

Editorial opinion

Lack of security

Ongoing battle for Laurel Glen refunds prove need for stronger laws to protect tenants from security deposit loss

Saturday, Oct. 25, is a very important date for former tenants of Laurel Glen Apartments.

Oct. 25 is the deadline for filing claims with the federal bankruptcy court in Harrisburg to recover lost security deposits.

Returned security deposits seem to be a rarity at these bankrupt-ridden complexes. Laurel Glen Inc., under the auspices of Stanley Melnick of the U.S. Management Corp. in Atlanta, declared bankruptcy in June, 1976, to reorganize its finances. Because of the bankruptcy, Laurel Glen Inc. claimed it could not pay many of its bills, including security deposits.

After hearing years of testimony, Judge Thomas Wood ruled in May to transfer the property to the two mor-

tgages, Home Savings Bank of Upstate New York and Rochester Savings Bank.

Phase I and II are now owned by Rochester Savings under the management of Property Management Inc. Phase III is the property of RAH Management Corporation of Philadelphia.

Laurel Glen trustee John H. Rhodes said security deposits with leases submitted after Feb. 5, 1980, will be accounted for and returned. But how many students have not had their security deposits returned since 1976 when Laurel Glen developer Bert Rudy allegedly drained \$90,000 from the escrow account?

No one really knows.

Bob Karp, President of the Organization for Town Independent Students, said he believes most tenants who moved out in 1980 with leases under the old management and a majority of residents in 1979 did not receive their deposits. Rhodes said bookkeeping records were vague. Letters to more than 400 students notifying them to make a claim have been distributed.

How much money has been collected since 1976? Did Melnick deposit all security monies in an escrow account? Under state law, all security deposits over \$100 must be put in an escrow account, but what of funds under \$100? Theoretically, a \$300 security account could mean \$200 for the escrow account and \$100 for general funds, or fun-

groups to which Laurel Glen owes money.

What appears to be a losing battle may be a lamb in wolf's clothing. OTIS is working hard to see that students will not be left empty-handed. Karp is planning a court brief to present on behalf of the tenants. OTIS can also offer help to individual briefs, but time and the cost of legal fees may defeat this purpose.

Although this situation with its bankruptcy complications is uncommon, there is no excuse for denying tenants money earmarked for a trust account. This case only strengthens the idea that stronger laws must protect what false faith can destroy.

Dinosaurs, peanut oil part of Ronnie's plan

By MARK FRITZ
Graduate-theatre and film
Interviewer: We are honored to have with us in our studio today Freda Fable who is Ronald Reagan's new campaign media mediator. Her job is to translate the often questionable verbal utterings of the presidential hopeful into something the media can call policy statements. It is not an easy job.

Freda Fable has the perfect background for the position. She started out pointing out appliances on "The Price Is Right," then rose quickly to become the host of her own pseudo-journalistic hit series "That's Not Just Incredible: It's Ridiculous."

Freda Fable has the vivacious personality of Goldie Hawn and the same probing mind. She is the recent winner of the 1980 Ms. Information pageant.

In the talent competition she sang the national anthem backwards and out of both sides of her mouth. Freda is also the author of the bestseller, "Nixon and Hitler: Two Misunderstood Leaders."

Ms. Fable is here to clear up some of the Ms.-conceptions about Gov. Reagan's verbal utterings.

Interviewer: Freda, let's talk about energy first. Frankly from the remarks I have heard Reagan makes, I do not think he believes there really is an energy problem. Freda, you have been working closely with him, what do you say about that?

Fable: Yes, well I have been working very, very closely with Ron, and believe me that man has no energy shortage. The people who say he is too old just have not gotten close enough to him to judge. And he does not dye his hair either.

Interviewer: No, no. When I said energy, I was referring to the gas problem.

Fable: Oh well, he takes Di-gel; that's all gone now.

Interviewer: No, no. Freda, I am talking about the world oil shortage.

Fable: Oh that. Ronnie says that is all malarkey. He says Carter is just trying to drive up the price of peanut oil.

Interviewer: Now wait a minute, Freda. Are you telling me that Ronald Reagan, a candidate for President of the United States, does not know the difference between peanut oil and petroleum?

Fable: Gosh, I am sorry, let me rephrase that to make it real meaning more precise. What I meant to say was

that Ronnie says it is all Carter's fault, Interviewer: Yes, but isn't it an undeniable fact that oil wells all over the world have run dry and ceased producing? Fable: Well, Ronnie is no quitter in politics or in oil. He says we have just got to keep drilling deeper. You see, he says all the oil has just got to keep drilling deeper.

You see, he says all the oil has just been sinking deeper and deeper down to the earth, almost to China—the commie one.

That is why we have got to support the real China—the one on that little island—in their struggle against the oil-greedy communists. And that is why it is just a matter of giving the good old American oil millionaires the tax cuts so they can buy longer drills.

Interviewer: Yes, but even if we do find a few more oil deposits, it cannot last forever. Oil is a non-renewable resource, you know.

Fable: No, you are wrong there. Ronnie says oil supplies are being replenished everyday; we just can't see it.

I am telling you that the energy problem came to Ron in a dream—of insight after watching an old movie— not one of his, of course. It was the movie "Journey to the Center of the Earth"— a fine family film with that clean-cut Christian boy, Pat Boone.

Well, anyway, there was one particular scene that really showed Ronnie the light. It was the scene where they were all attacked by the prehistoric lizards. Do you see now? Do you understand why Ronnie is no longer concerned? Well where does come from? From deep dinosaurs, right?

Well Ronnie says there is still some of them down there in the center of the earth. There is a problem though; they are not breeding fast enough. That is why Ronald Reagan opposes the use of federal funds to pay for dinosaur abortions.

Interviewer: Thanks for talking to us Freda. Now I know why you say Ronald Reagan is truly a visionary. I have tried the LSD and every hallucinogenic drug there is, and I have never had visions like that.

Fable: Well, you're not a Presidential candidate either.

Interviewer: I rest my case.

Letters to the Editor

Oil blackmail

A major conflict is being fought in the Middle East and look who is not involved — Israel. The Iranian conflict presents another marked example of how precarious the world energy situation is.

It still remains to be seen how far our country will go to insure its oil supplies. However, another crucial question is at stake: will America give in to energy oil politics, or will the United States stand behind its beliefs and friends while on the road to nuclear free energy self sufficiency?

Israel lies in the middle of this issue because the oil producing nations disagree with many aspects of Israel's policy.

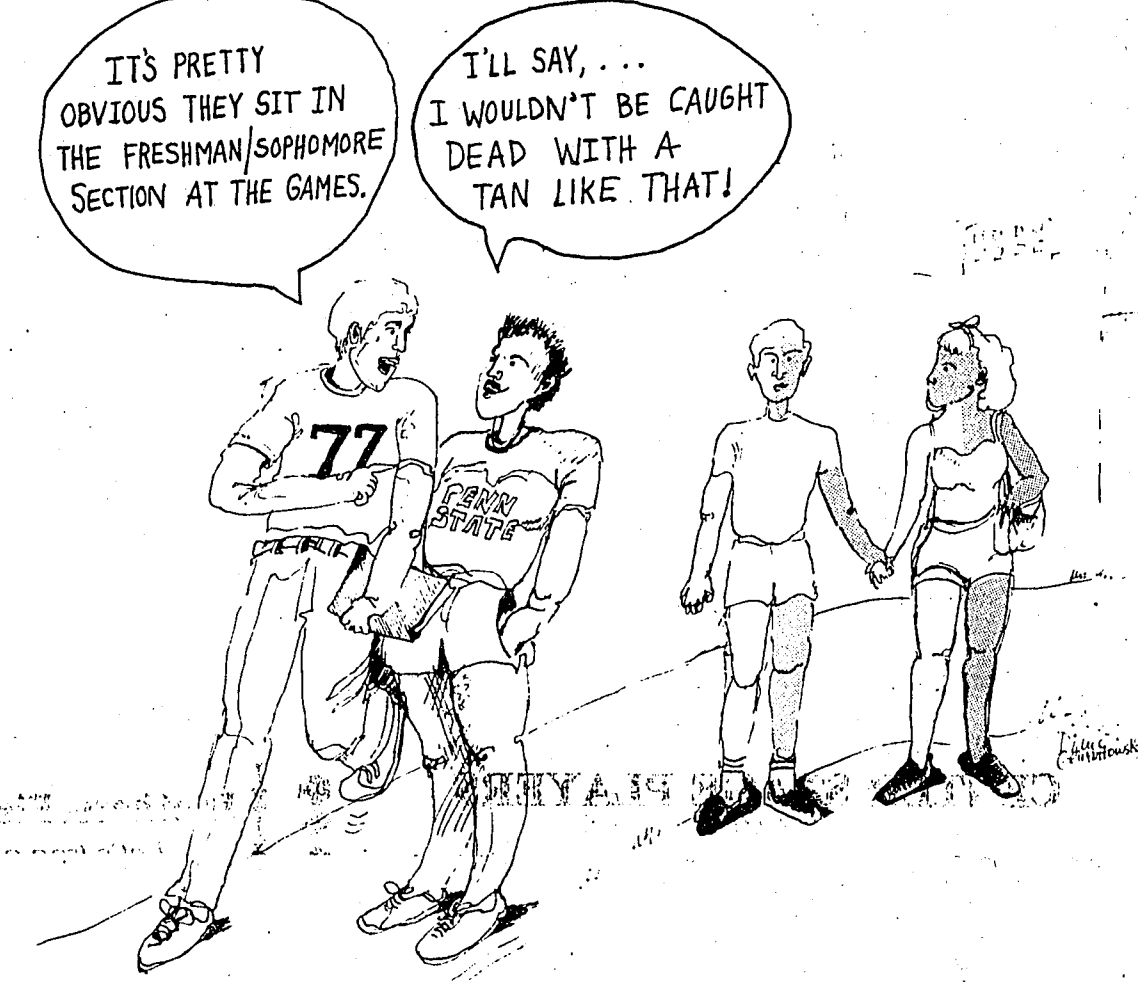
Our nation helped Israel on her struggle to statehood, during her wars for survival and with the first peace treaty ever between Egypt and Israel. Israel is the only country in the Middle East that is a stable, free democracy that fully supports the United States.

If we want to keep Israel as an ally and help her achieve a comprehensive peace we must keep separate Arab oil and Arab politics. When we purchase oil from Saudi Arabia, we are not supporting Saudi government policy, or even that government.

Israel does not have oil — for sale or blackmail. It does have occupied territory whose future status is being negotiated with Egypt in a delicate peace process. The United States as a mediator to the negotiations should maintain an even-handed public policy and not submit to oil or any other outside pressure.

I sincerely doubt the world community will support countries that criticize Israel for keeping the territory she won in war while condemning Iraq for remaining in their newly occupied lands.

Israel, although it is certainly clear on any map that the West Bank is more essential for Israel's survival and security than Khuzistan or Shatt-al-Arab is to Iraq.



On Tuesday Oct. 14, The Daily Collegian will focus its weekly Op-ed page on the possibility of a switch to the semester system. We invite students, faculty and members of the administration to present their views and concerns on the issue.

Please submit letters to the Collegian Editorial Editor, 128 Carnegie. They must be typed, double spaced and no longer than 30 lines. Deadline is 5 p.m. today.

Wrong arguments

A question to Tam Ortenberg, co-chairperson of the College Consumer Party: what was the purpose of your article in Tuesday's issue of The Daily Collegian?

My initial thought was that I was going to learn about the National Citizens Party and the Consumer Party, what it stood for and how it was going to implement change in this country. Since I am not particularly thrilled with either Carter or Reagan, I was interested in learning about other alternatives. How disappointed I was!

To quote from your article, "To the progressive voter... who remains unconvinced by our arguments to support the national Common-Harris ticket..." The article gave absolutely no arguments to support

Paper needs diversity

Different outlooks improve news coverage

The Daily Collegian faces many restrictions because of a lack of diversity on our staff. The same could be said for American newspapers as a whole.

Most, but I stress not all, of our staff members are underclassmen, white, have never been outside the United States and came from Pennsylvania or a border state. Most of us are journalism majors or another liberal arts major and have a middle-of-the-road economic background. We do have a good balance of men and women, and we have staff members from different religions.

The more diverse a newspaper's staff is, the more complete its coverage should be. We have few people on the staff who think or hear of problems of minorities, graduate students, veterans, married students or working people. Because it is not first-nature for many of us to think of these things, we have to work harder to put ourselves in others' places.

Most members of the Collegian staff are learning, the hard way, to anticipate other people's reactions and sensitivities to what we print. But it takes a long time to learn this.

One problem is journalists seem not to be too sensitive overall. You just do not let things cut you after a while. You get used to having your stories — your pride and joy — criticized in public. You get used to hearing about all kinds of awful things that happen all day and get put in



tomorrow's newspaper. After a while, it just doesn't bother you that much.

It takes a very determined effort to train yourself to let things bother you the way they might bother your readers. It is easier to screen offensive material when someone around the office yells "ouch!" before it is put to print. But at the Collegian do not have that benefit, for the most part.

The lack of diversity not only makes it more difficult for us to empathize with others, but it also makes it difficult to achieve complete coverage.

A lot of story ideas come from a special problem and has to be watched carefully. Cartoonists use stereotypes, exaggerations and distortions to convey their message. Often something is ridiculed, good-naturedly or seriously, in a cartoon. But these techniques have to be tempered with worry about reader's reactions.

Writers also use stereotypes and imagery to get meanings across. The same danger is there, but sometimes hidden better.

Until the Collegian has more diversity, and staff members are better at thinking the way their audience does, help can come from readers directly affected by what the Collegian prints and omits. When one is trying to learn a new way of thinking, it helps to have a teacher. Betsy Long is an 11th-term Journalism and political science major and is the editor of The Daily Collegian.

Alphas demonstrate fire safety

National Fire Prevention Week underway

By LISA HAVILAND
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
National Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 5-Oct.11) is in full swing and State College's Alpha Fire Co. has prepared a week's worth of fire safety demonstrations and displays.

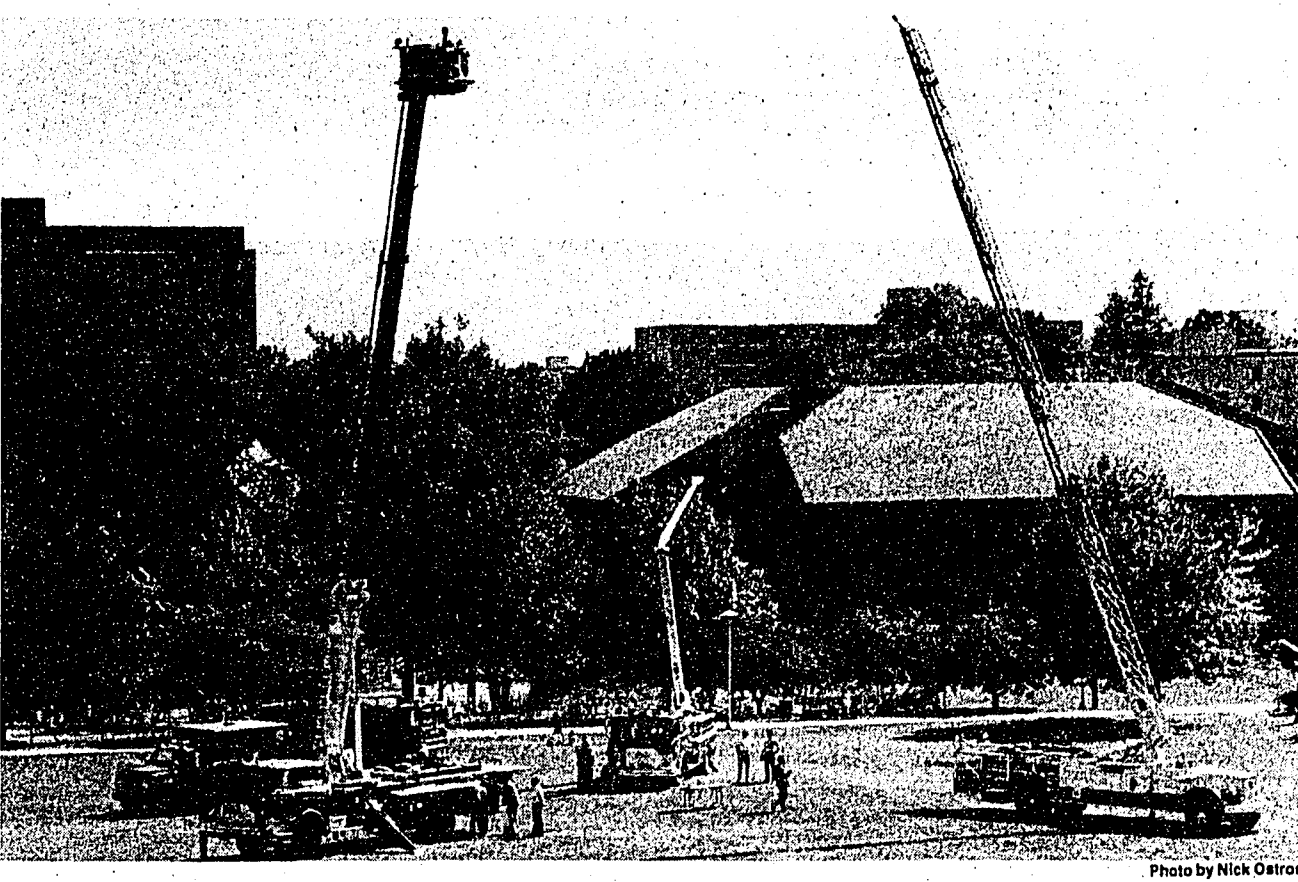
Fire safety brochures were delivered to residence hall mailboxes, and fire equipment was displayed on the HUB lawn from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. yesterday. Firemen from Alpha Fire Co. were there to distribute hand-outs and answer questions.

Director of Fire Prevention J. Thomas Hand said, "We'd really like to see more students participate this year. It's a good time to get acquainted with firemen from the office."

Hand said it would benefit students to know fire safety precautions. He cited the major causes of fire in residence halls as unapproved electrical appliances coupled with careless activities such as smoking in bed or without an ashtray. He said that fires are also started by high-intensity desk lamps and faulty electrical wires in stoves.

Alpha Fire Co. will also host its second annual open house from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

About 10 booths will be in operation with displays and qualified personnel to answer questions such items as wood burning stoves, coal stoves, fire extinguishers, and smoke detectors. Visitors will be able to use a por-



Fire apparatus was displayed on the HUB lawn yesterday by Alpha Fire Co. as part of National Fire Prevention Week, which runs through Saturday. Urging more students to get involved in the programs, Director of Fire Prevention J. Thomas Hand said the major cause of fire in residence halls is unapproved electrical appliances along with careless activities such as smoking in bed.

Dorms get \$1.2 million for utility expenses

By KAREN MCNAMAN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
The University has budgeted approximately \$1.2 million for dormitory utility expenses for 1980-81, Director of Housing Donald T. Arndt said.

Arndt said the \$1.2 million includes sewerage, electricity and heating expenses for the 12,254 students living in the undergraduate dorms. Much of the money will go for heating because many of the dorms are not extremely energy efficient, he said.

"Dormitories built right after World War II — Simmons, McElwain, Hamilton and Jordan — are fancier with high ceilings etc., and have more cubic feet to heat," he said.

"In the period right after the war, no one was really concerned with building costs or heating prices, and this is reflected by the construction of the buildings," he said.

Arndt said that in the dorms built after 1950, however, construction was very much geared to conserving space and lowering labor costs. Dorms from this period which are characteristic of the "less volume, less cost" theory include Pollock, East and North Halls.

paratus and equipment will also be on display with rides being given on the aerialscope.

Fire safety films will be shown.

Also from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow the Alpha Fire Co. will hold a Fire Protection program at Burger King, 521 University Drive.

be heated for almost three weeks because of the nature of their construction. They have very thin walls and require heating earlier than most of the other buildings, Arndt said.

"Lately we've been caught betwixt and between. At this time of the year, we are experiencing 40 F differences between day and night temperatures making it very hard for us to gauge," he said.

Some of the dorms, such as Simmons, are self-controlled and can regulate their heat. Pollock, however, has tunnels that run from the Pollock Union Building to each of its buildings, Arndt said.

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Escort service has a limited operation

By DAVID MEDZERIAN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
The Student Escort Service is in limited operation with 19 volunteer escorts, the supervisor of Student Counselors said yesterday.

"Names of volunteers have started to trickle in," Betty Moore said.

"Ideally, we need a listing of names from each area," as well as off-campus, she said. "We've already had about 35 calls (from women) this year that we haven't been able to fulfill."

Despite an increase in advertising, Moore said, the number of volunteers is down from last year, when about 200 volunteers signed up. She said that last year some rapes and assaults at the beginning of Fall Term increased student safety awareness.

Officers of the Association of the Student, the Organization for Town Independent Students, the Undergraduate Student Government participate in the escort service by helping recruit volunteer escorts. The escorts also finance advertisements publicizing the service, Moore said.

"We really can't get involved in that," she said, "because the volunteers are students themselves."

"We really want them to develop their own safety habits," she said. This will help students when they are away from the University and no escort service is available, Moore said.

Moore said students wanting to volunteer as escorts should stop in 108 Student Counselors office in Douglas Building, or call 863-2020.

later found other ways home and neglected to inform the service.

Moore said safety is the foremost factor with the escort service, and that escorts' I.D. numbers are recorded when they register. The I.D. numbers are later used by both the student counselors and the woman calling for an escort.

While the escort service is designed to serve the students, it should only be used as a last resort, Moore said.

"It's only to be used when other options have failed," she said. These options include arranging to meet a friend, riding the bus or even taking a cab home, she said.

Escort service calls are received by the Student Counselors, who are on duty weekdays evenings from 4 until midnight, and weekends from noon until 8 p.m. If a Residence Hall Student, the Organization for Town Independent Students, the Undergraduate Student Government try to make arrangements.

Some students, such as women with late working hours, are tried to set up permanent escort arrangements with the service, Moore said.

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Bush on campus today

Son Jeb will campaign

Job Bush, son of Republican vice presidential candidate George Bush, will be at the HUB from 10 to 10:30 this morning to campaign for his father and Republican presidential candidate Ronald Reagan.

Bush, 27, will speak at a breakfast sponsored by the Centre County Reagan-Bush campaign at Gatsby's restaurant at 8 a.m. A news conference will follow the breakfast at 9:15 a.m.

After the news conference Bush will walk up the Mall and then spend about a half an hour in the HUB campaigning among University students, said Centre County Republican Chairman Floyd Fischer.

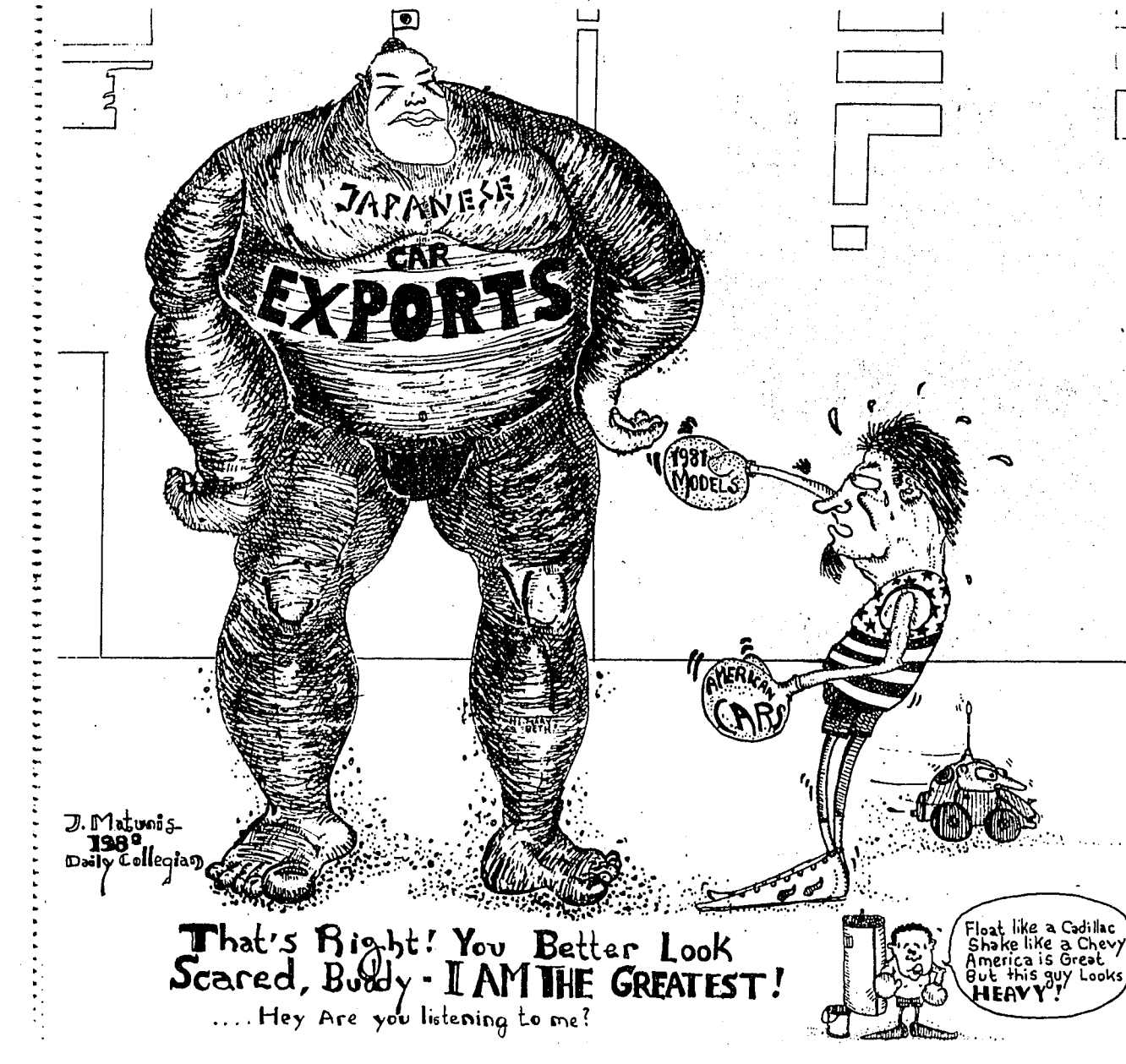
"We were looking for a political science class for him to speak to, but there were none meeting at that time," Fischer said.

Bush is a graduate of the University of Texas and is now the vice president of a Houston bank. Fischer said he is scheduled to spend the rest of the day in York after leaving State College.

—by Lynda Robinson

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Monday, Oct. 13 Schwab Aud. 8:00 PM FREE



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He thinks it's a "fabulous" place to live.

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Monday, Oct. 13 Schwab Aud. 8:00 PM FREE

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Look for our display and demonstration at the Alpha Fire Co.'s Fire Prevention Open House, October 11 and 12, Sat. Fr. 10-4 p.m., Sun. Fr. 1-5 p.m. State College.