

Editorial Opinion

BDRrrrrrr

Anger, confusion with BDR may be fixed

Nothing is more confusing than the maze of different courses each college and major department demands for a student to graduate.

Many students find it mind-boggling to pick courses which fulfill basic degree requirements and major courses along with electives.

Contrary to popular consensus in this economically-conscious decade, students come to college not only for marketable skills but for an education.

A large percentage of students change their major once or several times during their college career, and the reshuffling of credits should make the process a little easier.

When colleges and departments decide how they will reshuffle the credit requirements around, they should remember that while it is important for students to prepare for a career, it is also important for the students to experience a complete education.

The credit requirements for the colleges in the University vary from 124 for the College of Liberal Arts to about 140 for the College of Engineering.

Some degrees allow a lot of leeway for electives while others allow about three credits for electives.

Students should have ample opportunity to take courses which interest and intrigue them and not just those "practical" courses.

Colleges and departments with stringent rules should let students have some breathing space for taking courses for their own enrichment, such as arts, literature, religion or even basket weaving, if they wish.

Letters to the Editor

Slightly sarcastic

Penn State and its wonderful housing staff have struck again. Doing all they can to make the words efficient and Penn State housing mutually exclusive, housing has taken down the tiles from our ceiling.

Since we damage a lot of tiles, housing gets rid of all of them. The reasoning behind the removal of our tiles can be termed as a typical housing reaction.

Applying this great logic to other aspects of residence hall living, I propose that all windows be filled in to prevent breakage, and that all fire extinguishers be emptied to prevent any discharges that could lead to further depletion of our general deposits.

As a note to housing, this letter was intended to be sarcastic. I don't really expect you to be dumb enough to fill in the windows and empty the fire extinguishers — maybe, just empty the fire extinguishers.

11th-psychology and sociology Resident of 3rd floor Beaver Hall Oct. 8

Remove the plank To Jed Smock, c/o The Daily Collegian In your lecture, if I may use that term in its most pedantic sense, on Oct. 3, you made an issue of the fact that there is sin because there are sinners, in other words, because there are murderers, theft because there are thieves, etc., ad nauseum.

There is also, Mr. Smock, libel because there are libelous. In your blanket moral implications about certain female groups here at Penn State — two societies and a female dorm area — in a previous tirade, you have not only blatantly insulted every member of these groups, but you've brought up (which is really none of your business anyway), but also set yourself up for a handy of a lawsuit.

Monday's issue of The Daily Collegian devoted three pages to an interview with evangelist Jed Smock (edited by the editor). The pope came to America and earned only three columns. All through the interview, the question to the Collegian's priorities, the point of this letter is to air our disagreements with the basic logic of Mr. Smock's statements in the interview.

One — "The person diligently seeking God is the one who is looking for himself in most cases."

You may be next

The brothers of our fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, would like to take the time to thank the Collegian for the chance to speak out on the evil of racism, an injustice to any human being of such magnitude and occurrence, must be considered evil. Is racism a significant problem at Penn State? Racism anywhere is significant. It is as subtle as cancer and should be dealt with in the same manner — immediately.

By the same token, the UCC is strapped by a location far from the maddening concert tour routes, very limited on-campus facilities and the seeming unpredictable music tastes of University students.

On Tuesday, Oct. 16, The Daily Collegian will focus its weekly Op-ed page on the topic of on-campus concerts. If you have any gripe concerning past performances or requests for future acts, please write to the Daily Collegian Editorial Office, 126 Carnegie (across from Willard).

Face the music With this season's coming of Pure Prairie League and Chuck Mangione, the University Concert Commission is offering a series of free concerts.

Can't ignore him In response to Timothy Dally's letter, printed Oct. 9, since Jed Smock arrived at Penn State, many people have become favorable. Many dislike and are offended by Smock's style of evangelism, but these same people apparently find it difficult to ignore him.

The coward's way I resent Rodger Frank's accusation made in the Oct. 5 edition of The Daily Collegian that by slating my disagreements with Jed Smock's I am detouring from the path of "I really don't believe." While listening to a portion of Mr. Smock's condemnation crusade, I found myself in a state of "quiet acceptance."

John Paul II, whose baby-blue eyes, boyish smile, humor and humility enthralled Catholics and non-Catholics alike, arrived in the United States and was immediately labeled "the people's pope."

George "Jed" Smock, on the other hand, a former self-proclaimed "hippie freak-turned evangelist," was met with animosity, insults and verbal fireworks by several hundred University students.

Meanwhile, the pontiff was eloquent in his speech to the United Nations, in his moving references to Auschwitz. It is broad distressing and overwhelming with contempt for man and his fundamental rights — the extermination camp at Auschwitz, which I visited during my pilgrimage to Poland last June," he said.

John Paul II, you are an inspiration to us all — regardless of race, creed, color or religious belief.

Problems hinder local recycling

Continued from Page 1. "Instead of selling it, we could use the material in Centre County," he said. "Half the material could be burned as fuel. We could try to sell it to local industry, or another option would be using it to build government buildings such as the courthouse in Bellefonte, the State Correctional Institution at Rockview, schools on the University," Regan said.

According to the report, glass could be used for road patching material, clean paper could be traded for cellulose-based insulation material, and leaves could be used as mulch.

SAB seeks more student input, consultation The University Student Advisory Board yesterday asked the administration to work with students before making decisions affecting them.

French 75 Night every Wednesday 214 W. College "The friendly Cafe"

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THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS PRESENTS LT. James Ward, EN USA on Initial Job Opportunities in the Corps of Engineers

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God is looking for himself in most cases. The Bible provides many cases in which God revealed himself to people who were by no means diligently seeking Him; for instance, Moses at the burning bush, Paul as he was going to persecute Christians, Mary as she slept, and Cain after he slew Abel.

Two — "Sorcery comes from the Greek word pharmakia which is our word for pharmacy. Anyone using drugs is guilty of altering the state of consciousness is practicing sorcery."

The word sorcery comes from the Middle French sorcier, which comes from the Latin sorus, sort, which means fate, not drugs. Fate and drugs are hardly interchangeable.

Three — "And then some of these women may fly off to murder their husbands on Sunday morning to get an abortion. Are abortion clinics open on Sunday mornings?"

Four — "College campuses are 'hobbes' of homosexuality. On practically every campus there's a thing called a 'gay student union.'"

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TMI president says plant closure okay

HARRISBURG (AP) — Herman Dieckamp, president of the company that owns Three Mile Island, said yesterday he would not mind if citizens voted to close the facility forever if they agreed to compensate its owners.

"If a group of citizens wants to vote that in their minds they don't want nuclear plants, I would assume they would readily accept the costs of alternative energy and the costs of confiscating the property involved," Dieckamp, president of General Public Utilities Corp., told the Society of Professional Journalists.

"I would be concerned about that choice because I'm not sure we have adequately prepared the public to make that choice in an informed way," Dieckamp said.

Dieckamp also acting president of Metropolitan Edison Co., the plant operator and a GPU subsidiary, accused local officials and politicians of "seizing upon the accident for short term political gains, using it as an opportunity to vent emotions and resolute what their constituents want to hear."

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Pope brings brotherly love back to Philadelphia

Making a pilgrimage to see Pope John Paul II was quite an experience, a once-in-a-lifetime one, as some people along the way remarked. Many people expected that anyone who journeyed to Philadelphia last week would be deeply religious.

"No," was my reply. After that it became necessary to explain that the papal visit was somewhat historic for the city of Philadelphia, that perhaps a million people would attend the festivities, and that the pope, as head of the Catholic Church, still retains a powerful influence in many parts of Europe, Latin America and Asia which sometimes supercedes respective heads of states.

Most people in the United States, or at least the ones I've come across, including my mother, believe the pope to be just the head of a religion, akin to a glorified preacherman. His office, of course, carries international stature for the holder, but in a country based on secular principles, that fact is sometimes hard to accept.

"Oh," was a typical response to my long-winded reply, at least on this side of Harrisburg. Once across the Susquehanna River, however, I ran into more people indirectly connected with the papal visit, such as Joe, the AFL-CIO public relations officer.

Joe told me that he had good tickets, the ones reserved for the V.I.P.s, to the pope's Holy Mass on Logan Circle the next day. But he said he gave them to his wife, a fact we both regretted since he said he would have given them to me.

John Paul II smooth as silk, Smock simply slick

"John Paul II, we want you," the 100,000-person crowd shouted throughout Saturday night, clinging together to keep warm, much like the Penn State students do on the overnight lines to get concert tickets.

It was an event that will long be remembered throughout this country. I was in Washington, D.C. this past weekend, and the pope's visit made me think about religion, evangelism, souvenirs, politics and many other topics.

While the pope was in Philadelphia, Penn State students were treated to the exploits of a different evangelist, and there was quite a reaction.

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