

# Trudeau gives strip some time to grow

FAIRWAY, Kan. (AP) — Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Garry Trudeau is giving up "Donesbury" for more than a year to give his characters time to grow up — and himself a needed break, Universal Press Syndicate announced Wednesday.

"For almost 15 years, the main characters have been trapped in a time warp, and so find themselves carrying the colors and the scars of two separate generations," Trudeau, 34, said in a statement issued by Universal Press. "It was unfair to stretch their formative years to embrace both Vietnam and preppy."

"My characters are understandably confused and out of sorts. It's time to give them some \$20 haircuts, graduate them and move them out into the larger world of grown-up concerns."

"The trip from draft beer and mixers to cocaine and herpes is a long one, and it's time they got a start on it."

"I need a breather," said Trudeau. "Investigative cartooning is a young man's game. Since the industry

frowns on vacations, I'll be claiming a medical leave."

The strip, poking at politics, fads and — not the least — the quest for the perfect suntan, will stop Jan. 2 and not resume until the fall of 1984, said John P. McMeel, president of the syndicate.

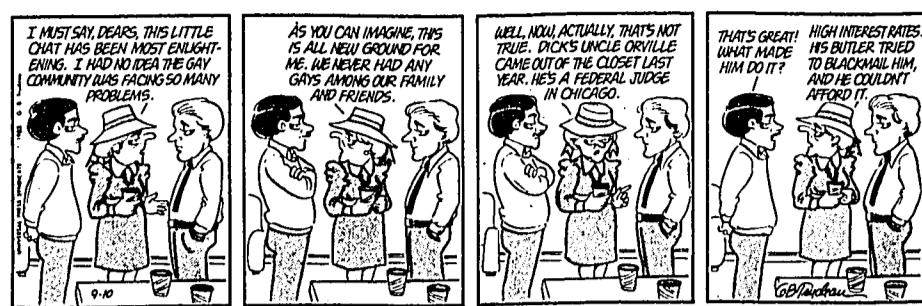
Trudeau has been producing "Donesbury" for 14 years, 12 of them for daily syndication.

"This is simply a lull in the action," he said. "It is not, repeat not, a mid-life crisis."

Trudeau said he hoped to use the time off to reappraise the characters and review development of the strip.

Trudeau said he also planned to use his sabbatical for study and writing.

"Donesbury," which now runs in nearly 700 papers, began with 28 subscribers on Oct. 26, 1970. The controversial strip, with such characters as Michael J. Donesbury, Joanie Caucus, B.D., Zonker Harris and Uncle Duke, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1975.



# Penn State to miss Donesbury's political insight

By SUZANNE REESE  
Collegian Staff Writer

Donesbury comic strip readers at the University said they will miss cartoonist Garry Trudeau's satire and insight into social and political issues when Trudeau takes a leave of absence beginning Jan. 2.

"I'll miss his witty and provocative insights into the American political system," Terry Mansberger (10th-political science) said. "That's my favorite comic strip and I'll really miss it."

"It was one of the funniest political cartoons," said B.K. Davis (4th-administration of justice). "It will probably be missed."

Tom Antolick (10th-computer science) also said he will miss Donesbury.

"If something is really funny, you look for a hidden truth," he said.

Robert O'Connor, associate professor of political science, said, "It's sad news. I'm deeply hurt."

Donesbury has given me something to look forward to every day."

O'Connor said Trudeau can say in four small pictures what takes him 25 or more minutes to say in a lecture, and that Trudeau says it better. He also said he feels an affinity to the cartoon and the author because "he really spoke to the concerns of my generation."

But despite their disappointment, Donesbury readers said they think the break might be good.

"It's probably good," Doug Grier (7th-psychology) said. "He may come back with something better."

"He deserves a break," Bill Fernald (10th-agronomy) said. He added that Trudeau is probably tired from writing the comic strip for so long.

Paul Boynton (13th-journalism) said he is disappointed that the strip will be discontinued for a while.

"He's going out with class and will be coming back with class."

John P. McMeel, president of Universal Press Syndicate, the company that holds Trudeau's contract, said the office received between 50 and 100 telephone calls yesterday morning — all saying the same thing.

"The reaction has been universal," McMeel said. "One, everyone is disappointed. Two, we have not been in contact with anyone who was not a Donesbury fan."

Readers asked what Trudeau would be doing during his vacation and what he will do when he returns, McMeel said.

Trudeau is working on a Broadway musical and a movie featuring Donesbury, he said.

McMeel said Trudeau's contract allowed him to take a leave of absence but "we hoped for years that he would never exercise it."

Donesbury fans with high expectations should be satisfied when Trudeau returns, he said.

"I look forward to it every day," he said. "Hopefully he'll come back and make it even better."

# ARHS gearing up for another dorm contract survey

By SHARON TAYLOR  
Collegian Staff Writer

For students who just settled into their rooms early last week, Spring Term's dorm contract lines are not a pervading issue. However, for the Association of Residence Hall Students the issue is a timely one.

Once again, ARHS will gather student opinions on the dorm contract distribution process. But the group is facing a tight deadline.

Because the administration wants student input before it decides whether the existing first-come/first-served system will be used this spring, University President John W. Oswald has given ARHS an Oct. 7 deadline to submit student opinion on the issue.

ARHS Vice President Jennifer Gould said the group has outlined strict deadlines to streamline the survey process, while ensuring that the survey represents student opinion.

The surveys will tentatively be distributed to the residence hall area presidents by Sept. 21, ARHS President Laura Cerar said. By Sept. 23, the area presidents will distribute them to house representatives, who in turn will hand them out to the students living on their floors.

After collecting the surveys, floor representatives will tally and return the results to their area presidents, who will compile results for their areas and return them to ARHS executives by Sept. 27.

But before the group starts drawing up the survey questions, Gould said, ARHS faces the difficult task of informing students about the three choices: the first-come/first-served system, the lottery system and the 11th line system.

This posed a problem for the group last year when the organization conducted a similar survey.

"The three systems were not explained clearly," Gould said.

In the first-come/first-served system, used the past six years, students desiring contracts are placed according to the last digit of their social security numbers in one of 10 lines formed on campus. Prospective roommates submit their dorm contracts together.

Dorm contracts are distributed on a first-come/first-served basis with an equal percentage of people in each line receiving contracts. Advanced payments are returned to students who do not receive dorm space.

The 11th line system is a combination of the first-come/first-served system and the lottery system, which is the third choice in the survey.

As in the first-come/first-served system, roommates also turn in their dorm contracts together. However, students who don't want to wait in line can submit their contract cards

*'Based on what I have heard last year, it's going to be close, because when we talked to area governments, none supported strictly lottery — there was always a decision between first-come/first-served and the 11th line.'*

Laura Cerar, ARHS president

into a random lottery. The percentage of contracts accepted out of each line would also be applied to the cards submitted for the lottery.

If the 11th line plan is approved by the administration, Cerar said, students would probably have to notify the Office of Housing and Food Service Operations whether they will opt for one of the first-come/first-served lines or the hypothetical 11th line prior to standing in line.

M. Lee Uperaff, director of the Office of Residential Life Programs, said Residential Life has recently backed both the lottery and the 11th line systems.

But, he said, Residential Life is waiting to hear the administration's decision before working out the details of the system.

In past years, ARHS did not back the 11th line system. Fran Kenawell, former ARHS president, said ARHS has traditionally supported the first-come/first-served system since Oswald asked the group to develop a feasible dorm contract plan that would accommodate increasing demand for dorm space Fall Term 1979.

"First-come/first-served got out of hand. It used to be that everyone that wanted a contract got it," Kenawell said. "With the rent going up, there were higher demands for the dorms — instead of fighting for location, students were fighting for a contract."

When the decision was brought to Oswald — ARHS supporting the first-come/first-served system and Residential Life backing the 11th line system — Oswald decided to keep the first-come/first-served system.

ARHS opposed the 11th line system because the group feared the lottery

system would eventually dominate the first-come/first-serve part of the system, Kenawell said.

This year, the group is reserving judgment on the issue this year until it gathers input from the students, Gould said.

But Cerar said most of the students that she and Gould spoke with Spring Term were torn between the first-come/first-served system and the 11th line system.

"Based on what I have heard last year, it's going to be close," she said, "because when we talked to area governments, none supported strictly lottery — there was always a decision between first-come/first-served and the 11th line."

"It was always close, never a majority (for either of the systems) — there was never a difference of more than six or seven (people)."

This spring, Oswald asked ARHS to give the administration a "general feeling" for students' opinion on the dorm contract distribution process. He also asked Cerar to give the administration a final recommendation based on a representative sample of students by the middle of October.

Cerar and Gould questioned residence hall area presidents and students who attended area meetings about the dorm contract distribution process Spring Term.

After talking to those students, they sent Oswald the preliminary student reaction that supported the first-come/first-served system.

In that letter, they also told Oswald that the group would conduct a survey Fall Term to determine exactly which system received the most support from the students now living in the dorms.

ARHS said the survey would be conducted, compiled and returned to Oswald before the end of Fall Term.

But, Oswald, fearing that the group would procrastinate, set a Sept. 30 deadline for ARHS' final recommendation in a Aug. 16 letter sent to the group, Gould said.

"That was asking a lot from us, coming into the year," Gould said yesterday morning.

Worried that they would not have the time to put together a comprehensive survey and gather sufficient input on the issue before Sept. 30, Cerar and Gould called Old Main, hoping to extend the deadline.

Oswald told the ARHS executives to schedule a meeting with Raymond O. Murphy, vice president for Student Affairs, instead. Murphy handles Residential Life matters for the administration.

In the meeting, Cerar requested a two-week extension. But, she said, Murphy persuaded the group to agree to a one-week extension, pushing the deadline back to Oct. 7.

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- Have University I.D. card with full-time Fall Term '82 sticker and ticket ready for gatemen.
- Seniors & Graduate students MUST enter Gate #15 in order to be seated in the Senior/Grad sections.
- Juniors MUST enter Gate #16 in order to be seated in the Junior sections.
- Freshmen and Sophomores MUST enter Gate #17.
- Seniors may sit in any class section, as space permits, but must enter the gate designated for that section.
- Juniors may sit in the junior and freshmen/sophomore class sections, as space permits, but must enter the designated gate for that section.
- The gate you enter is the determining factor as to the section in which you will be seated for the game. For example: If you are a senior, hold a senior ticket, and wish to sit in the senior section, but enter the stadium through Gate #17 (freshmen/sophomore gate) you will be required to remain in that section for the game.
- The coordination of gating to seating sections is utilized to insure the quickest and most efficient entrance to the stadium for all students. This system was devised after extensive meetings and discussions with students, including the Association of Residence Hall Students.
- In fairness to your fellow classmates, please occupy one seat number only and refrain from attempting to save seats.
- Pass-out checks will be issued at the following portals: Seniors/Grads—Bottom of section ED  
Juniors—Bottom of Section EC  
Fresh/Sophs—Bottom of section EA
- The student seating sections of Beaver Stadium ARE NOT OVERSOLD.

However, there are more holders of senior/grad tickets than there are seats in the sections (ED & EC) assigned exclusively to senior/grads:

The Student Ticket Policy stipulates that a senior/grad may sit in any of the student sections; it does not guarantee a seat in the designated senior/grad sections.

It is impractical to sell to each class only the number of seats contained in the sections assigned to each class. If this were done, many juniors, seniors, and graduate students would be shut out of Beaver Stadium because of lack of tickets.

For example, there would be no way of knowing how many seniors or juniors would prefer to sit in the freshmen/sophomore sections if they were dating a member of those classes.

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**Our best advice: Enter the stadium early.**