

Our turn

Recently, some State College businessmen have made it known that they want more of a say in the decisions made by Municipal Council.

In fact, Downtown Business Association chairman Robert Shirk has gone so far as to say that council has "a one-sided imbalance" because it is currently composed of University staff and ordinary residents.

Shirk says he would not mind seeing a few members of the business community elected to council so that the odds would be a little more favorable when local businesses have dealings with council.

The business community does have a good point. Even though the present council members have been fair in dealing with their at-large constituency, it certainly would not hurt to have a bit more diversity on council to ensure that all local interests are represented.

However, electing a business-oriented council member still would not even things out entirely. A really well-balanced council would also include a spokesman for that silent majority which also sometimes complains of not having enough say in what goes on in the municipality — the students.

Council President Ingrid P. Holtzman says that other than residency, the only necessary qualifications for a council seat are in-

telligence, common sense, the ability to get along with people, the ability to appreciate various viewpoints, and the time to attend meetings and to become informed about local issues.

Out of the more than 32,000 students enrolled at the University, it's a good bet that at least one could be found to fit these specifications.

And from 1974 through 1977, one did. Dean Phillips, who was at the time an undergraduate at the University, ensured that the student viewpoint was given its due consideration, and kept council thinking about things like rent controls and human rights ordinances.

Phillips also proved through his active role in the senior citizens housing project that a student council member also could be responsive to the needs of the community as a whole.

We'd like to see a qualified student run for one of the four council seats up for grabs this year. We strongly encourage the Undergraduate Student Government and other student organizations to look for such a candidate and to combine forces and work towards getting that candidate elected.

Maybe then, the council will be truly balanced.



I GAVE UP MY LONDON SOCIAL LIFE TO COOK HIS BANANAS, CLEAN HIS TREE HOUSE AND CARE FOR HIS PETS WHILE HE WAS OFF MAKING MOVIES... THEN ONE DAY THE BIG APE SAID HE FOUND A NEW JANE AND LEFT ME OUT ON A LIMB...

Letters to the Editor

Sweet charity

I am opposed to the striptease fund-raiser proposed by Dave Karo and Schuykill House. Mr. Karo, surely you can think of alternative ways to obtain money without capitalizing on women in the process. Calling your "project" chauvinistic is being quite charitable, for in my opinion, it shows your total lack of respect for all women. Furthermore, such "projects" help to perpetuate the very stereotypical roles we women are trying to free ourselves from.

You were also quoted as saying that you're "planning to

have a male stripper next term if the girl goes over big." If this is an attempt at equity, your idea falls short. First of all, using a stripper of either sex is cheapening and degrading. Secondly, and certainly as important, the historical implications of using a female stripper will evoke a totally different reaction than will a male counterpart. The latter show would most likely be viewed as a novelty or joke. Somehow, I believe that neither you nor your floor-mates will think of the "half-decent looking coed who must be able to dance while she takes off her clothes" as a joke. If that is your intent, (which I wholeheartedly doubt), I am not laughing.

Christine Marmo
10th-horticulture

A little viciousness

I am responding to Patrick Kiger's column of last Friday. First, I want to commend your commitment to "the unfortunate starving millions." You have seen through Josh's hypocrisy, realizing that a person with political influence is in no position to alleviate the hunger problem. On the other hand, I'm sure you have made great personal sacrifices to help feed these people.

It is also touching that you have chosen to deify Sid Vicious because of his great sincerity. But we shouldn't stop there. Surely Jim Jones and all the sincere people at Jonestown, Guyana, should be praised also. If only there were more sincere people like that around today. People who realize that "The whole shithouse is crumbling and it all doesn't matter." We could blanket this world with lethal radiation and all of our problems would be solved, even hunger.

I could continue to point out flaws in your comparison of Sid and Josh, but nothing would be gained because the whole thing is so obviously absurd. Instead I will concentrate on one point that you made, which I agree with. Josh and Sid did see a common need. A hunger common to all men, no matter what society on earth they come from. That need was instilled in us by the God Who created us all. That need is to have fellowship with God, and it is the only purpose of our existence. That hunger can only be satisfied by the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ the Son of God.

There is a price however. Jesus Christ asks that you follow His plan for changing the world, and that entails getting involved. We can no longer sit around and criticize the world with all its problems. We must allow Christ into our lives so that he can change us from within our hearts, because there is a little bit of Sid Vicious in us all.

James McCullough
10th-QBA
Feb. 12

carrying has developed a teratoma (a malignant growth). Would she not be justified in requesting an abortion? Similarly, a woman is told that the strain of childbirth might kill her because of her own health situation; should she be forced to bear the child?

There are also the cases of parents who discover that their children are dying from genetic diseases. Each day these parents must wait for that inevitable telephone call. Often these parents live through this horror actually hoping that their child will die. The guilty feelings and the psychological scars remain long after the child, and long after the \$5,000 a month hospital bills have placed the family in serious economic trouble. The one bright spot for many of these families is the knowledge that some of these genetic defects can be detected in the fetus before birth. Mr. Jackson, would you deny a woman the right to prevent the birth of a genetically dead fetus?

These are just a few of the situations which I believe Mr. Jackson did not consider in his article. Unfortunately, I have talked to several "anti-abortionists" who would not permit abortion even under these circumstances.

Mr. Jackson was right in calling for more understanding between both sides of this controversial issue. I would suggest that he personally visit the Genetic Disease Clinics and the Child Abuse Clinics of hospitals. I also suggest that he check the adoption statistics for the various religious groups in Pennsylvania. And finally, I suggest that he help in opening a dialogue between the opposing sides at Penn State. However, if he is going to attempt this worthwhile endeavor, he should become more knowledgeable about the subject.

Ronald E. Yashin
Assistant Professor of microbiology
Feb. 12

Time for GOP vets to move on

One hundred seventy years ago yesterday a man was born whose life changed the course of American history, and gave hope to all the homely, ungainly tall and large-footed members of our populace. The problem with men like Abraham Lincoln is that they become larger than life, and their accomplishments lose something in the translation. But perhaps more than any other American, Lincoln deserves the demigod status bestowed on him.

Brian Golden

Last weekend the party of Lincoln met in a mini-convention at Easton, Md., to chart the future course of the party. Perhaps the most startling piece of news was the decision to abandon bipartisanship in foreign policy. The immediate effects of this decision could be the destruction of the upcoming SALT II agreement with the Soviet Union. The convention also showcased some of the men who aspire to lead the Republican legs against Teddy Kennedy next year.

Since New Hampshire voters will go to the polls 54 weeks from tomorrow to kick off the 1980 presidential campaign, it might be fun to take a look at the men who hope to keep up New Hampshire's record of never having selected a candidate who didn't eventually win the nomination.

Rep. Philip Crane (Ill.) — Crane started off the fun last August.

The 47-year-old Crane has the hair of Jack Kennedy, the square jaw of Dudley Doughty, and the political morals of Adam Smith. Crane is perhaps the most brilliant man in Congress, the author of several books, and an acceptable public speaker. If New Hampshire were decided on looks, he'd win hands down. But it will be contested on economic issues, of which Crane has a firm conservative grasp.

John Connally, the former governor of Texas, secretary of the Treasury, and current political whore and milk fund bribe recipient, represents a candidacy that, if successful, could make the Republican party extinct. Connally two weeks ago called for the federal government to do all in its power to save New York City from going under. In 1971, he fought Richard Nixon's family assistance plan as too liberal. The difference? The bankers would be hurt if New York goes under, while only poor families living in slums would be hurt without FAP. Compassionate guy, that big John.

Benjamin Hernandez is a longtime GOP fundraiser who suddenly decided it might be more fun to be in front of the scenes rather than behind them. Hernandez will probably be the best-financed candidate, and on top of that, he'll draw strong ethnic support from the eleven hispanics in the Republican party.

These are the only announced GOP candidates to date. Although all of them are more photogenic than Lincoln, none has the vision, the wisdom, the foresight of the man from Illinois (Lincoln, that

is). There are other undeclared candidates, including Senate Minority Leader Howard Baker of Tennessee, former CIA director George Bush, Sen. Charles Mathias (Md.), Lowell Weicker (Conn.), and others still in deliberations.

The man most say is the front runner now is a lot better looking than Lincoln, and probably a better public speaker. I'm speaking of the former governor of California, Ronald Reagan.

In one of the crassest displays of ignorance in political annals, the Republican party passed over Reagan for the nomination in 1976.

The tragic part is that Reagan does not embody the "what could be" of the Republican future, but rather the "what might have been" of the past. Had he been nominated three years ago, it's highly likely he'd be president now.

Reagan would have torn Carter to shreds in the debates, cut into the Confederacy in at least Texas and Mississippi, and held the west. That would have made him president, and brought to bear in Washington the prudent fiscal policies with which he rescued the state of California from disaster 10 years earlier.

But, as I said, that is all in the past. Though he is possessed of the body of a man half his age, there's just something wrong with nominating a man 70 years old who isn't a World War II hero. There's something wrong with nominating a man who has already lost three national campaigns. Also, Governor Regan has in the last three years shown signs of adopting some tenets of the welfare state in exchange for the political support needed to attain

the White House.

It is time for the front runner to step aside and give his blessing and his burgeoning war chest to a younger GOP leader. The future of the Republican party is the Heinzes, the Kemps, the Danforths, and the Thornburghs — not the Fords, Reagans and Connallys.

Connally, Reagan, Ford, have presided over an era of government expansion in the best tradition of the democratic liberal ideal.

They have acquiesced to the lead of the paternal socialist democrats, who have seen fit to drive our country to the brink of economic disaster to redistribute income on a scheme more geared to solidifying their position in the annals of humanitarian history than feeding the poor of South Philadelphia, Watts and the like.

This is all academic, because the Democrats have too many registrations to be beaten next year. But should they err, and nominate the incumbent rather than Edmund G. Brown or Edward M. Kennedy, who would be tougher candidates, the GOP has a chance.

In order not to blow that chance, Republicans should remember what were perhaps Lincoln's greatest words: "That government by the people, for the people, of the people, shall not perish from the earth."

The Democrats have seen fit to replace the word "people" with "ruling Washington elites" in the previous statements. Should the Republicans nominate Reagan, Ford, or Connally, that might not change.

Brian Golden is an eighth term broadcast journalism major.



AYITOLLAH RONALLAH REAGANI PLANNING HIS RETURN FROM EXILE IN CALIFORNIA.

Exceptions

There is no doubt that Mark Jackson's article on Abortion was well written and moving. However, Mr. Jackson seemed to have given little or no thought to one of his closing statements. Mr. Jackson said, "There are no circumstances, with the possible exception of rape, which justify this decision (abortion)." This statement, while liberal for some anti-abortionists, is simplistic and hopelessly based on ignorance.

I would like to suggest that Mr. Jackson consider the following situations: A woman finds out that the fetus she is

Yes, more self-help — for undergrads

Too much, I think, has been written on how to survive your teen years, your middle-aged years, your declining years, your married years and practically all your years except your years as an undergraduate at college.

Surely, not even pre-pubesence can be as traumatic as your four lonely years defying all your better instincts telling you to settle down, make money and maybe raise a family. And how much worse can marital problems be after living with a complete stranger — your roommate — and listening to his or her totally unsolvable dilemmas day after day? Middle-age and retirement almost seem to be a welcome relief after going non-stop with studies and extracurricular activities day after day, weekend after weekend, term after term.

And summer vacation? Don't make me laugh. How many students really spend three months on a beach somewhere instead of trying to hold down two or even three jobs during their "off-season?" The treadmill, the anxiety, the work-load, the conflicts and the perpetual lack of something solid other than grades for feedback all adds up to what could be the most trying times of your life.

Still, few if any students realize that these complaints are not theirs alone, but rather common to all. Herein, then, are some helpful tips to make these years all the less insufferable, and, I hope, all the more bearable:

— Avoid looking at unemployment statistics whenever possible. They are invariably depressing and are sometimes much worse than they appear to be. If you feel compelled to read

them, always remember that no matter how bad they are, they are always far better than the statistics for people who didn't go to college.

— Don't try to be "wild and crazy." Only one person in the world has ever made any money being "wild and crazy," and he's on the decline even now. At best, when you do something nutso, people will laugh at you and never speak to you again. At worst, they will speak to you again, but will be immediately disenchanted with you the first time you act your normal, serious self.

Bob Carville

— Never let on that you know something. If your friends think you're a good student, they'll constantly bother you to help them with their assignments and studies. If they think you're emotionally stable, they'll constantly bother you with their personal problems. If they think your college career is running smoothly, they'll constantly bother you to help them choose their schedule for next term. Act like an idiot and they'll just leave you alone.

— Take courage from your less-than-spectacular grades. Chances are you'll never have to know half of what you were supposed to have learned, and what you do have to know can't be learned in a classroom.

— If you're falling way behind in your work, rationalize it to yourself as "a period of emotional reassessment."

— It is far better to neglect your

the Collegian

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studies without guilt rather than neglect them and constantly worry about it. Worrying is a self-fulfilling prophecy: "If everyone thinks there is going to be a recession, then there will be a recession."

— Don't live in a dorm for more than two years.

— The sexual revolution on campus is over. Even Playboy doesn't do a "Campus Action" chart anymore. Your gloomy sex-life is actually quite good when you consider everyone always lies about such things anyway.

— Don't waste your time trying to explain to your parents "the way things really are at college." Parents notoriously have preconceived notions about what goes on here and they are always inflexible in their judgments. Take heart in the knowledge that even their wildest notion is not nearly as bad, or as good, as things "really are."

— Nearly everyone fouls up really bad at one time or another; even college students. Always keep in mind that there are two things in your favor no matter what: changing your major and using the late drop option.

— Nobody is 100 percent sure about what he's doing, at college or anywhere else. Everyone would rather be a dropout.

— Avoid descriptive panaceas and cliches when making a decision. Drugs are not the answer, and rules were not made to be broken. And it is not far better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all, just to name one of the more dangerous assumptions made by students under pressure.

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