

# Winners

- The Undergraduate Student Government's Department of Political Affairs, for showing a lot of hustle in getting gubernatorial candidate Richard Thornburgh to come to the University, and for launching an aggressive, successful voter registration drive.
- The University, for not raising room and board rates — especially after the high contract settlement with the Teamsters over the summer.
- The State College Municipal government for its hearings on a proposed human rights ordinance that would

- prohibit housing discrimination against gays, unmarried couples and minorities.
- Benchmark Realty, for buying and fixing up the former Eastgate apartment complex and saving students from an even worse housing situation.
- Temple University's football team, for giving us a good run for our money.
- The Orientation Committee, for a fine job handling this fall's orientation activities.
- National Lampoon, for the movie "Animal House."

# Sinners

- The administration, for not revealing the problem with University President John W. Oswald's eye.
- Allegedly, State Rep. Daniel Flood.
- Gubernatorial candidates Richard Thornburgh and Pete Flaherty, for bringing name-calling into their campaigns.
- The University, for raising parking fines for students.
- The four people who selfishly filed suit against the University Park Airport because it expanded its commuter service. The plaintiffs say that by doing so, business at Mid-State Airport

- has been adversely affected. If so, too bad. State College has long needed such a service.
- The Daily Collegian, for missing its deadlines, causing Tuesday's paper to be distributed late.
- Members of the student government, for not picking up on the University Task Force's proposed student government this fall. If they were really concerned with improving student government, the proposal would be revised and put to students, or the USG Executive Council, for a vote.

# Missing link

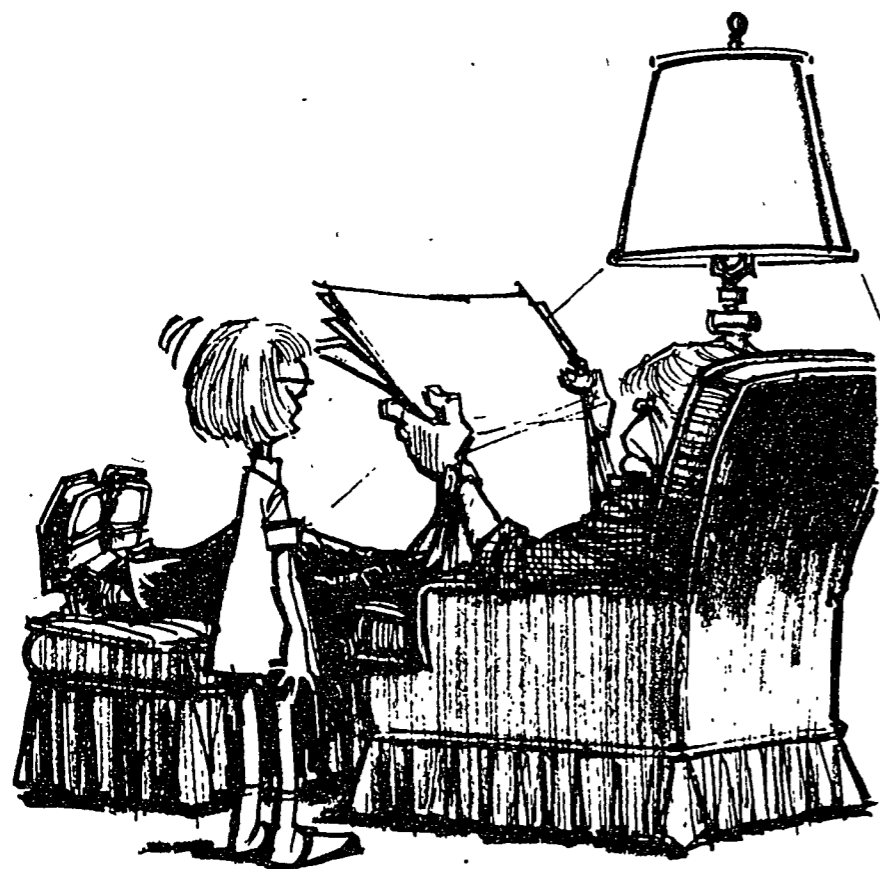
Something very important has been missing from this page the past few days. Unless you were one of the three people who wrote the letters to the editor in Tuesday's paper, we're missing your opinion. It doesn't take much to get yourself heard on this campus — you can preach from the steps of Willard, or if you're not quite such an extrovert, type no more than 30 lines, double-spaced, on the subject of your choice. Bring it into 126 Carnegie Building with your signature

and phone number on the letter and your ID card for verification. Letters may be signed by no more than two persons and the editorial editor reserves the right to edit letters and to reject them if they are libelous or in poor taste. Whether it's foreign affairs or the Office of Student Affairs you're thinking about, it's up to you to supply what's been missing from The Daily Collegian's chain of communication. Drop us a line.

# It's your turn

When the student population begins to dwindle in the 1980s at Penn State, what will change? Will colleges be cut? Will branch campuses be closed? Should the University lower entrance requirements to delay dwindling enrollment? On Tuesday Sept. 12, The Daily Collegian will be running a special Op-Ed page on declining enrollment at Penn State. In addition to pieces by administrators

and other leaders in the University community, we are interested in how students and faculty think this problem should be handled. Contributions on this subject may be brought to 126 Carnegie Building before noon this Sunday. They should be typewritten, double spaced and not more than 50 lines long. What should go, and what should stay? Perhaps your suggestions will influence the planning process.



# Top priority: moral or monetary values?

Should the University divest its investments in corporations with holdings in the racist, apartheid regime of South Africa? There is an immediate tendency for the mind's knee to jerk into the absolute "yes" position and lock there with an advanced case of rigor mortis on this question, but, unfortunately, the issue is much too complex for such a simplistic response. If the University had holdings in South African-based companies, the issue would be much simpler. There would be no excuse for that, because there would be plenty of other avenues available for comparable investments in much more morally acceptable firms.

lobbying against environmental laws; oil spills from shoddily-built tankers; etc.) to high prices and inflation (through collusion and monopolistic practices) to undue political influence (through bribes, high-pressure lobbying, and illegal campaign contributions), these super-companies have a pervasive, and largely negative, influence on the lives of most of the world's population. So the question really becomes one not of divestiture from South African connections, but of divestiture from the multinationals altogether. Unfortunately, this question is not any easier to address.

If I had walked onto the campus this fall as a first-term freshman, instead of a 13th-term senior, I'd like to think that I would be willing to make the very real, very difficult sacrifices that divestiture would entail. But I guess that's one of those questions that just can't be answered. John Martellaro is a 13th-term journalism major and a copy editor for The Daily Collegian.



John Martellaro

From a strictly moral point of view, of course, the answer is simple — divest, immediately. The strictly moral point of view, however, fails to consider a very real practical problem: Somebody has to pay the bills. Education in the 20th century calls for far more than books and classrooms, as everyone knows too well. Research facilities and the latest scientific equipment cost a great deal in terms of money and manpower. Penn State, like most American universities today, has realized this, and the accountants have taken control of the institution from the philosophers in recognition of the trend. This change has been accepted all along as an unfortunate, but necessary, ingredient in the "modernization" of the educational system. And no accountant will accept divestiture from the multinationals from a strictly business standpoint, because no other type of investment can possibly give such high dividends. Therefore, this question, like most others, comes down to a matter of priorities: Do we divest, and thereby lose important revenues, causing increased tuition and lower-quality education? Or do we keep our investments in the multinationals while accepting the moral irresponsibility of our actions? My own answer to this question is still yes, divest, and accept the consequences. After all, one must remember exactly what it is we are here for. To be faithful to the ideals of the great men whose names surround the parapets of Sparks and Burrows, instead of merely paying lip service to them, no other choice is possible. Yet, there is one more thing to consider. Such a choice is easy for me to make in my position. In about 10 very short, very long weeks, I will walk out of my last class as a Penn State student. My last tuition bill has already been paid, and even if divestiture were to happen tomorrow, practically none of the negative after-effects would affect me directly.

However, the University investments in question are not with South African companies, but with huge multinationals like Exxon and General Motors, which know no flag and owe no allegiances to any ideology other than the profit margin. And, moral considerations aside for a brief moment, you can't beat GM or Exxon when it comes to profit margins. They are the bluest of blue chips. These multinationals spread their interests across the globe with myriad tendrils, continually intertwining. It is not the easiest task to discover which ones have holdings in a given country, under what conditions, and to what degree. And even when those details are unearthed, what is the true moral value in divesting from South African interests and retaining investments in companies which exploit workers and citizens in almost every country on every continent, even right here in the good old U.S.A.? As I write this, I'm sitting in Carnegie, the headquarters of the journalism and classics departments and once the original University library. This building was donated to the University by the noted "philanthropist," steel baron and captain of industry, Andrew Carnegie. And I can't help thinking, right now, that the walls around me and the roof over my head were paid for with the blood of steelworkers who fought and died to establish a union in their workplace to protect their legitimate interests. From pollution (by circumventing, ignoring or

# the Collegian

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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 not longer than 30 lines. Students' letters should include the name, term and major of the writer. The editorial editor reserves the right to edit letters, and to reject them if they are libelous or do not conform to standards of good taste.

# More than sources at stake Farber case strikes at news roots

New York Times reporter Myron Farber entered the Bergen County, N.J., jail Aug. 4 for defying a court order to turn over 4,000 pages of notes concerning the murder trial of Dr. Mario Jascavelevich. On his way in, Farber told reporters: "I am going to jail for what I believe to be the public interest, for what I believe to be in the interest of my profession." Several days later, Farber's attorneys revealed the reporter had a \$75,000 book contract with Doubleday Publishing and a movie contract with Warner Communications. Doubleday had already paid him a \$37,500 cash advance on the book. Now it seems Superior Court Judge Theodore W. Trautwein is probably right about Farber having a vested interest in the outcome of the trial: If Jascavelevich is found guilty, Farber has a bestseller in the tradition of "All the President's Men." If he is found innocent, Farber loses a potentially large sum of money. And so that justice can be done, so that Jascavelevich is assured due process of law, so that the court can be sure of the doctor's guilt or innocence, the judges involved in the case feel Farber's notes must be examined to determine if they have any bearing on the trial. If private examination indicated the notes

could have a bearing, they would probably be turned over to the defense attorneys. Farber and the Times, however, as well as most people in the journalistic profession, feel a forced surrender of the notes would be a violation of the First Amendment and of New Jersey "shield laws" which protect the press from government interference.



Pete Barnes

More importantly, though, surrendering the notes would almost certainly destroy the fragile and eroding relationship the press has with confidential news sources. If the court is successful in getting the notes, the case would be precedent setting; confidential sources would probably never provide information to the press again for fear that in light of any legal action, their names would be revealed. But what is really the issue here? Is it

whether or not some hot-shot reporter should turn over some notes? Is it that if the notes are handed over, sources will never speak to the press again? No; the issue here in fact follows down to the very roots of the newspaper profession, to probably the primary function of the press itself: the public's "watchdog" on government. In its idealistic adherence to justice and the truth, the press has many times revealed corruption and ineptitude in government as well as in other institutions such as medicine, law and business; it has done the job of police, lawyers and bureaucrats by out-researching and out-investigating them. In its work, the press often brings out conditions or situations that otherwise might not have been brought to light. For example, the Washington Post recently investigated the federal General Services Administration and found the GSA had been paying higher prices for typewriters, calculators, etc., than it would if it was buying these items in a department store. Now, a federal grand jury is preparing to indict 15 GSA officials in the case.

What it boils down to is laziness; the press keeps officials on their toes by first, making the public aware of these officials' inabilities; and second, by doing a better job than these officials do. This is exactly what has happened in the Farber matter. As Farber and others have said, the defense attorneys could easily investigate their client's case as well as Farber did; but instead, the attorneys are taking the easy way out — asking the court to force Farber to surrender the notes. Farber, despite the ethical questions concerning his book contract, is still an innocent third party in the trial, and there should be legislation to protect innocent third parties in cases like this. Farber is a victim of the laziness of Jascavelevich's attorneys; he did the job they should have done and should not have gone to jail for it. The court is making a mistake. If Farber is forced to turn over his notes, the court will not only severely damage the ability of the press to gather information from confidential sources; it will also cripple the press as the public's watchdog. Pete Barnes is a 7th-term politics/science major and an assistant news editor for The Daily Collegian.