

# Impasse

Once again a bill to lower the state drinking age is plodding through the state legislature and once again it has reached the same impasse: the inner city.

Black legislators from the city traditionally have opposed such a bill, this time to lower the drinking age to 19, because of the alleged contribution it would make to delinquency in urban areas.

The bill, which passed the senate by a 27-21 vote last Wednesday, is now before these representatives from the inner city who will preach the evils of liquor and its potential effect on

young men and women in their districts.

They have a legitimate point. By making alcohol available to youth it probably will have some detrimental effect. However, the evil isn't the liquor itself because the evil already exists in the decay of inner cities.

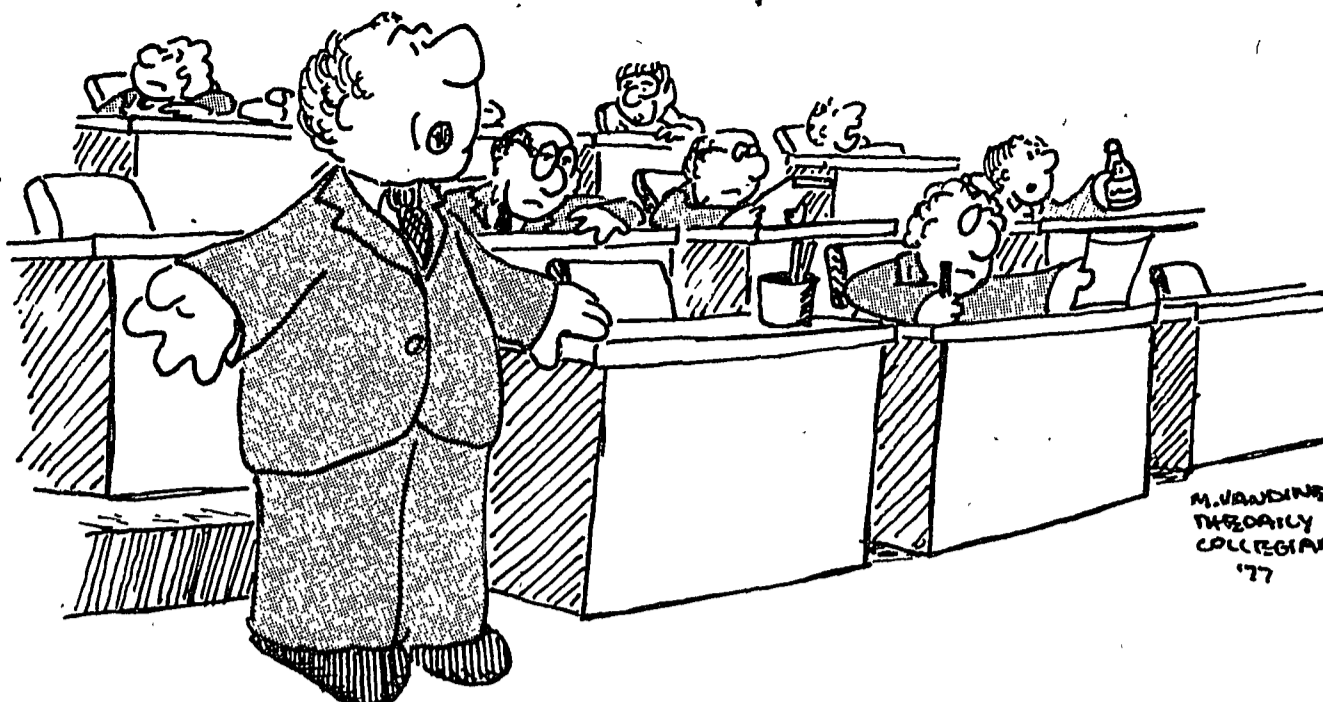
It's unfair to deny the rest of the state's 19 to 20-year-olds their rights as full citizens because of the troubles in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

Young people earned their rights as full citizens when they became eligible for the draft, when

they become self-supporting and when they earned the right to vote for the very government which will refuse them full equality if this legislation is not passed.

It's time Pennsylvania followed its bordering states in allowing all adults to enjoy all the privileges and responsibilities that come with adulthood.

Crime and delinquency in the city can be cured only by attacking the diseases of poverty and insufficient education and not by easing the symptoms such as delinquency due to drunkenness.



"AND I'M SURE MY FELLOW CONGRESSMEN WILL AGREE, TO CUT BACK ON OUR ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS WILL PRESERVE COUNTLESS AMERICAN JOBS FOR PAPER MILL WORKERS, AUTO WORKERS, AND CONGRESSMEN."

"WELL, HELLO BOBBY... WELL, HELLO JOHNNY, IT'S SO NICE TO SEE YOU HERE WHERE YOU BELONG."



# The tuition, the tuition's the thing

To assist students in comprehending the bureaucratic maze which ultimately decides how much tuition they will pay, the following synopsis of the entire process (in play form) is offered:

**Scene One.** The setting is early autumn in a mahogany paneled, plushly carpeted office in Old Main. Eight men sit in leather recliners around a massive oak table. The men are University executives and have haggard, despondent faces.

In front of each of them is a stack of budgets, transmittals, cost analysis, computer printouts and calculators. After hours of intense debate, one executive speaks to the figure at the head of the table.

Exec: Well, J.W., it looks bad, real bad.

J.W.: How bad?

Exec: Real bad.

J.W.: How much we need?

Exec: \$125 million.

J.W.: Jesus! Well, all we can do is ask.

**Scene Two.** It is now late February. The Governor has made his budget recommendations public and an executive now enters J.W.'s office with the news.



Bob Frick

J.W.: Well, how's it look?

Exec: Looks bad, real bad.

J.W.: How bad?

Exec: Real bad.

J.W.: How much we get?

Exec: Only \$109 million.

J.W.: My God, what do they think we're

running here, a kindergarten?

**Scene Three.** The Capitol Building, Harrisburg. Senator Henry Cianfrani, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, who has yet to respond to a written request to inspect a \$360,000 account of his, speaks.

Cian.: I don't see where you would be doing any damage to the University if there was a \$75 to \$100 increase (in tuition).

J.W.: But we really need the money.

Cian.: How bad?

J.W.: Real bad.

Cian.: Sorry.

**Scene Four:** The Penn State Board of Trustees meeting in late May. J.W. explains the dire situation and that an average 9.1 percent tuition increase is regrettably, but absolutely necessary.

The trustees all reach into their well-lined pockets for their rubber stamps preparing to approve the increase. Student trustee, Dion Stewart speaks:

Stewart: I cannot vote for an increase based on 9.1 percent. A hike equal to the inflationary increase maybe, but I'd

Board President: All in favor?

Chorus: AYE!

President: Opposed?

Stewart: nay!

**Scene Five.** It is August in a typical household somewhere in Pennsylvania. The father has just returned from a hard day at the factory; he is typical of the state's working class for which the laud grant institution, Penn State, was designed.

Son: Hey Dad, guess what came in the mail today.

Father: Ah, a dead albatross?

Son: Nope!

Father: A thermonuclear device?

Son: You're getting warm...

Father: Your tuition bill?

Son: 'Fraid so, Dad.

Father: How's it look?

Son: Bad, real bad.

# 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. The editors reserve the right not to print letters if they do not conform to standards of good taste, or if they present an opinion which may be irresponsible or libelous. 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.

## Farr axed

**TO THE EDITOR:** We can see where the axe will fall when money-saving cuts are to be made.

Most likely, the administration will not be cut. In fact, a new office will be created to handle administration of the cuts. Superior educators who were hired "temporarily" will be axed and the University will plead lack of funds.

It seems to me that students, who don't care anyway, were subjected to a shoddy job of deceit when PSU failed to rehire Dr. Jo-Ann Farr. Granted, the so-called reasons were varied, and we did get different stories at all levels, but, I was under the impression that there was to be no full-time position open — which there is, as a result of a faculty person's leave-of-

absence in psych. I also read that there was some sort of arrangement with the mental health center whereby their full-time staff would take up any slack in the psych department.

Are the persons who were offered part-time positions also full-time staff at the mental health center? I know that they are wives of faculty members.

How come the administration finally did offer Dr. Farr a part-time position at a ludicrous sum, about one-half what she is getting now?? What's going on? The Committee to Rehire Dr. Farr met with a lot of buck-passing and stalling for time, as they exhausted all of the so-called proper channels, trying to get someone to listen to us and to explain the reason(s) (of that particular day) for the University's action.

I notice that President Oswald did, finally, deign to address the issue — after having ignored the committee's requests for audience — in the very last Collegian, last term, so as to insure that there would be no chance for rebuttal. Clearly, this administration does not think much of, or allow student input into student education.

Jean C. Guertler  
graduate-solid state science

## 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 June 24

## Truth hurts

With just three weeks left in which to decide on a budget, the reality of the situation now faces every legislator. The budget proposed by the House Leadership calls for a \$260 million subsidy proposal and this, coupled with a \$208 million deficit, means that to provide for this budget (which is almost \$90 million less than that proposed by the Governor) we will have to raise close to half a billion dollars in new revenues.

No tax is really popular, and yet if we are to provide property tax relief for Pennsylvania school districts, and provide even a

minimal increase in state programs and services, it seems to me that the only realistic answer is to increase taxes in some way. Most people surveyed in a recent poll truly believed that state taxation had gone up; actually, the Pennsylvania income tax was reduced from 2.3 to 2.0 per cent in 1974. On the other hand, local taxes have been rising in Pennsylvania during the past five years, and much of the pressure for a tax increase comes from local government and school officials who believe that the state has a better, more progressive tax schedule and should relieve local burdens.

Many representatives want to support a school subsidy proposal that will aid a majority of the 505 Pennsylvania school districts, but there is no real agreement yet on what that subsidy program should be. It is easy for me to support House Bill 593, the bill now under discussion because it does provide substantial aid to all Centre County school districts; it is not easy for those legislators whose districts do not benefit as much or at all.

I have received many letters urging me to support different programs and budgets: environmental research and development; conservation programs; increased program aid to mental health and mental retardation service, school aid, aid for higher education, better road maintenance, to name just a few. Although no letters have arrived asking me to cut programs, I well realize that the legislature has a responsibility to try to eliminate waste, inefficiency and duplication — and as we go over the budget — line-by-line — I will be trying to balance our needs with our resources, and doing what I can to see that we provide the best possible program for the least cost.

For the balance of this month or until a budget is adopted, we will be in four, five and possibly six-day sessions in Harrisburg. During that time you can continue to leave messages on my home code-a-phone or you can reach me in Harrisburg, 717-783-8515. I am fortunate now to have a full-

time administrative assistant, who is always in the Harrisburg office. We will do all we can to answer your questions on problems as soon as possible even though I may have long hours in voting sessions.

Helen D. Wise  
State Representative  
77th District

# the Collegian

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# Sinners vs. Bryant—she wins

My orange juice tasted sort of funny this morning.

Perhaps it is because somewhere in Dade County, Florida, Anita Bryant is dancing a jig over her victory in the gay rights controversy. The residents of the county rallied behind her on Tuesday and brought about the repeal of the ordinance which made it illegal to discriminate against homosexuals in employment and housing.

Good for Anita. But what about the rest of us?

My question is, if Ms. Bryant was staging this campaign against gay rights on the basis that homosexuality is a sin and that a law supporting it is an "affront to God's law," couldn't each of us potentially be deprived of something we've done? After all, the Bible says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Couldn't some celebrity, whose face and opinion would be quick to make big news, start a well-publicized crusade against the rights of almost any group of people because they had committed an offense against God's law as written in the Bible?

For example, the Bible says that everyone must obey the government and abide by its laws. Although the Pennsylvania legislature seems to be close to lowering the state drinking age to 19, we are still not supposed to be partaking of the spirits until we are 21.

But walk into almost any Penn State party (especially off-campus) you'll be sure to uncover a great many sinners. Now imagine that after four years of

college, during which you have been both drinking and working hard toward a degree, you cannot land a job due to the fact that someone has succeeded in taking away your right to be employed (because you drink with your friends on Saturday night and you just might "flaunt your lifestyle to our children...")

Mary Ellen Wright

And what about those who tell lies? Couldn't they conceivably be the victims of an anti-"liars" rights' crusade? Couldn't some unprepared student, who falsely told a professor that he was at his grandmother's funeral in order to get out of taking a mid-term, be denied a place to live because of his sin? Or a girl who lies to her roommate's parents over the phone about the whereabouts of the roommate — couldn't she be denied a job for her actions?

And the same could be said for all those who have gotten angry or have had sexual relations outside of marriage or have been jealous of someone at sometime in their lives.

To take the thought further: If Ms. Bryant believes in the Bible as the Word of God, then she must also

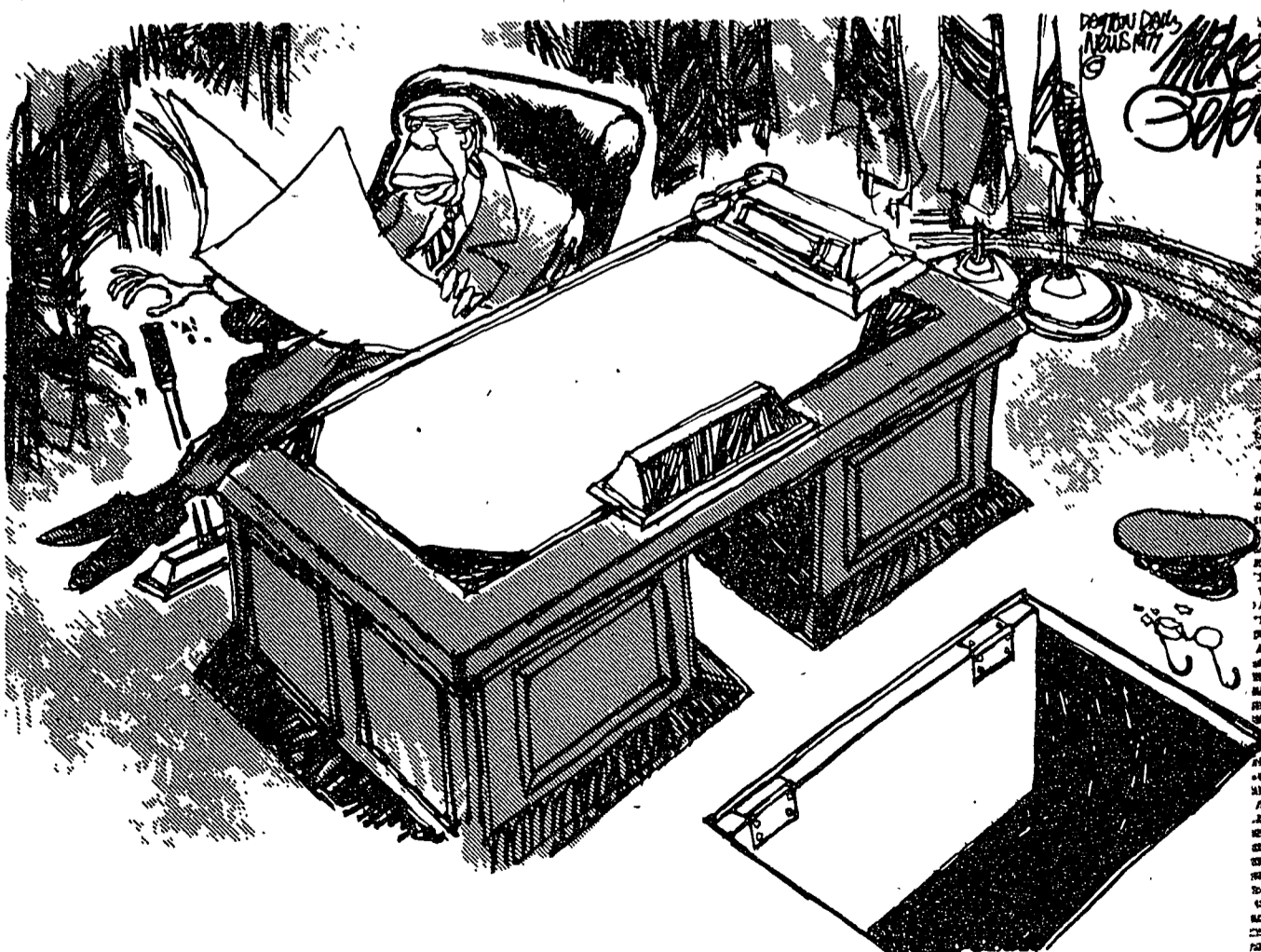
believe that "all men have sinned"; and, therefore that she herself has sinned. I wonder how she'd like it if her human rights were denied — if she were kicked off the orange juice circuit because she had lusted after Bing Crosby and the whole Minute Maid gang in her heart.

These examples may seem a bit far-fetched, and yet they all follow the reasoning that has been put forth by Anita Bryant and her cohorts to deny a group of people their rights.

Ms. Bryant seems to be trying to tell us that homosexuals are not equal to heterosexuals as human beings. Well, if we use her criterion for judging equality — that homosexuals are unequal because they have committed an "affront to God's law" — then we can still consider all people as equal for "all have sinned"

Ms. Bryant can dance her little jig if she wants to — at this point I cannot deny her human right to do so. But I am afraid that she had started something that is damaging and is potentially powerful enough to keep building and gaining strength into a "witch hunt."

The moral of the story: If you are at a party, passively sipping a screwdriver and a little orange bird lands on the side of your glass, you had better pour the drink in the nearest potted plant. Either you have had one too many, or, in light of the success of this recent campaign against human rights, your own rights may about to become endangered.



"THANK YOU GENERAL FOR THOSE CANDID VIEWS ON KOREA ...."