

New wave

This past week's protest at Kent State University may have been a fluke — a remnant of the 60s. But it might be a sign of the times; a sign that the student activism, so prevalent, during the 60s may be on the upswing.

The Kent State protest this week brought attention to the university's plan to build a gymnasium on the ground where four students were killed by National Guardsmen May 4, 1970.

Like the new wave of activism which seems to be developing, this week's protest was rational and nonviolent.

Even here at Penn State the first signs of campus activism may possibly be brewing. The

Committee to Rehire Jo-Ann Farr, though small, is a group of dedicated and persistent student protestors.

A recent flurry of letters about radicalism and protest sent to The Daily Collegian showed a growing movement for protest from left and right wing activists.

The letters showed that the new radical has perhaps learned the lessons taught by the violence in the 60s.

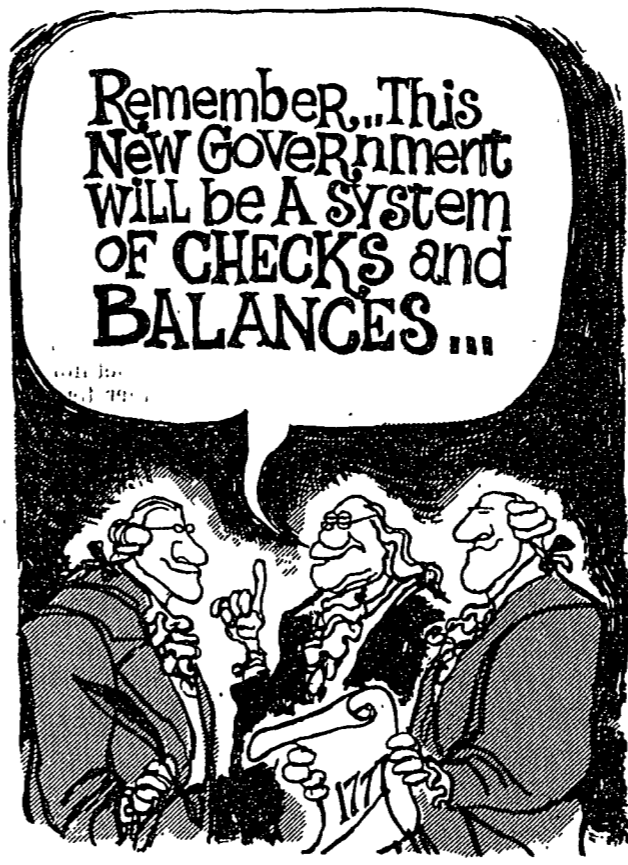
Combined with political participation such as voting and lobbying, non-violent protest is a good method to bring recognition to an issue and to show the public the urgency of an issue.

The apathy which has typified the first part of this decade finally may be coming to a close, and a new breed of activists may begin enlightening the public to changes that would improve society.

Issues such as corruption in government, environmental degradation, excessive military spending, and human rights never were solved in the 60s.

Perhaps a trend toward new activism and political awareness by all citizens, not just students, will prompt needed changes.

It is a trend The Daily Collegian endorses.



Author predicts American doom

Doomsday statistics don't seem to have impact these days.

In the 60s, even news that California's great golden age population was on the decline would spawn an entire "save our awk" cult.

Today, in the 70s, the same announcement would evoke spirited cries of "good riddance."

Certainly one of the greatest harbingers of doom is Barry Commoner, the noted ecologist and author.

In his book, "The Closing Circle," Commoner forecasts the cataclysmic results of poisoning the environment. "The Closing Circle" was first printed in 1971, and at that time was hailed by one critic as "The Paul Revere of ecology."

In Commoner's recent book, "The Poverty of Power," he neatly outlines what's wrong with America's economy, its environment, and chiefly its energy problem.

Commoner predicts another 50 years of oil for America, and explains how big business has developed the U.S. energy

market for profit, instead of efficiency — thereby causing incredible waste.

He tells convincingly of the environmental drawbacks of coal and the danger of nuclear power.

Some of these problems are given solutions by Commoner that the average American capitalist can appreciate.

For the energy problem, for instance, Commoner suggests huge platforms are built in the Gulf of Mexico where solar power can be utilized.

The sun's energy can be collected and used to split the Gulf's water into hydrogen and oxygen that can easily be stored and shipped to the mainland.

Commoner also suggests placing a premium on energy efficiency, and combating the plastics problem by using natural materials.

In "The Closing Circle," Commoner describes by "learning the realities of environmental problems and carrying an awareness of the environmental imperative into all of our activities."

In "The Poverty of Power," Commoner's solution is socialism.

Commoner says, "Now all this has culminated in the ignominious confession of those who hold the power: That

the capitalist economic system which has loudly proclaimed itself the best means of assuring a rising standard of living . . . can now survive, if at all, by reducing that standard.

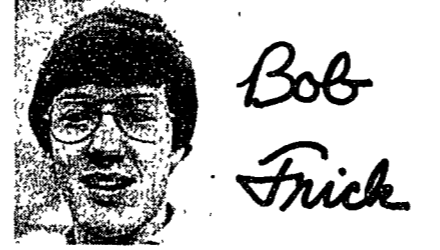
"No one can escape the momentous consequences of this confession."

All of Commoner's doomsday predictions and statistics are supported, and all are made relevant to the average American, yet most Americans are managing to escape the "momentous consequences."

Most Americans will continue to trust their health to the impotent Food and Drug administration and the country's energy resources to big business.

In the 60s, Commoner's "The Poverty of Power" might have aided any of a number of radical or even conservative groups in need of facts to fuel their respective fires.

Now the fires have died, and Commoner sees no hope in individuals, and no hope in the present system.



Letters to the Editor

Repressive

Farah Pahlavi, the wife of the Shah of Iran, has come to the U.S. for an "unofficial" visit. She is on a public relations tour, and she has received a "humanitarian award" and an "honorary doctorate." Her trip takes place at a time when there is a newly elected administration in Washington. It is the policy of new administrations to "consult" and to "discuss" the world affairs with the "close allies" of the U.S.

The Shah of Iran was brought back to power by a CIA coup in 1953. Under the rule of the Shah and the influence of the U.S., Iran has become one of the most fruitful sources of investment for multinational corporations, especially oil companies. On the other hand, the living conditions of the Iranian people are steadily deteriorating. Poverty, hunger, lack of education programs and health care are a stark reality for a majority of Iranians.

It is under these repressive conditions and oppressive policies that Iranian people are rising to resist foreign domination and the dictatorial regime of the Shah of Iran and to build a democratic and independent Iran.

On the other hand repression is the only means by which the Shah can plunder Iranian people. The more than 100,000 political prisoners are subjected to systematic denial of their rights. The use of torture is the only means to make the prisoners succumb to the government's demands. Torture in front of family members, rape of women prisoners by the Shah's Gestapos are commonplace in the Shah's torture chamber.

It is under this condition that the propaganda machinery of the Iranian regime tries to portray the Shah and Farah as a benevolent king and queen. And this is the "Shah's money" which buys the American institutions to give an "honorary doctorate" to the member of his family to cover the true face of his regime. The fact, of course, remains that the Shah's blood bath cannot be concealed by an "honorary doctorate."

Name withheld

Sexist

I can think of a few labels for Mr. Stauffer, but sexist isn't one of them. I admit, I do have a few pimples, but letting women in free has never been my way of getting women around, believe me. And they say chivalry is dead.

Consider this: after all our summer parties (someone even suggested erecting a statue of our social chairman in the East Halls quad in tribute) we have yet to "make money" to speak of. If we charged for a beer (a no-no) instead of the entertainment, then surely IFC, the PLCB and the local gestapo would limit our parties to those 21 and over (again

discrimination). That would force everyone to remain in East Halls (heaven forbid) to meet all the future Penn State beauties.

Then certain sexist individuals would never meet them at all. And not once this summer has a female been caught breaking doors, climbing in windows, stealing personal property and generally abusing the facility, as males have been.

Furthermore, I personally invite you to spend a night and join us the next morning for our clean-up party. That sir, will be absolutely free.

Scott E. Bleggi
11th-agricultural business management
Name withheld

Workers Unite!

Last Friday Stephan C. Dailey wrote a letter to the editor making it very clear that as a student he will not give support to the Teamsters Local 8 strike and advised his fellow students to do likewise saying, "when it comes to money, it's the students against everybody else." He advocated that as students we are somehow exempt from the society we are a part of and should ignore its problems and only be concerned with our own unique problem of increasing tuition costs. He suggests that we concentrate on the education we came here for and not crusade for "causes" whether they are justified causes or not justified causes.

The bankruptcy of this very shallow and snide logic is most evident when he attempts to dismiss the fight of a population to maintain its standard of living as a cause. By using this label he denies the effect of Teamster Local 8's struggle for a decent standard of living on his standard of living as a student. How he can hope to pursue his plans for earning a decent living while others are having the standard of living they earned taken away from them is a riddle he should look at seriously. It should be obvious to any student that if the teamsters are pushed into the muck of subsistence living and unemployment, we will be faced with similar dangers. The teamsters' fight for wage increases is our fight for a more secure future.

Even Stephan Dailey with his "students against everyone else" battle cry sees the need for students to protect their interests. The only problem with his solution is that it is devoid of any original thought. In the face of hardships for us as students and for the workers as well he would have us scatter like so many rats and may the fastest, the meanest and the luckiest survive.

There is a very real need for us as students to take a hard and serious look at what we are facing when we get out of college. As students we are in a position to take the initiative

and assume responsible leadership in the struggle for better living conditions for everyone. This is not some stupid cause or character building exercise for freshmen, this is a struggle to insure the future we now work so hard to prepare for. It is only in solidarity with workers and unions that we will achieve this.

Workers and students unite! Support the Teamster Local 8 strike!

Herbert L. Thal III
7th-mining
(former Teamster member)

No more

Energy (or the lack of it) seems to be in the news every day, with rising OPEC prices and the Alaskan pipeline completion being the major items as of late. What I cannot understand is why there is so much emphasis on where and at what cost our next drop of oil is coming from, when in the near future the price of oil will be zero since there won't be any oil left to buy. As unpopular as conservation of energy in America is, I feel that America must make a united effort now to conserve our major non-renewable energy source, so that we have more time for technology to find an efficient and practical source of energy for the future.

Many people are under the assumption that technology is like a miracle, and will eventually take care of us. This may or may not happen, but who wants to take such a daring chance? The United States, as we know it, depends on this very assumption . . .

A recent Gallup poll revealed that only one-half of all Americans realize that the United States must import oil to satisfy its energy needs. And of these, only one-third have any idea of the extent to which we depend on foreign sources. I think it's high time the American people were informed of the seriousness of the situation. If we are to have any chance to fight the impending disastrous consequences of running out of oil before a practical alternative is found, our legislators in Washington must have the whole-hearted support of their voting public who will eventually be responsible for carrying out any energy policies decided upon.

Jim Furry
10th-accounting

Quality work

In response to the sidewalk sale articles . . . bovine feces! As a local artist and craftsman, I am completely fed up with the Arts Festival entrepreneurs talking about "quality, professionalism, and commercialism." By using these terms the Arts Festival officials have finally made it impossible for a

craftsman or artist to display his or her work unless they are full-time professionals. As a person who already has a full time profession, arts and crafts are my avocation. However, this does not mean that I cannot produce "quality work." It does mean that I do not have the time to display my wares to a judge and do not wish to take the risk of paying \$43 for a booth (\$20 four years ago) that I might get rained out of. A professional can write it off in taxes, I take it somewhere else.

I have been in the sidewalk sale for 4 years and enjoyed having people purchase my works and the works of friends who shared my booth. I also enjoyed giving my customers a price that they could live with, NOT a price that I had to live by. I know that my prices also irritate the professionals, but I truly enjoy making the Festival a festival and not an expensive "professional quality sale."

I regret that my child, friends and relatives will no longer visit the sale and be allowed to buy plants, cheap bracelets and rings, or a belt buckle with a beer can on it. I personally dislike these items but the general public wants them. The majority do not want a \$1000 painting or a \$20 bowl! They simply cannot afford them.

I apologize to the people who asked me earlier this year if I would be at the sale. They can purchase their pottery and serigraphs from me directly as I refuse to take part in this "Festival."

David J. Sheltar
instructor in entomology

the Collegian

JEFFREY HAWKES EDITOR
SCOTT R. SESLER BUSINESS MANAGER

Editorial policy is determined by the Editor. Opinions expressed by the editors and staff of the Daily Collegian are not necessarily those of the University administration, faculty or students.

Letters policy

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.

House Speaker has lots of fun

By WILLIAM WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

HARRISBURG (AP) — House Speaker K. Leroy Irviss has lots of fun using the formal language of his position in bawling out legislators.

Irviss spotted one of them pushing his own voting switch and then leaning over to push the switch of an absent neighbor.

The Speaker asked what was going on and the legislator told Irviss where his neighbor had gone.

"The chair did not ask about the whereabouts of Mr. (blank). The chair's query was based on the fact that the chair observed Mr. (blank) voting with both his left hand and his right. Does the gentleman wish to answer that query?"

A short pause . . . "The chair concludes from the motion of his head that he does not wish to answer that query."

Legislator embarrassed. Matter dropped.

Protocol would dictate that the

governor should play a larger role in all aspects of state government, right? Gov. Shapp usually does, but in one small matter he appears overshadowed.

On all proclamations from his office, the governor's signature appears at the bottom right. The letters are about a half inch high.

Below his signature and in the center of the page is the verifying signature of Commonwealth Secretary C. DeLores Tucker. The letters in her name stand almost an inch high.

May not sound like much but on paper it looks peculiar.

When Auditor Gen. Al Benedict says "keep in touch," he means it.

Benedict's department has installed a toll-free hotline for taxpayers and the boss himself says he'll personally receive calls on a regular basis.

The hotline is for the Taxpayers Information Program. Notice the initials are TIP.

Benedict is looking for tips on suspected cases of misuse of public funds, such as welfare fraud. But he says taxpayers can also call in for information on how tax money is used.

Philadelphia Inquirer tells about how one of its Harrisburg reporters got a phone call from a woman who had read one of his articles.

She was upset about the provisions of a bill sponsored by Rep. Charles Caputo, D-Allegheny. She said she called Caputo at home.

"You mean you called Caputo in Pittsburgh?" the reporter asked.

"No, I called him in Philadelphia," she replied. "His address was in the paper. He lives at D Street and Allegheny Avenue."

The reporter explained that D-Allegheny meant Caputo is a Democrat from Allegheny County.



'SPEAKING OF LOONS! SEEMS LIKE ONLY LAST WEEK HE WAS A NICE BOY, ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS!'