

Editorial Opinion

# Closed mind

### Oswald refuses to acknowledge benefits of coed housing

At a recent news conference, University President John W. Oswald said he favors coed housing only in interest houses. Oswald said he bases his reservation on the lack of proof that coed housing enhances the University's academic environment.

Perhaps this reservation is only put forth to mask disbelief that men and women can live in proximity to one another "cleanly." Such narrow-mindedness may be understandable among the Victorians, but it is unforgivable in University officials.

Coed housing may or may not enhance the academic environment, but it has not been shown to detract from it. Oswald should consider the other ramifications of the coed housing issue.

First, students living off campus have the coed alternative available to them. Freshmen, who are required to live on campus their first three terms, should have the same option.

Second, there are many types of coed housing — by wing, by house, by floor, by room — and Oswald shows the lamentable narrowness of judgment when he refuses to consider each kind of coed housing separately.

Third, without considering the social benefits of coed housing, Oswald should pause before calling it cost ineffective. The dorms are places to live first and places to study second. The

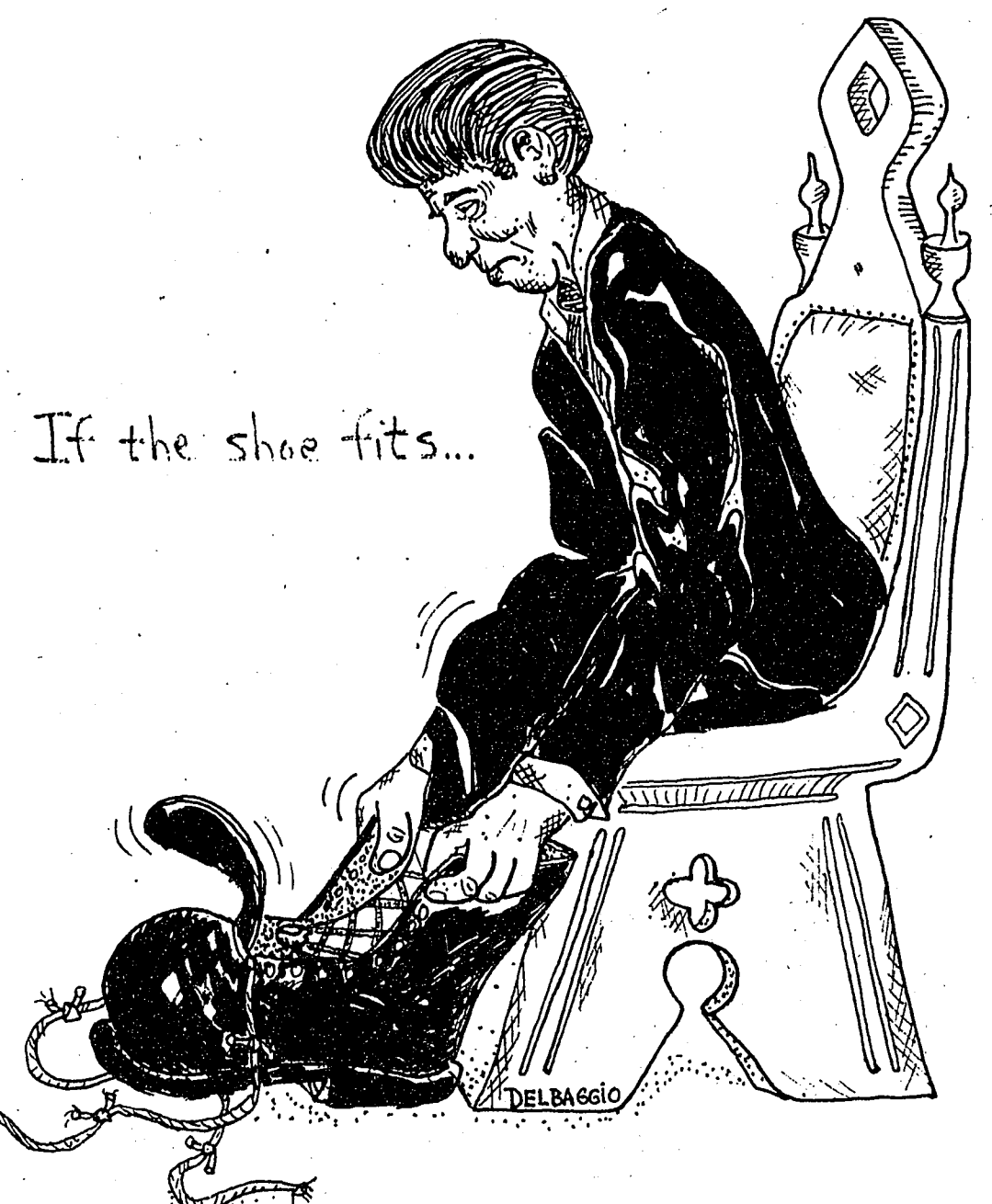
campus is more than just one great educational interest house. It is a community, with social as well as academic dimensions — both need to be expanded.

Oswald's conception of the University is too restricted. Many students living in coed dorms at the University said they learned to relate to members of the opposite sex on more than just a sexual basis. It has been brought to Oswald's attention that the men "act more like gentlemen" and the women feel more secure.

The University is more than one great academic interest house and the growth in personal development that can take place in coed living situations is at least as important, if not more important, than that which takes place in classrooms.

With a single-minded insistence on interest housing, Oswald is narrowing the scope of education available at the University. But the resources of the University are broad enough to provide many styles of residence hall living without major expense or inconvenience to the administration.

Oswald is demonstrating narrow judgment in his evaluation of the coed housing situation. There is no reason why the University cannot provide students with the option of coed housing.



If the shoe fits...

# Letters to the Editor

### Consumer victory

In the Nov. 5 issue of The Daily Collegian, I was quoted as having "no comment" on the recent election.

I asked a Collegian reporter, when she called me, to please call back after more State College precincts had reported. These precincts evidently came in too late for her copy and I never received my phone call.

As all other student and community leaders, I have many comments on the election.

On the national level, Governor Reagan is to be congratulated and I wish him well. I hope those who chose to vote for President Carter to keep Reagan out of office, instead of John Anderson, Ed Clark, or Barry Goldwater, were their true sympathies lie, have learned a lesson.

These people were afraid of throwing away their votes on a "minor candidate" in reality these people truly threw away their votes by helping to deny minor parties the opportunity to establish themselves nationally.

Locally, we in the College Consumer Party and the Centre County Consumer Party are ecstatic. I would like to thank the people of State College and University Park who showed they were ready for a new political party by giving our Congressional Candidate, Douglas Mason, almost 10 percent of the vote in the State College area.

This is a very sizable percentage considering the prejudice many people have against third parties and our meager budget, which was about \$300, all of which went to gasoline, postage and procedural expenses.

Doug received over 5 percent of the vote in Centre County and we are now in the process of acquiring ballot status in the county. This would give our candidates automatic ballot access and eliminate the costly, time consuming mass petitioning. It would also establish us locally as a credible third party.

### Two valid views

To conscientious objectors: The comment in The Daily Collegian persons calling objectors cowards was the work and opinion of one person, who we, the rest of 10th floor Sprout disagree with. We were upset by the fact that the author signed our floor name to his ad without asking anyone.

Although many of us on the floor are ROTC, we are opposed to death and useless murder as much as most objectors. But as long as death is a reality we have learned to cope with it.

Look at military conflict as, unfortunately, the method which has become the accepted means of protecting millions of Americans yet to be born, and not as a way of committing widespread murder.

Of course, there are two sides to every street, but that is no reason we cannot live as neighbors.

Art W. Spiller, 10th floor Sprout Dec. 13

# The Collegian

Monday, Dec. 15 1980 Page 2  
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Kathy Matheny Business Manager

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# Time tangled in units

A few weeks ago, while looking for the University of Maryland, I drove my car to a service station to ask for directions. "It's just two minutes up the street," the attendant told me and pointed toward my destination.

Then I asked him for directions to my motel. "Twenty minutes back down the highway on the left," he replied.

Many students are familiar with common units such as bicycle minutes, roller skating minutes or dragging through line minutes. In order to be more specific, we have to break some of these units down into sub-units such as: up-hill bicycle minutes vs. down-hill bicycle seconds, Six Skate roller skating minutes vs. cross-campus roller skating seconds, and dragging through cafeteria line hours vs. dragging through registration line weeks.

Seven years ago, Philadelphia was three car hours away, but now it is four car hours away, because our government changed the unit before I even thought of it. On the other hand, Pittsburgh, which is three car hours away, will always be 10 years behind.

The closest solar system to ours is three light years away, or about the same distance to Parking Lot 81.

Light years is a measurement that has been with us for quite a long while. However, people think of it as a measure of time. It is actually the distance light travels in a year. Using the established measurement of light years, we can explain our new measurement in those terms. So if a light year is the distance that light travels in a year, a foot minute is the distance a foot can travel in a minute.

So in the future when someone asks you where you go to school, tell him, "Penn State. Two car hours west of Harrisburg. Or six Greyhound bus hours. Or, of course, 18 up-hill bicycle hours."

Rich DiSammartino is a 12th-term economics major and staff photographer for The Daily Collegian.

# Despite some complaints, UCC wants auditorium

'I think students should be aware that we who pay for these concerts may lose our privileges because of the actions of a few.'

Bonnie Nixon, chairman of the University Concert Committee

By SHARON TAYLOR Daily Collegian Staff Writer The University Concert Committee plans to continue using Eisenhower Auditorium for its jazz concerts despite the auditorium manager's complaints of smoking and drinking by the audience.

"In my opinion we are conducting ourselves in a reasonable fashion. Concert programming at its best is difficult," said Melvyn S. Klein, director of Student

Activities. "Even when you plan for the best laid out program, you may still run into difficulties."

The committee passed a motion saying Klein will send a letter to auditorium manager William Crocken challenging his suggestion to discontinue scheduling jazz concerts in the auditorium, since the incidents were isolated.

Klein said he received a memo from Crocken questioning the UCC's scheduling concerts in the auditorium because of the conditions after the Tom Waits concert on Nov. 7.

In the memo, Crocken said the janitorial staff filled two large trash containers with an assortment of liquor and beer bottles after the concert.

Crocken also said the janitors reported numerous cigarette butts crushed out in the carpet in the seating area. Both

smoking and drinking are prohibited in the auditorium.

After reading Crocken's letter, Klein said, "I think these facts are isolated to shed a negative light on the concert."

Bill Cluck, representative from the Artists Series, said that perhaps Crocken is seeking the impossible.

"By far we have the most controlled audiences," Cluck said. "I think Crocken is looking for the ideal situation and you just can't create the ideal situation."

UCC Chairman Bonnie Nixon said, "I think students should be aware that we who pay for these concerts may lose our privileges because of the actions of a few."

Klein agreed with Nixon, saying, "I feel those things were important and those types of decisions rest on us. The actions of the audience should rest on them."

"We have exercised reasonable care, we have done the best that we could, and I think for the most part our audiences are extremely cooperative," Klein said.

"Concert program at its best is difficult. Even when you plan for the best laid out program, you may still run into difficulties."

—Melvin S. Klein

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— Jimmy Stewart  
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# Tale of two cities: Flyer followers infiltrate Igloo

The date: Dec. 13, 1980. The place: Pittsburgh Civic Arena.

Good evening. This is Walter Cronkite reporting live — for the moment — from the war-torn section of D-24 in this battle-ridden hockey arena here in Pittsburgh.

What follows is indeed a tale of two cities, presumably fighting for the oft-used cliché of "City of Champions." It has been edited for length and clarity.

The whirling, dervish-like action on the ice has now transcended into this desolate upper level seating area. Little can be seen from this confetti-strewned section. From this war correspondent's viewpoint, the confetti — along with crumpled paper bags, popcorn and beer cans — is being propelled at a greatly outnumbered, but brave, Philadelphia Flyers Fan Club.

The barrage increases as the Penguins score the game's first goal.

The Pittsburgh battalion is strategically located above the Flyers fans. Visions of George Armstrong Custer at Little Big Horn bandy about in the minds of the Philadelphia fans. Personally, this reporter is sweating bullets.

No, make that M.S.S. Chants of "Let's Go Flyers" are drowned out by bellows of "Go Home Flyers."

Even as I hastily scribble down notes for this column, this reporter continues to be pelted with confetti from this reporter's phone book. Specifically, the Oakland section of the city.

As I remove these fragments from my person, I examine them. "What? No Rocco's Pizza?" I think. The battle rages on in both the stands and on the ice. Clarke scores again on a shorthanded goal to bring the Flyers within one goal at 4-3.

The Flyers score. It's 3-1, but the onslaught continues. As each minute passes, shards of the greater Pittsburgh area telephone book filter down on the backs of the Flyers' troops. The first period ends with a 2-1 Penguin lead.

An impending feeling of doom penetrates the Flyers forces as the Penguins tally another two goals after the Flyers had scored to narrow the gap to 3-2. The score is now 5-2 in favor of the Steel City Skaters.

The Geneva Convention, written by National Hockey League commissioner John Ziegler, as a cease fire. The score after two rounds is 5-5.

However, the Geneva accords are not honored during the break. The war continues. In the midst of the battle, one Flyer fan pulls out a behavioral ecology book. It should have been behavioral psychology.

"Maybe I can figure out how to get us out of this place," the young trooper explains.

"This reporter doubts it. Time goes on and the Flyer fans plot their strategy for the third and perhaps their final period. Brilliant plans of "After the game, it's every man for himself" filter through the troops.

Two fans have the bravado to hold up Flyers banners. This reporter maintains that there is a fine line between bravery and stupidity. Holding pro-Flyer banners in a battle like this is the same as wearing a white helmet into a brush war. It looks good, but it could be painful. (Footnote: the whereabouts of these two men are not known.)

The Flyers fans take to the offensive. Chants of "Let's Go Flyers" drown out chants of "Go Home Flyers."

Members of the Flyers faction huddle together with only seven minutes remaining in the war of two cities. This reporter cannot get close enough to hear their plans. Perhaps they suspect me of being a spy from Pittsburgh. I am cautious and fearful. I prepare my will very carefully and quickly. (I realize there are some things in life you can't take with you — like the security deposit on your apartment.)

With two minutes to go in the game, the Flyers fans initiate their offensive. With a small glimmer of hope for survival, the fans ring out their team's song, "God Bless America."

As the phrases of "Land that I love, stand beside her..." the last gasps are heard from the Pittsburgh through.

One last empty beer can was missed at the Flyers crowd. "If it's a Rolling Rock or Iron City, it's not one of ours," disclaims the Flyers leader.

The identity of the can is not known. It overshoots the Flyers crowd and glances off the shoulder of an unsuspecting neutral party — another innocent victim in the vicious world of war.

The game ends with the Flyers winning, 6-5. As the Flyers fans retreat from the Igloo — the military code name for the Civic Arena — chants of "Onward Christian Soldiers" could be heard. The battle is not over.

As we anxiously wait to pull out in our evacuation transport (also known as the Pullington Auto Bus Co.), we are attacked again. One of our patrol view finders (also known as a window) is shattered.

"Wait, we can't go!" shouts the Flyers fan leader. "We're missing one person."

And that's the way it was. Andy Linker is a 12th-term journalism major and in Edition editor for The Daily Collegian.



Andy Linker



Illustration by Joe Matulis