

Editorial Opinion



The Volunteer Service Center for sponsoring the first Gold Medal Day Saturday. The event, held in cooperation with the Centre County Association for Retarded Citizens and the Penn State University Veterans Organization, was designed for the mentally retarded to enjoy athletic competition without the pressures of winning and losing.

The College of Human Development in collaboration with the Child Development Council of Centre County for opening an infant and toddler day-care center on campus.

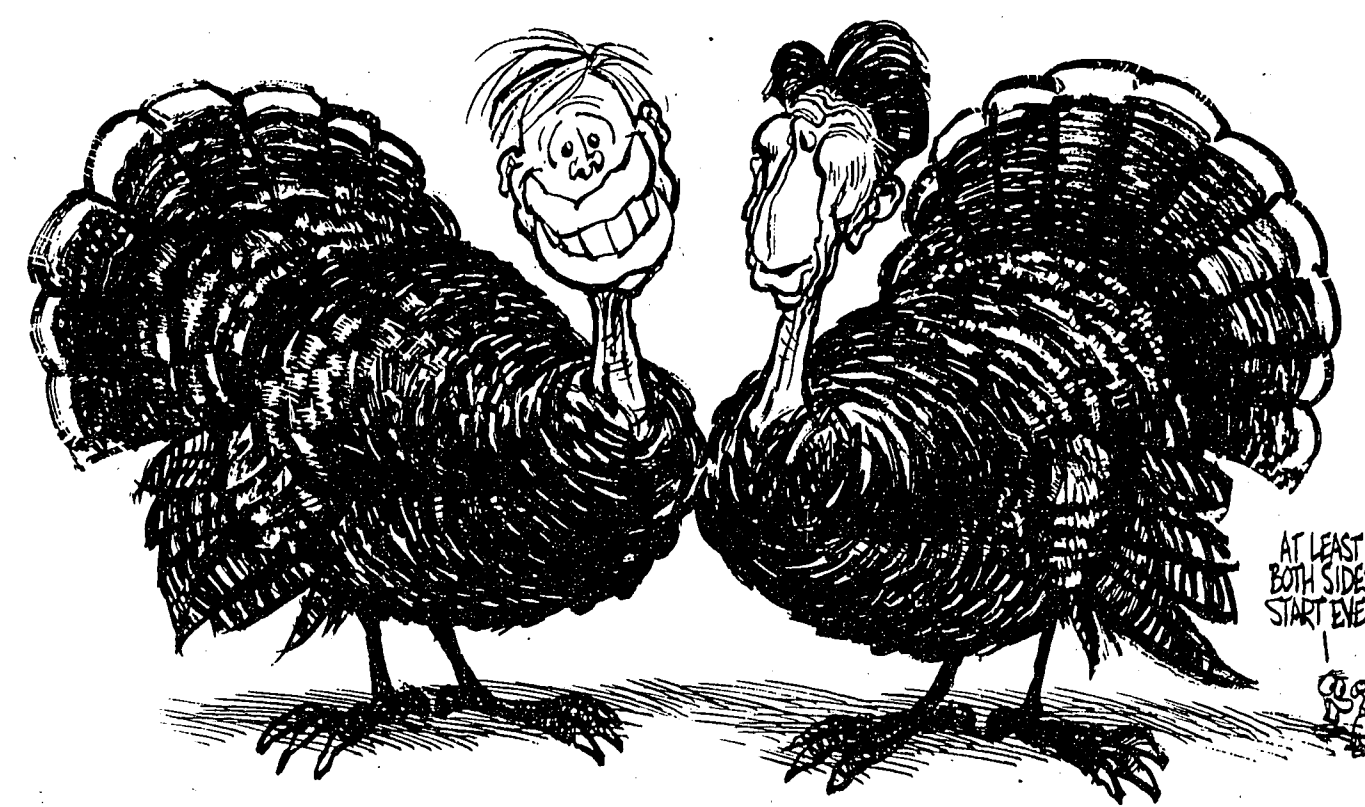
Eco Action for its ongoing recycling program. According to Eco Action, 95 percent of the energy needed to make a new beer could be saved if consumers recycled their cans and bottles instead of throwing them away.

Jerry Sandusky, assistant football coach, for his continuing efforts with "The Second Mile," a nonprofit organization established to house

troubled youngsters. Vice President Walter Mondale and Sen. Edward Kennedy for delivering emotionally stirring speeches which drove Democratic National Convention delegates to their feet in a new upsurge of party unity.

Time Magazine for its news judgment in putting "Dallas" character J.R. Ewing on last week's cover while the Democratic National Convention dominated the news.

Penn State's football team and its coaching staff for adopting the Dick Harter tactic of chasing members of the press away from practice sessions. Can press-concession practice for freshmen recruits be that secretive?



AT LEAST BOTH SIDES START WITH MORAL EQUIVALENTS

Something to strive for. Time to make break and change

I have always been leery of change. At high school graduation, I was the last one to march out of the auditorium. When it came time to go to college, I elected to go to a Commonwealth campus near home. I could have graduated Spring Term, but here I am. Even now, I sometimes have doubts about leaving. School has been the main focus of my life for most of my almost-22 years. But I keep hearing this voice:



Paul Sunyak

"It's time to leave, Paul," a soft voice somewhere off in the distance reminds me. But you don't understand. There are so many nice people I haven't met yet, so many things I never got around to doing. "It's time to leave, Paul," the voice says sternly but with understanding. But I still have a couple of good ideas for columns and news stories. If only I had some more time. "Paul, it's time to leave," the voice says, firmly enough to make me heed its advice and quit seeking excuses for staying. Why do I listen? The voice is my own. So after 13 terms as a college student, seven of those spent with an adorable affliction I refer to as "Collegian's disease" — an incurable addiction to the Daily Collegian — it is time to leave, time to change once again. Time and change. Funny how these two concepts rule our lives. Time makes us older and wiser. The process is inevitable and irreversible. But the great thing about time is that you're going to learn some lessons whether you want to or not. By virtue of the fact that you live, you learn.

Change is an indirect consequence of time. The two most often go hand-in-hand. Willful change — such as whether or not to pursue a particular career or what college to attend — comes about as a result of what you have learned about the world and what you want. So change is linked to time through their sharing of a common denominator: learning. This all sounds pretty cut and dry, right? Time equals learning equals change. Theorem 8.20.58 in the equation of life. All three work together to make tomorrow better than today and to make today better than yesterday. The result is a steady, upward progression to a better life. But one element has been left out of the equation. It is called unpredictability.

Unpredictability throws the whole equation out of kilter. It makes the time-change formula a volatile and potentially explosive mix. Time and change can bring about something better. They can also bring about something worse, or anything in between. No one can predict the future. If indeed I am a normal person — and in spite of the off-beat puns, I think I am — I feel justified in being leery of change. No one leaves an atmosphere of comfort and security for a question mark without feeling uneasy. But it is something you have to do, sooner or later. Those of you who are graduating, as well as those who are worried about the

future in general, might take solace in knowing that I have done the worrying for you. After examining all the angles and after conversing with scores of people, I have concluded that we are not alone. Everybody worries about the future and what it may bring. The key is not to let that worry interfere with your enjoyment of life. Do what you feel is best and roll with the punches. Set your sights high and don't stop until you drink from the silver cup. I know I won't. Paul Sunyak is a 13th-term journalism major and is dedicating this column in memory of Raymond Krichbaum, a long-time friend who lived life to the fullest.

defend a decision to fulfill a childhood fantasy. When you take a summer off, or graduate, you start thinking of all the work you did in college, high school and all the part-time jobs you had, and you decide that you "deserve" a break. "Hell, you'll have your whole life to work, so why start right after school? Really, you've always wanted to go to California, Colorado, New England, wherever. And now is the time, right? Wrong. If you decide to hold off on work, you'll be chasing dreams that don't exist. Think of your friends back home that didn't go to college. They get jobs in a mill or factory someplace and have been plugging away at them ever since. They didn't take a four-year respite from life to chase an education. Your vacation's over and it's time to go to work. But now that you're educated, you can come up with educated arguments to

Never-never land doesn't exist. When you take a summer off, or graduate, you start thinking of all the work you did in college, high school and all the part-time jobs you had, and you decide that you "deserve" a break. "Hell, you'll have your whole life to work, so why start right after school? Really, you've always wanted to go to California, Colorado, New England, wherever. And now is the time, right? Wrong. If you decide to hold off on work, you'll be chasing dreams that don't exist. Think of your friends back home that didn't go to college. They get jobs in a mill or factory someplace and have been plugging away at them ever since. They didn't take a four-year respite from life to chase an education. Your vacation's over and it's time to go to work. But now that you're educated, you can come up with educated arguments to



Mike Sillup

Like work, perhaps. Here, in Happy Valley, no one works, everyone is in the same age bracket and we all seem to be stamped from the same mold. By getting a career-related job, you'll have a chance to get out and meet a few folks who haven't been students all their

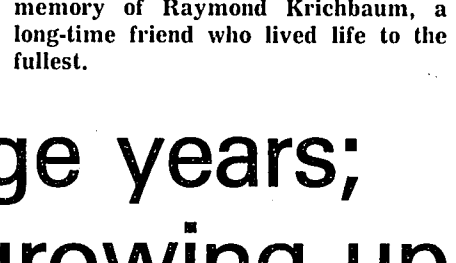


Bernadette Clegg

private relationships of men and women are unaffected. But the question remains: is there really a need for an amendment? Many believe there isn't because equal rights for women go without saying. Why hasn't the ERA been ratified? Rather, the objectives of the amendment, as stated in a majority report of the Senate Judiciary Committee, are: "Sex should not be a factor in determining the legal rights of men or women. The Amendment thus recognizes the fundamental dignity and individuality of each human being. The Amendment will only affect governmental action; the privations and the

Respect of media based on fair play

Joe Paterno said he wants to get along with the members of the media, particularly the sports writers. He said he wants the media to play fair. That's not a whole lot to ask, I guess. But Paterno certainly has strange ways of showing his sincerity. In a column by Stan Isle in a July copy of The Sporting News, Paterno was quoted as saying that if he ever needed a new brain he'd like to get one from a sports writer, because, as Paterno said, "it'll have never been used."

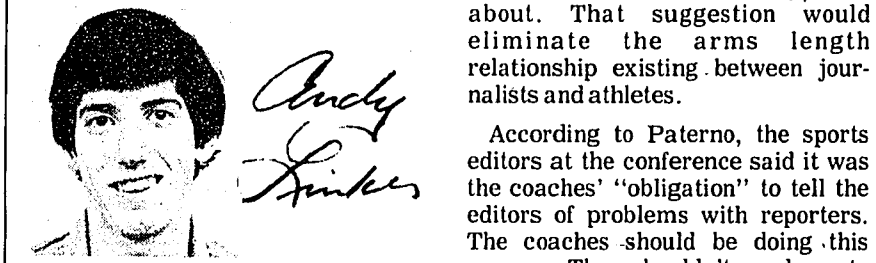


Joe Paterno

Several weeks ago, Paterno and Philadelphia Eagles' head coach Dick Vermeil were reported as calling for a new unity between sports writers and the athletes they write about. That suggestion would eliminate the arms length relationship existing between journalists and athletes. According to Paterno, the sports editors at the conference said it was the coaches' "obligation" to tell the editors of problems with reporters. The coaches should be doing this anyway. They shouldn't need sports editors to tell them this. Paterno has said in the past that he has nothing against sports writers and that he always try to get along with them. Although Paterno said he is making himself more available to the press, the Nittany Lion coach has been known to take up to eight days to return telephone calls from professional sportswriters. If you work for The Daily Collegian, you may as well forget about Paterno returning a phone call. How does Paterno expect to get a fair shake from the sports writers if he does not seem to respect these journalists? Little things like suggesting that a sports writer's brain is rarely used will not attract the respect of sports writers. It's hardly playing fair. Andy Linker is a 10th-term journalism major and editorial editor of The Daily Collegian.

Moral decision

I am writing this in response to Mark D. Van Ouse's letter which appeared in the August 13 issue of the Collegian. Van Ouse states: "Killing, thus, has been legalized and marketed in the form of abortion. All because of seven men (of the Supreme Court) who imposed their morals (or lack of it) upon the millions of innocent unborn." The Supreme Court made no such imposition. As a matter of fact, they withheld their personal moral codes when deciding Roe v. Wade. Justice Blackmun prefaces his opinion with a quote by Justice Holmes from the case Lochner v. New York: "It (the Constitution) is made from people of fun-



Andy Linker

ding certain differing views, and the accident of our finding certain opinions natural and familiar or novel and even shocking ought not to conclude our judgment upon the question whether statutes embodying them conflict with the Constitution of the United States." This would seem to me as though Justice Blackmun is warning against the imposition of personal views in deciding this case, delicate and emotional as it is. I would also like to point out a much overlooked element of the Court's decision. Further on in his opinion, Justice Blackmun states: "We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. When those trained in the respective disciplines of medicine, philosophy and theology are unable to arrive at a consensus, the judiciary, at this point in the development of man's knowledge is not in a position to speculate as to the answer." I think this is the key to understanding the Court's reasoning. No, Van Ouse, they did not "impose" their morals on anyone. Instead, they said that since experts in more applicable fields could not determine when life begins, they would leave it to the people. Thus, being legal experts, they turned to the law (the Constitution) to determine whether procuring an abortion would violate it. This, too, strikes me as a reluctance to make rash assumptions on the starting point of life rather than an "imposition" of their views, particularly upon the disciplines of medicine, philosophy and theology. If I find it presumptuous of the Pro-Lifers to say they know when life begins even when the experts admit to their ignorance. As the Court reasoned, since none can be sure that the fetus is a life (being deprived of its rights) but we can be sure of the detriment to women forced to bear children they don't want and are unable to care for, whether or not to have an abortion is the mother's decision. Few people advocate grabbing hesitant mothers by the arm and shoving them on a bus for Harrisburg. More often, people are Pro-Choice. The nature of Pro-Choice is that a woman has the right to decide whether or not to have her child. With the legalization of abortion, a woman may or may not choose to terminate her pregnancy. If abortion is legalized, a woman will be forced to bear her unwanted child unless she chooses to risk her life and have a "back room" abortion. Who is imposing their morals on whom, Van Ouse. In a time of overpopulation and lack of resources, it is irresponsible to bring unwanted children into the world. I personally feel there should be more emphasis on finding a 100 percent effective birth control method. However, considering the innumerable extenuating circumstances which a woman gets pregnant with the available contraceptives and considering how wrong it would be to impose one's morals on those women who fall victim to these circumstances, don't you think it is only fair to give them the choice whether or not to have their children? They certainly can carry their pregnancies to term if they so choose. It would be nothing less than an imposition on them not to present the alternative of abortion. Carol Ruth Fritsch, 4th-division of undergraduate studies, August 13

Letters to the Editor

Changing times

Congratulations to the State College School Board for adopting a new drug policy. I am pleased that the board recognizes that prevention, not punishment is the answer to the increase in drug usage among our children. I also hope that the board and the Informed Parents group direct its energy to the question of why our children feel the need to use drugs in school. What is turning them off from their studies?

The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) has always supported non-criminal approaches towards marijuana possession. Although 11 states have substituted civil fines up to \$100 for criminal penalties (decriminalization), Pennsylvania maintains the threat of incarceration and a lifelong criminal record for marijuana possession. Arrest statistics for 1979 in Pennsylvania, show that over 70 percent of all drug arrests are for simple possession of marijuana. Surely, the priorities of our police should be directed to serious crime. The Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse estimates that in Pennsylvania last year, \$15 million in law enforcement resources were spent on marijuana arrests. During California's first year of decriminalization in 1976, officials estimate savings close to \$25 million by writing citations for marijuana possessors rather than arresting them. It is time the General Assembly follow the lead of 11 states and the State College School Board and recognize that criminal penalties haven't worked in solving the problems of marijuana abuse. Rational drug education programs and decriminalizing marijuana possession will be steps in the right direction.

Bill Clark, advisor Penn State NORML, August 11

Moral decision

I am writing this in response to Mark D. Van Ouse's letter which appeared in the August 13 issue of the Collegian. Van Ouse states: "Killing, thus, has been legalized and marketed in the form of abortion. All because of seven men (of the Supreme Court) who imposed their morals (or lack of it) upon the millions of innocent unborn." The Supreme Court made no such imposition. As a matter of fact, they withheld their personal moral codes when deciding Roe v. Wade. Justice Blackmun prefaces his opinion with a quote by Justice Holmes from the case Lochner v. New York: "It (the Constitution) is made from people of fun-

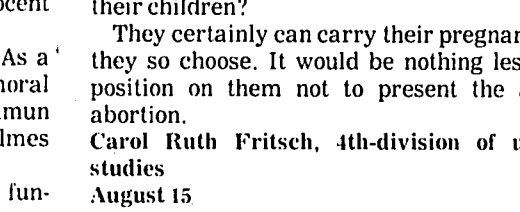
Now hear this

Draft registration has divided many people in this country and on this campus. With Supreme Court Justice William Brennan Jr.'s stay of a Philadelphia court decision ruling the sign-up process unconstitutional, many young people will be anxiously waiting for the Supreme Court's final ruling on the matter. The constitutionality of forcing persons to reveal their social security numbers has been questioned. Moreover, any registration plan excluding women may be ruled as discriminatory against males. Although The Daily Collegian has run op-ed pages in the past on women in the draft and on registration, the question still lingers of whether registration is right or wrong. On Tuesday, Sept. 9, The Daily Collegian will focus its first op-ed page of Fall Term on the continuing controversy surrounding the new military draft sign-up. If you have any comments on registration, please submit them to the Editorial Editor, 126 Carnegie. All letters must be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 30 lines. Deadline is Friday, August 22.

Paul Boynton

Adding fuel to fire: hatred among races

The stupid hatred that runs rampant among the races is saddening. Rational behavior needed to forget past hostilities as harried by irrational claims to "sticking to one's own kind." Minority prejudice responds to white racism. Racism or prejudice or bigotry are all basically one thing though — hatred. And it thrives among all races and classes. There has been an upsurge in Klu Klux Klan activities in the country. Klanmen are urged to build up arms for an inevitable race war. The Klan wants to achieve racial purity because it feels it faces reverse discrimination. "Whites" already controls the deck of cards that is our economy and politics. Obviously, the Klan wants to rig that deck. A black acquaintance of mine said blacks are vital consumers for many businesses. He said blacks could arouse peaceful attention to their problems if they organized a mass boycott of various goods and services. Another outlet could be the creation of an all-black political party. However, considering the divergent ideas among black leaders, a political party would be difficult to organize. Blacks also lack the money necessary to establish a political party. To those of you who have stayed with me this far, I appeal to your sense of compassion. Question your bigotry. Is it worth it? Hatred does not solve past problems, but spurs new ones. Open-mindedness could help solve social inequities. Children emulate their parents' attitudes; bigotry is carried from generation to generation. I appeal to you who have been fortunate to gain access to higher education — teach your children to accept people as humans and look beyond convenient groupings. Cynics will sneer at my idealism. They will think I am a naive fool. Racial hatred is here to stay, they say. It will take time, but I think through education our prejudices can be pushed aside. Hatred is a waste of time and energy. We must start somewhere to ease the overt and covert hostilities that eat away at the core of human existence. Love and understanding of each other as humans, not as whites or blacks or Jews or Arabs, can be the roots from which spring a better world. We shall destroy ourselves, otherwise. Paul Boynton is a 6th-term journalism major and sports editor for The Daily Collegian.



Paul Boynton

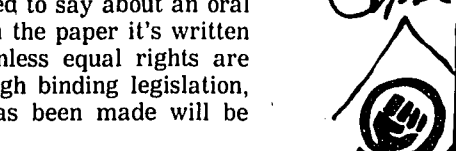
Equal Rights: accepting it and putting it into law

In the past decade, every aspect of American society — from the office to the altar — has been affected by the struggle for the recognition of women's rights. Today, virtually every opportunity open to a man is also open to a woman — precisely as it should be. If the social imbalance between the sexes has really been rectified, as many assume, why does the Equal Rights Amendment continue to founder before state legislatures? No one seems to know the answer. Why are many state legislatures opposed to the amendment? If ratified, what earth-shattering changes will it make to have caused such a fuss for the past eight years? What exactly does the ERA propose? Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

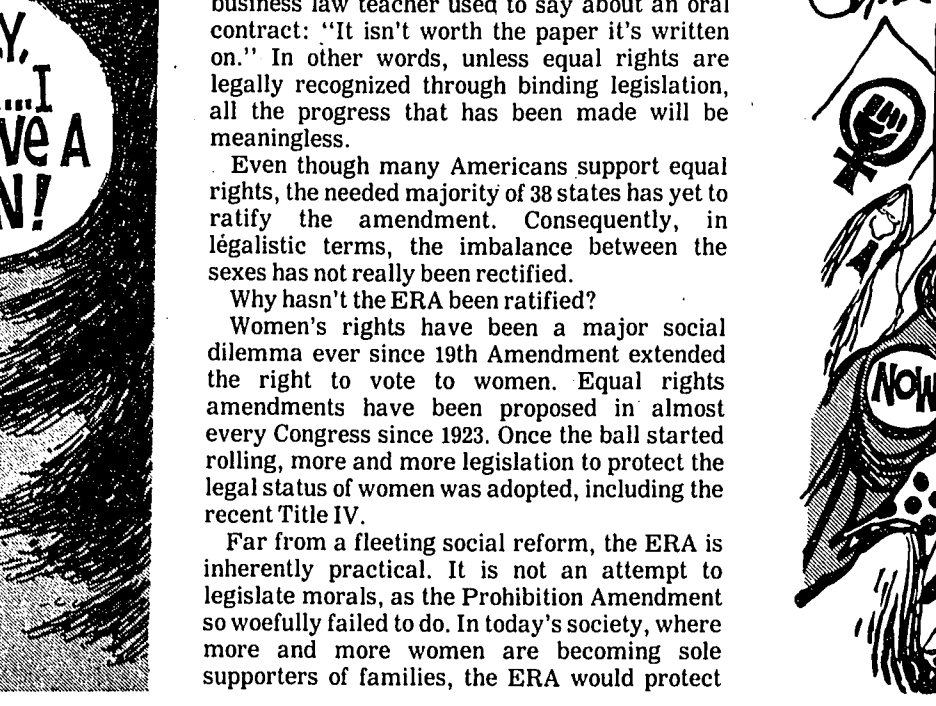
Without specifying either sex, the ERA would equalize the full status as citizens for the first time in our nation's history. Contrary to many of its opponents' arguments, the objectives of the ERA are not to threaten religious beliefs or to force states to recognize homosexual marriages or to create coed bathrooms. Debate of the ERA is too often clouded by these emotional arguments, which totally depart from the fundamental question of the legal status of women. Rather, the objectives of the amendment, as stated in a majority report of the Senate Judiciary Committee, are: "Sex should not be a factor in determining the legal rights of men or women. The Amendment thus recognizes the fundamental dignity and individuality of each human being. The Amendment will only affect governmental action; the privations and the

them from sex discrimination and the working-world slavery of a second class citizen. Unfortunately, in light of pressing issues such as inflation, the energy crisis and national defense, the ERA has been placed on the back burner of national issues. If the ERA is not ratified soon, it will be pushed further and further into the background of social policy-making where it is certain to die a slow death in some legislature's Subcommittee on Subcommittees. Furthermore, our society too often takes for granted the rights women have gained through long, hard struggle. In the end, compliance will

kill the ERA. Tired of endless frustration and apathy, proponents of the ERA may just give up the fight. We pride ourselves on the value our country places on dignity, rights and freedoms of each human being. Why, then, should there be any question about ratifying the ERA? The ERA is a simple statement, unequivocal in its principle: sex shall not be a factor in determining the rights of men or women. Thus, it guarantees equal rights for all its citizens — both men and women. Bernadette Eyster is a 4th-term French business major and staff writer for The Daily Collegian.



Bernadette Eyster



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Attention the Collegian office will close at 4 p.m. on August 18 and won't reopen until 9 a.m. on September 2. Deadline for display advertising for our September 5 issue is Tuesday, September 2 at noon. Deadline for our September 8 issue is Thursday, September 4 at 4 p.m.

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