opinions

-editorial opinion-

Talking about It

"Straight Talk About Sex" is a healthy idea

gral to sex as the act. But as Ameri- sexuality more, and thus was born and Guilt." They will speak at 11:30 ca's sexual mores become less "the most ambitious thing we've a.m. in the HUB main lounge and strict, discussing sex in a frank, ever done" on the subject. factual way is not only healthy — it's neccessary.

The University's United Ministry realizes this and has sponsored a ing with the discussion "Pre-Marital five-day program in the HUB this week, "Straight Talk About Sex." a seminar that night. Far from ministers droning on about the evils of petting, the programs feature University professors and psychologists from the Ritenour Health Center, offering straight talk lent course in the biology of sex(4th and the opportunity for open discussion.

Over the past years, the United Ministry has sponsored programs on cit films as teaching aids. Steven dating, courtship and marriage. Crain, clinical psychologist at the Campus Minister Robert C. Boyer, Ritenour Consuling Center, spoke of the United Ministry, said some yesterday morning on "Sexual campus religious groups prefer to Dysfunction" and offered private avoid getting involved with sexual discussion sessions.

Talking about sex is almost as topics, because they think "that's Today, Assistant Professor of much fun as having it. Locker room not the way to be holy." But he said Health Education Robert A. Walker banter and late-night dormitory can- the United Ministry thought that it's and Ritenour psychologist Annette you-top-this? sessions are as inte- time for people to be confronting Ranck will discuss "Sexual Values

> Graham B. Spanier, professor of HUB. human development and sociology, opened the program Monday morn-Sex and the Sexual Revolution" and

Programs Tuesday and yesterday featured Associate Professor of Biology Edward W. Wickersham. Wickersham, who teaches an excelperiod, 108 Forum), spoke Tuesday about masturbation and led a seminar last night using —gasp! — explihold a seminar at 7:30 p.m. in 317

The program ends on Friday, with all the speakers converging on the HUB main lounge for an 11:30 a.m. panel discussion.

These programs represent the right way to deal with the so-called sexual revolution: the United Ministry has displayed a keen sense of keeping up with the times. Much of people's sexual problems come from lack of understanding, often of simple matters. Open discussion, while potentially awkward at first, is a healthy way to become more comfortable with your sexuality.

The Daily Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by its Board of Opinion, with the editor-in-chief holding final responsibility.



Zippidy-do-dah, zippidy-day, oh my gosh what a beautiful day! Even as I write this, McGough is on his way to It was a good mental drug and I danced to good ment over whether the "will" should be in there. I "Good things happen to me" is the only ritual, the Good things will happen to me.

ipating "Good things will happen to me."

McGough's a strange character; 20 years old and a fuller 20 years than most people could fit in 80. We met at Ogontz and hit it off right away when he caught me forging his name onto one of his comic strips. He was pessimistic about everything and I was a budding cynic. We had a lot of good times.

Good things happen to me.

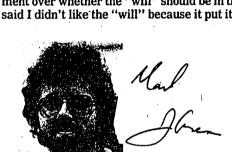
Somewhere in last summer "Good things will happen to me'' started to pop up. I met the phrase itself in a bar in Wildwood, N.J., where I was looking into a mug of beer, bummed out because I wasn't blond, tan and muscle-bound. Think positive, I thought. So I ran through all the ways I had a good life and how even the bad things had worked out in the end.

Happy Valley. He'll be staying in the area for a music with strange girls shortly afterwards. said I didn't like the "will" because it put it in the only liturgy, the only prayer. It's sort of an We were at Gimbel's Thanksgiving Day parade. couple of weeks. Even as I write this I'm anticand Bill. McGough began to chant, "Good things will happen to me" hoping to pick up his evening and soon we all joined in. The Toyota's headlights picked up two girls with their thumbs out. Good things happen to me.

It was an action-packed summer, lots of blur memories, but McGough was always there at the peaks with his eyes crinkling into a smile, pointng out, "Hey, Good Things!" And we'd all stop for a moment and appreciate. McGough told me how a stupid phrase out of

nowhere changed his life. He was a lot happier. He trusted the future. Good things will happen to me.

It spread. McGough just droned it into us. During break we were driving around talking of "Good Things" of all things. There was an argu-



future and McGough said "will" captured the nevitability of it all. We decided we liked both

Good things (will) happen to me. See, it's sort of a philosophy — with no deep thinking involved. In a way, it's a religion; but that and think, 'Hey, good things happen to me!'" appears on Thursdays.

=reader opinion=

But below acne

As a former resident Shunk Hall's Tioga House, the same house that was threatened by the Engineering Interest House located in Porter 'Hall's Warren House, and as a current resident of Beaver Hall which is now the designated location for that very same interest house, I can truly attest to the fact that interest houses are somewhere between gangrene and leprosy on a list of independent student favorites. My quarrel, however, is not with the rights of

interest houses to exist. The interest house option is important to many students, and that option should not be denied to those people who seek to live in such an environment. My quarrel is directed at (University) President Oswald, the innovator of the interest house

option at the University. The president decided in 1970 that interest houses were a good idea after having observed the success that these houses were enjoying at Oxford and Cambridge in England. Fine. But where is the mandate from Heaven that grants interest house students the right to coed living and the right to guaranteed

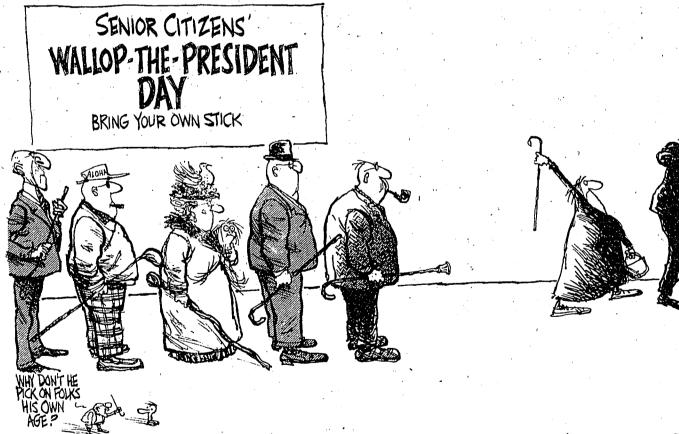
The implication is that we independent slobs are too banal and immature to fully understand and appreciate these privileges. And the irony is that the president KO'd coed housing to independents implying that the educational environment was and is not enhanced by the "distractions" presented when males and females cohabitate, yet the "educationally stimulating" interest house environment contains those very same 'distracting'' mixes of male and female!

Does this mean that interest housing students are different in that they can rise above and handle responsibilities that independent peons rannot?

The matter of guaranteed rooms to these students can be even more irritating. We independents brave Plutonian cold for many hours just to be granted the privilege of living on campus, while those very rooms that we froze for may be ultimately denied us owing to the whims of the committee in charge of locating interest

Is there something genetically superior about these students? Perhaps the "careful screening" process undergone by interest house applicants filters out the instincts that make coed living and guaranteed rooms impossible for independents? Is that why they get it all up front while we only get it in the end? I don't think that it is too much to ask the president why these conditions pre-

I am reminded of South Africa and its absurd "Parallel Development" concept for whites and on-whites. Whites are guaranteed education (dorm rooms) while non-whites stand in line for the privilege. Whites are also able to eat, sleep and defecate where they please (coed housing) while the non-whites may not.



So come on Mr. President, answer these questions to the satisfaction of myself and my Beaver 1 floormates. Either the independents be granted the same rights that the interest houses have, or scrap the interest house concept altogether.

Francis X. Walsh, president of 1st floor Beaver **Dec.** 8

What gives?

Dear Penn State Bookstore: I wish to ask why my "Digital Principles and Applications" textbook by Malvino & Leach costs \$2 more than my "Physics" textbook by Beiser. The digital book is 434 pages long, and is almost seven years old, even though I bought it yesterday. The physics book is not quite three years old, and has 888 pages. I recently discovered the digital book isn't even the latest edition in print!

While I'm on the subject, why did this book cost \$7.45 more than my "Introduction to Mechanics" textbook, which has 346 pages? Yes, I know it's smaller, but 8½ cents a page smaller? don't believe it. To top it off, I have another book by Malvino ("Electronic Principles"; 1979) from he same publisher (McGraw Hill) that is 742

pages long, and cost \$4.15 *less* than the digital book! Just what the h--- is going on around here'

Stephen Jones, 5th-EET Dec. 7

Rather rude

In reference to the Dec. 8 letter from Roosevelt: Evidently you did miss one of the lectures on

certain fundamental truths, namely the one which teaches that no person is better than any other. Whether you can speak two and a half or 50 languages has no bearing on the issue at hand.

Yes, the procedures at the library circulation desk leave much to be desired. Yes, it would be nice if there was a little bit more efficiency. But NO. NO. NO!!! You do not have the right to ridicule these women because of their so-called lack of education. Any one of these ladies could be your sister, your mother or maybe even your

Possibly you have run into a string of bad luck. However, the main reason why these women insist that you find your own books is that usually

most students are looking in the wrong places. They have no idea how the library operates and **Paula Froke** never take the time to find out. Then, two hours Editor before a major paper is due, they come into the library in a frenzied state. At this time, they expect the library staff to fetch the books for them. The students have the responsibility to learn the library system and not depend on the staff to do their slave work.

Secondly, the workers do not misplace the books, students do. Perhaps you should strike out at all the students who find such activities as putting books in trash cans, hiding them behind other books, and hiding them under radiators as

ibrary staff are less than cordial. However, their possession or lack of skills has nothing to do with their personalities. am not denying the fact that you gave a valid point to make. However, your presentation rots.

Perhaps after you have eliminated your blinding prejudices, you should sit down and write a more mature and thoughtful letter.

The Daily Collegian Thursday, Dec. 10

You got your unusual good thing: Like at the beginning of the summer when I decided to take a part-time job even though I after a bus full of cops down the Benjamin

inexplicable thing.

going to give you a job.'

needed full-time money. I was thumbing it home Franklin Parkway (our string of six balloons was after taking the first job when a car pulled over. tied to the rear bumper). The driver had turned me down for a job the day "I'm not going to give you a ride," he said. "I'm "I just got a part-time one. 'We'll work around that," he said.

And you got your everyday good thing: Like a smile or someone taking time out to start friendship with you or a good egg roll. You even got your bad/good thing: Like McGough lost \$20 during the summer and

and told McGough that we had a "Good Things" theologian "Nah, nah," McGough shook his head. "He's more like a 'Good Things' PR-man. You can't explain it, man, you got to live it." Mark Green is a 10th-term journalism major and said, "Well, what the hell. Someone's going to find a staff writer for The Daily Collegian. His column

It was a "good things" day all around; from the

bum who stopped to talk to us and made us laugh.

Somewhere in between, Mark Henry was trying

to explain "Good Things" to some people. He was

really getting in-depth with it. I pointed to him

to the point where we found ourselves runnin

Puttin' it in

Listening but not hearing. It's a problem at the University, one that many say obstructs communications between students and administrators. But is that the real problem? Do students really have input into administrative decisions and don't use their power properly? Or is student input a farce, an illusion? On Tuesday, Dec. 15, and Tuesday, Jan. 5, The Daily Collegian's Op-ed page will examine the question: can students really ever have an effective voice in the workings of this

University? And if not, why not? Part One will represent the student point of view, Part Two the adminstrators'. If you feel you have something to contribute, bring your letters (one page, typed and double-spaced) and forums (two to three pages, typed and double-spaced) to 126 Carnegie. Part One material must be submitted by Sunday, Dec. 13, at 5 p.m. Part Two material must be submitted by Saturday, Dec. 19, at 5

Thursday Dec. 10, 1981—Page 2 © 1981 Collegian Inc **Debby Vinokur Business Manager**

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ABOUT THE COLLEGIAN: The Daily Collegian and The Weekly Collegian are published by Collegian Inc., a non-profit corporation with a board of directors composed of students, faculty and professionals. Students of The Pennsylvania State University write and edit both papers and solicit advertising material for them. The Daily Collegian is published Monday through Friday and dis-tribused of the University Bork computer. ibuted at the University Park campus. The Weekly Collegian is mailed to Commonwealth campus students, parents of students, alumni and other subscribers_who want to keep abreast of University news.

opinions

In South Halls, the little guy ain't got a chance social life excludes most independent male resi- interest house program grew, Residential Life major (for that matter, minor) issues, and feels **By KEVIN MOSLEY**

Former resident of 5th floor Beaver Former Resident Assistant for 4th floor Beaver

Once again Residential Life has given us serious reason to believe that those residents of the dorms who do not belong to special interest groups — sorority, fraternity or interest house are numbers and nothing more. (That goes for · RAs, too.)

I ask you (Residential Life,) didn't you hear us (the RA advisory board) last year? We told you that most independent dorm residents think: • Sororities rarely interact with independent dorm residents.

• By giving sororities extra spaces on "off" floors you are making it harder for independent women to get spaces in South Halls (which is close to town and the fraternities.)

• Interest houses are a poor substitute for coed • The interest house program should not be

expanded — especially when it costs others their It was poor judgment on the part of Residential

Life to place all sororities in Pollock and South halls. Sororities have their own social life. which revolves around the greek system. Subsequently (naturally) they schedule most of their functions with fraternities and attend fraternity parties. In the dining hall, the sisters eat in large groups and,

basically stick together, which is reasonable because they have 60 to 70 other sisters to keep up Result: The sorority sisters in South Halls don't know many independent male residents. Sorority

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SERA-TEC BIOLOGICALS

percent of the female population in South Halls - besides West and North. Much to the dismay of importantly, the individual - the independent have building damages. don't attend many independent dorm floor func- and with little input from the former residents. dorm student, for example. If Residential Life tions or parties. Consequently, there is a reasonable amount of

tension between sororities and male independent dorm residents. Last year, sororities asked for and received more reserved rooms (not spaces) on "off" floors, because they had an agreement with Residential Life that guaranteed them more

'rooms if sororities grew. Result: In South Halls, sororities now comprise 60 percent of the female population.

torum

This not only reduced the number of female independents in South, but I think it's fair to state that sorority and female/male independent relations were further strained. At this point I will deviate from sororities to interest houses and tie the two together later

Because University President John W. Oswald living. (Penn State shall continue to dwell in the neoconservative Reagan dark ages until his excellency departs, but don't count on his successor to liberate our souls.) Therefore, interest houses were developed as a substitute.

Result: To make a long story short, as the

MAKE SOMEONE

damages the house sustained.

Little did the residents of Beaver Hall know as late night shouts of, "Porter, WE'RE INTER-ESTED in you," that their number was next. Interest houses place in the same house a group of students who are in the same college, which adds up to one thing: another clique of people, but worse, who have the same classes, study, eat and basically live together 24 hours a day with little or no variety or change, which would be sparked by individuals of varying colleges. Thus, interest houses are a poor substitute for coed living, especially when it's at the expense of another

student's room. The classic joke among some RAs in South

Anything else they reflected right back at us, just like we were in junior high school. that Residential Life does exactly as it pleases, *i* ques (sororities.)



DEADLINE: Wednesday Dec. 126 Carnegie Building PONDEROS

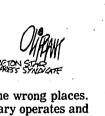


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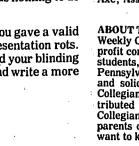


serving Pepsi-Cola





This is not to get off the point that some of the



The Daily Collegian Thursday, Dec. 10, 1981-3

seldom listens to or solicits RA input concerning • Floor damages in Beaver have dropped

dents. Sororities - which comprise 45 to 50 decided to spread the program to another area that it does not have to answer to anyone, or more fifth and sixth floors Porter Hall were converted had listened to all of the input it received from the into an interest house, partially because of the RAAB last year, they would have realized the

• In South Halls there is a disproportionate they taunted fifth and sixth Porter last year with number of sorority members to independent females, which makes it difficult for independent male residents to meet and interact with female

 Because the sororities are guaranteed rooms (not space,) it is difficult for independent females to move into South Halls, unless, of course, they join a sorority.

If Residential Life and the coordinating staff of South Halls had just looked at South Halls as a whole and Beaver Hall's history over the last three years they would have realized the follow-

• By adding two interest houses to Beaver Hall (other areas had their own version) last year — including the one from Porter which will be bers. came right out of Counselor Ed. 302, the infamous transferred, probably because Residential Life RA course, and Residential Life. At times we forgot how hard it is for two separate floors to knew we were getting double talk if someone interact effectively on a day-to-day basis - you responded to us as follows: "What I hear you will eliminate 65 male spaces in South Halls, thus has decreed it, Penn State does not have coed saying is , ..." All too often we knew that what making it more difficult for independent males to they heard was exactly what they wanted to hear. get space in South Halls.

• In effect, two more non-interactive cliques would be added to an area which is already It didn't take long before we began to realize , overrun with a major set of non-interactive cli-

cluding elevator out of vain service charges, so

• Beaver is not the perfect structure for an interest house. Each house would have a disproportionate number of males to females if placed

by A and B ends (short or long) of Beaver. • The residents of Beaver have more pride in their building than any other, due in part to the rumor that Beaver is the largest male single floor dorm this side of the Mississippi, which may or may not be true. Why else would the residents dish out half the money for two color TVs over the last three years?

Had Residential Life originally spread the sororities and interest houses between areas and dorms, much of the bad hype that surrounds each could have been avoided, but that was too logical a solution. It's pretty sad when a first-term reshman, or ninth-term junior for that matter refers to a sorority member as an SB when he or she doesn't personally know any sorority men

In the end, Residential Life, coordinating staff included, knows that all the flak falls on the RAs anyway. Then again, RAs and independent residents — individuals — are nothing more than numbers. We're expendable.

Oh, by the way, didn't Title IX require Residential Life to change Tener into an all-female dorm? Sixty-five male spaces isn't a lot, but then again, one never knows, does one? And just what are you going to do with Alpha Omicron Pi? (Pssst: East Halls, you're next.)

