

Winners . . .

The Association of Residence Hall Students, for superior intentions and intuition. To benefit handicapped University students, ARHS raised about \$600 through its Movin' On weekend jamboree.

week's discussion and the formation of an advisory committee for further examination of the event will allow all parties the opportunity to air their views and possible solutions.

Sinners

Nine Nittany Lions who were selected in last week's National Football League draft. Only Oklahoma and Notre Dame turned out more players who caught the attention of the professional football world than Joe Paterno's squad.

The Interfraternity Council, for suggesting Spring Week become Greek Week. Fraternities and sororities may contribute a lot to campus social life, but this move would only further divide Greeks and independents into separate camps.

Allen Benton, an entomology professor at the University who recently developed a substance to alleviate allergic reactions to bee and wasp stings.

The weatherman, for ruining Gentle Thursday two weeks in a row. The fine weather provided for Movin' On does not make up for our dampened spirits.

Colloquy and its sponsored speaker last week, children's crusader Ken Wooden, for bringing to light a problem which cannot be conveyed by its sufferers; that of delinquent child abuse.

The person who suggested next year's Phi Psi 500 runners dash not for beer but for milk or juice. Such a move might not directly take care of vandalism, but it would sure reduce crowds.

State College Municipal Council, for inviting input from various sides in the Phi Psi 500 controversy. Last

The BAD way to cure rising health costs

Centre Community Hospital is rampant with "bad" ideas lately. It's a condition which, if spread to enough hospitals, may save the nation's health care industry from a painful and needless federal cost crackdown.

"BAD" is an acronym for Buck-a-day. It's a voluntary program in which Mountainview Unit's 600 employees are encouraged to suggest ways to save money. The contradiction of terms is readily visible upon any visit to Mountainview, where guys in black raincoats adorn the walls to inspire economy measures.



Mountainview is one of a number of hospitals that has undertaken the voluntary cost-containment effort in response to threats of federal cost-containment legislation. President Carter has called cost-containment the centerpiece of his anti-inflation program, while skyrocketing health care costs have become a paramount concern in the United States.

Mountainview Assistant Administrator Tom Zyroil estimates that since the new program went into operation April 16, more than \$9,000 has been saved. He gave as examples the use of cotton balls, in place of more expensive gauze bandages, and a more judicious use of cafeteria condiments.

Twenty-five Pennsylvania hospitals will actively be pursuing voluntary efforts this week during "Hospital Week" across the Commonwealth. Clearly, the hospitals are trying to show government they can manage their own affairs.

The costs of medical care are not just prohibitive, they are frightening. Any extended period of disease can wipe out a family's savings. These high medical care costs have inspired the push for comprehensive national health in-



IT WOULD SEEM THAT SOME SNIVELLING MALCONTENTS AMONG YOU HAVE BEEN COMPLAINING TO THEIR CONGRESSMEN ABOUT OUR COSTS AND SERVICES...

urance, notwithstanding the alarming parallel of hospital cost increases with proliferation of government medical assistance programs.

An interesting statistic in a national health-insurance-less America is its pre-eminence among the world's major industrial democracies in terms of doctor-patient ratios, mortality rates, and other indices of quality health care. We have more people covered proportionally under private health plans such as Blue Cross and Blue Shield than most other countries cover with their national plans.

Government efforts so far have aggravated the problem. There have been innumerable instances where doctors have padded Medicare and Medicaid bills since the government has the resources to foot the bill for needless tests and unprovided treatments. Hospital costs left the launch pad in 1967,

just about the time Lyndon Johnson's Medicare program was establishing itself. There is too close a correlation to suggest anything other than a direct relationship between increased public spending for health care and increased health care costs. If the money is there to pay for them, costs will go up.

The imposition of artificial constraints will not do the job. Federal legislation might bring temporary relief, but that would soon be followed by the misallocation of resources, and all the while the quality and quantity of care wouldn't be appreciably affected.

The American Medical Association may belong up there with General Motors and IBM for being ogres in power positions. The AMA has pretty much had its way all the time, restricting admission to medical schools to boost doctors salaries, promoting or repressing drugs, lobbying for broader

federal spending to subsidize an extra day a week at the golf course.

Until the AMA's broad persuasive powers can be curbed, government must legitimately monitor the health care industry. But in the meantime, let's let the hospitals try to solve the problem themselves.

We need more doctors and more research to understand what causes illnesses in the complex society heading into the 21st century.

When it comes to health care, be it research, medicine or keeping costs from making illness and death an economy measure, let's trust those that run the hospitals, rather than those who run the government, to contain health care costs. In the area of cost-containment, the Congress should try some of its own medicine first.

Brian Golden is a 10th-term broadcast journalism major.

Letters to the Editor

More than a kick

"We have the technology to develop many energy sources, but what we need now is just a swift kick in the pants" (Thomas D. Smith - April 26).

Unfortunately Tom, it takes more to develop solutions to our energy problems than just a shot to the hindquarters. It takes the realization that money is just as important as the problem. Companies will not venture into any sort of solution if it is not economically profitable for them. How do you think Exxon became one of the wealthiest companies in the world, anyway?

Yes, we probably do have the technology to help alleviate our energy crunch. However, we do not have the means to make these solutions economically feasible. For example, we

could mine 440 billion tons of coal a year, but only half of that or 220 billion tons is economically practical to mine. If the price of coal were to go up, however, this would allow the companies to mine more coal. Also, there is oil shale located in Colorado, and tar sand in Alberta, Canada, that can be used as sources of oil. One of the major problems in obtaining the oil, though, is the cost of plant construction.

There are other sources of energy that can be used, but like these solutions, financing is a major obstacle. Yes, we must find ways to solve our energy needs, but somehow it must come with a picture of George Washington on the blueprint.

Dave Coveney
3rd-chemical engineering
May 3

Waste not

Lettuce . . . tacos . . . milk . . . meat. These items are constantly traveling down the dining hall conveyor belt to the garbage disposal, never to be seen again, never to put to some use. And why, you might ask? Because lots of unthinking students either don't care about wasting food, or they don't realize they are wasting food. They continue to eat half their salad, drink only half their glass of milk, or take 3 desserts, and eat only one of them. And when a food fight scene, similar to one found on a Hollywood sound stage, takes place, they feel free to participate with the vigor of one attempting to win an Academy Award.

However, not all of the blame for food waste rests with the students. The dining hall management is also at fault. What taste appeal does a measly leaf of lettuce on a plate add to a serving of jello or chicken salad? Although this may seem to be a trivial point, all of these points add up and equal a large problem called wastefulness.

But why should we carefree people in Happy Valley be concerned with wasting food? The main reason is that we are indirectly affected by our actions. With the rising costs of food, and subsequently the rising cost of University room and board fees, one very advantageous step toward solving the problem would be for both students and the dining hall management to check their wasteful behavior. Admittedly, that Academy Award or luscious mound of chicken salad on lettuce looks awfully tempting, but the price we pay for them is high!

Kathy Speranza
12th-home economics education
May 2

Is it still?

It appears that there is a certain group on campus which feels it is its mission in life to prevent the rest of us students from hearing about current cultural and social events happening on campus that it has personally decided not to attend. These people also seem to feel that no one else should be allowed to take advantage of these growth opportunities either.

Case in point: Five hundred flyers announcing a dance being held this Saturday night in Walnut Building were distributed around campus Wednesday morning. Thursday, there were around 30 posters left. No matter if one agrees with a HOPS sponsored dance or not. No one has the right to interfere with the dissemination of information on any student organization's activities.

America has always been a place where every citizen can explore life and reach one's full potential. Is it still?

Ed Good
13th-vocational and industrial education
May 3

Beyond his dreams

As Chairman of the first and second Phi Psi 500s, I had hoped that the program would expand over the years. Despite that, I did not think I would ever see anything the magnitude of the 11th annual 500. I am quite proud of the obvious effort put forth by my brothers, the great enthusiasm of the student body and the tremendous patience of the year-round residents of State College.

Alumni are well advised to add this weekend as one of the obligatory Penn State weekends.

Joseph C. Korsak
Class of 1971
May 2

Sharing what?

Way back when, during Orientation Week '78, many of us first-terms were baffled by all of the Gentle Thursday t-shirts we saw. Nobody was really sure what this magical, mystical event could be. "A Day of Sharing?" On May 3, I found out for myself. . . .

At our first step off the pavement and onto the HUB lawn, we were surrounded by "Gentle Thursday people" and warned to be cool with our coolers. Next, a person informed us we were all "gonna get busted" if we drank our beverages from the original containers. That meant we needed to find a dozen cups somewhere to continue our festivities.

Well, in tradition with the typical Penn State run-around, the search took me through the HUB twice and finally to the Lion's Den. Much to my dismay, however, the working ladies there were not the ones who had been giving the cups away. As a matter of fact, they were charging a nickel apiece for them. And, if I may be so bold, I assume they made a handsome profit on that particular sales item.

Funny . . . I never understood "sharing to mean that. . . . Minor hassles like these make it hard to keep a positive, gentle attitude. Yet from what I saw, the general attitude was quite good, considering. Personally, I think all of us who were out on the lawn last Thursday proved something. We cared enough about the principle of Gentle Thursday to bear the weather, absence of good music, and added hostility from University Police Services. I hope this is considered when the decision to hold a Gentle Thursday next year is made.

Lisa Thomas
3rd-aerospace engineering
May 4

Whose laws?

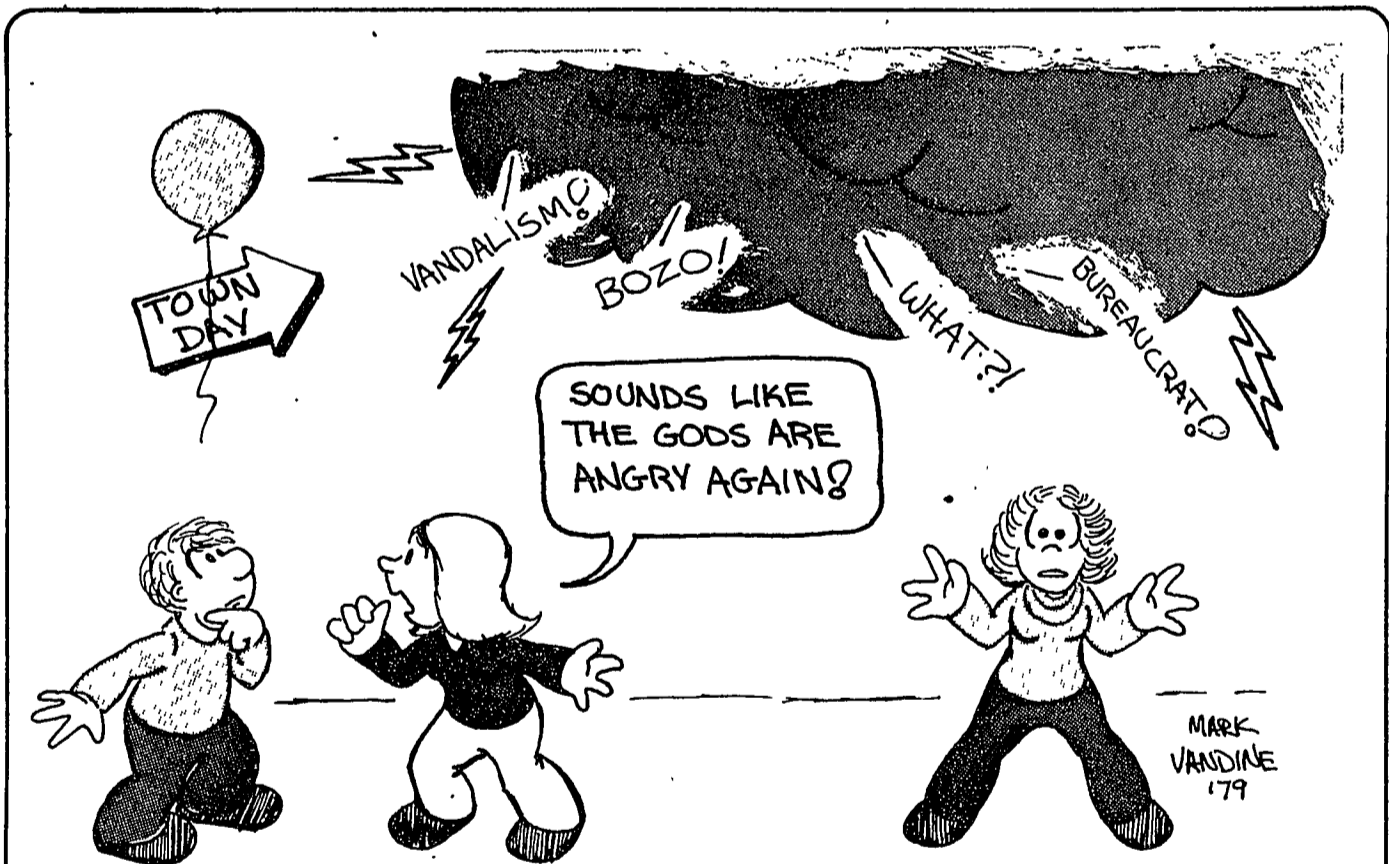
I would like to give my support and sympathy to the girl who "ran like a wild animal" from the police on Gentle Thursday, and also to the two State College residents who scuffled with the police. I would run too from someone who was trying to arrest me for breaking a law which unjustly stifles my personal freedom.

Whose law was it anyway? Surely not ours, the people's. We don't want the authorities to tell us when we are too young to drink alcohol. We don't want the authorities to tell us we can not smoke marijuana. And we don't want the authorities pressing upon us laws which tell us which forms of happiness we can't pursue, or which self-affecting activities we cannot engage in when we wish to freely or openly express ourselves. Freedom and liberty are still unalienable; we don't want them reclassified.

When did Congress and the state House get the right to create and maintain laws the people don't want? When did the Courts get the right to judge legal these unpopular laws? And who gave the executors of these laws the right to violently enforce these laws which the people have repeatedly shown they don't want?

I always thought our government, was designed so the people could decide what is right and what should be law. It seems the roles have changed. And something should be done about it. We should take another look at the underlying principles of the "Constitution" and the "Declaration of Independence." If those are a little too radical, or upsetting, there's always "1984." In the meantime look over your shoulder before you do anything enjoyable or expressive - it's probably illegal.

Dennis Bauer
8th-general agriculture
May 3



Let's also enlist the not-so-busy

By BONNIE NORTHROP
special projects coordinator,
Undergraduate Student Government

At the end of a recent "Town Day" sponsored by the Organization for Town Independent Students, those of us present were asked to return to the small groups we had formed to decide the date of our next meeting.

We had been discussing vandalism. Various speakers had dealt with different aspects of the problem; we had heard of the amazing scope of the problem - the legalities, the sociological forces and the economics involved. Each student, administrator, "townie," parent and local merchant pays for ever act of vandalism. On campus, he pays through increased tuition and room and board fees. In town, he pays through increased taxes and prices.

But what did we do with our new knowledge? When asked when we could meet again, one man stood up and said he really could not devote any more time to another problem. He was, he said, "meeting to death." And the people in the room agreed.

My purpose in writing this is not to

remind you of the hassles vandalism causes. Instead, I wish to point out a problem prevalent in our student body and in the University system as a whole. That is elitism.

Town Day is a needed event, and I must admit I was impressed by the way it was organized, as well as the constructive responses given and the overall feeling of the day. But those present were the same familiar faces seen going to any such event. The solutions we came up with will probably not go any further than the room in which they were aired because those present haven't the time to take on another job or responsibility.

FORUM

And Town Day is just one more example of the way things are run in the various student governments - systems that the administration promotes. Those students who might show some interest in combating vandalism or straightening up the dorm situation or changing the

system to allocate football tickets are simply not invited to the Town Days - in fact, most seem barely aware of the existence of such events. They are content to let the Undergraduate Student Government, the Association of Residence Hall Students or OTIS try to handle the problems, and none of these organizations has the manpower to completely do so.

In this case, at least, student apathy can be fought. But Town Days, Socials, etc., must be expanded to include students who are not "leaders" and State College residents who are not "officials." One simple ad in the Collegian announcing the time, date and place of the events, and inviting all those interested to participate would make a function like Town Day something more than a social affair.

I commend OTIS for Town Day - the purpose and the format were excellent, and we need more of such events. But I feel that "student leaders" should be used as supplemental guests, not as exclusive participants. Next time, leave out the pomp and circumstance and maybe we can get something done.

the Collegian

Monday, May 7, 1979 - Page 2 © 1979 Collegian Inc.

Pete Barnes
Editor

Marjie Schlessinger
Business Manager

BOARD OF EDITORS: Managing Editor, Harry Glenn; Editorial Editors, Andy Ratner, Jim Zarroll; News Editors, Bruce Becker, Gina Carroll; Copy Editors, Corliss Bachman, Vicki Fong, Tim Kouski; Allen Reeder, Jim Wilhelm, Mary Ellen Wright; Photo Editors, Chip Connelly, Joe Tori; Assistant Photo Editor, Dave Kraft; Sports Editor, Jerry Micco; Assistant Sports Editors, Denise Bachman, Jon Saraceno; Features Editor, Stan Ellis; Arts Editor, Joyce Gannon; Assistant Arts Editor, Diana Younken; Graphics Editor, Della Hoke; Contributing Editor, Dave Skidmore; Office Manager, Lorraine Ryan.

BEAT COORDINATORS: Consumer-Business, Betsy Long; Faculty-Administration, Amy Endlich; Local Government, Paula Froke; Minorities, Tammy Walro; Student Government, Jim McConnel; State-National Government, Paul Sunyak.

BOARD OF MANAGERS: Sales Manager, Steve Kornblit; Office Manager, Dave Niederberg; National Ad Manager, Tony Frank; Assistant Sales Manager, Marc Brownstein; Assistant Office Manager, Kim Schiff; Assistant National Ad Manager, Kathy Matheny.