who have had or are having problems are asked to make them known by writing letters to the editor, signing a petition in 110 Business Administration Building, and by joining with 30 organized students in conveying our appeal to Old Main. Interested parties should contact Eric McCormick at 234-1115 or Joe Melnick at 865-6939. Together we can stop this injustice.

Eric McCormick
11th-management
Joseph Melnick
9th-management

the Collegian

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NADINE KINSEY
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The Board is composed of three undergraduate students, one graduate student, three faculty members, two professional members, the editor and the business manager. The paper's adviser also serves as executive secretary to the Board, a non-voting position.

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.

Collegian: USG stumbling block

By MARK A. YEAGER
10th-environmental engineering

My involvement with USG began last Spring Term when I agreed to be the campaign manager for the Williams-Hickton ticket. And although I accepted the position of Executive Assistant for USG after the campaign victory, my input into USG has been limited by my studies and part-time employment. In this forum, I would like to present my views of USG as both an outsider and insider.

At one of the first organizational meetings for last year's campaign, it was decided that the goals we were going to set for the upcoming USG Administration had to be realistic ones. We felt that in order to get the student support necessary to fight problems like rising tuition, we had to try to build confidence in USG among students. By providing a number of different programs and services in which students could actively participate we felt the foundation for such confidence could be laid. Each of the nine goals presented in the Williams-Hickton platform have either been completed or much work has been done towards their completion.

Cable TV:
Although our proposal for cable TV in the dorms was wildly kicked about by the Collegian, it has come to the point where there is going to be a University requested meeting with Centre Video next week.

Practicum program:
Helen Wise, as our local State House

Representative, has pledged to set up approximately 12 internships per year in her office through USG.

Voter registration:
USG, with the help of many people and organizations, helped to register the largest student voting bloc ever in this county.

Co-residential housing:
Last spring the USG Senate pledged its support and endorsed ARHS' Co-Residential Housing Proposal.

Tuition:
Although USG has not stopped rising tuition, it attempted to generate student support at last spring's tuition rally. On the heels of this rally a Tuition Task Force was set up to try to combine the efforts of numerous groups to stop increasing tuition. Work is being done now on getting lobbying in Harrisburg together. And, finally, W.T. Williams, in an address to the May Board of Trustees meeting said he opposed an increase.

Food Stamp Center:
Starting this fall, the food stamp program was set up in the HUB through USG.

Loan Bureau:
A proposal is being prepared now to be presented to Dr. Murphy for his approval.

Flea Market:
During the second week in January, USG sponsored its first flea market, and is considering another one for Spring Term.

Constitutional Convention:
The people in USG realize the need for a change, and thus, have created a

Reorganization Committee to improve USG's effectiveness.

Above and beyond all the platform accomplishments, USG sponsored a Student Leaders Conference setting a precedence in the effort of statewide combined student efforts. USG was also intimately involved in the formation of the Race Relations Board in an effort to relieve racial tensions on campus. And even though the students in USG put in countless hours towards the accomplishment of these goals, I believe a major portion of the problem lies with the most influential group on campus — The Collegian.

My point is this, that my role as an outsider who has seen the day-to-day efforts of those in USG, has led me to the unshaken conclusion that the biggest stumbling block in USG is not the administration, but the Collegian. The paper's influence over how students regard Student Government here is very high by virtue of the fact that they are the only paper on campus. When the Collegian always takes a negative and, often antagonistic attitude towards USG, it naturally will hamper the effectiveness of the organization.

Finally, I think the whole situation is rather sad. USG is potentially the greatest forum to increase student benefits and promote student interest. It is about time that those aspiring Collegian journalists examine the carping spirit with which they write, and realize that they too are students. Then, maybe, they would present things as they really are.