

Collegian faces \$50,000 suit

Woman charges that her reputation harmed by ad

Collegian Inc. is being sued for more than \$50,000 by a Bellefonte woman who has charged that her reputation was harmed by a classified advertisement placed in The Daily Collegian two years ago.

Vicki Switzer said the ad, in the "personals" category, was placed in May 1980 by someone who used her telephone number and first name.

The suit, filed in Centre County court, alleged the Collegian was negligent for not verifying the legitimacy of the phone number given and the identity of the person who

placed the classified ad.

The ad in question appeared in the May 5 and 6, 1980, issues of the newspaper and read: "SHY, GAY, desperately needed to rap. Call Vicki..."

Switzer filed notice of her intent to sue in May 1981 and had two years from that time to file a complaint. H. Denning Mason, attorney for the Collegian, filed notice on Aug. 30 of this year, forcing the complaint to be presented.

The suit, filed by attorney R. Bruce Manchester of Bellefonte, charges the ad was

placed by Doriene Sharer, address not given, using an alias of Vicki Longe.

Michelle McNamara, senior office worker for the Collegian business staff, said she is not sure if the same policy that is in effect now concerning the placement of personal ads was in effect in May 1980.

Now, if someone wants to place a personal ad, he must present at least one form of picture identification. Only the name and number of the person placing the ad can appear in the newspaper, McNamara said.

—by Suzanne Cassidy

Airport to get safety funds

The University Park Airport will receive \$367,433 from the Federal Aviation Administration on Sept. 30 for the construction of a rescue and snow removal building, the press secretary for U.S. Rep. William F. Clinger, R-Central Pa., said yesterday.

Clinger's press secretary said the funding is also earmarked for construction of an automatic weather reporting system. The system will measure such things as wind velocity and direction and will transmit it to any pilot requesting the information.

The decision to grant the funding came after the FAA inspected the airport and found it met the criteria of improving FAA fire and safety standards.

He said the University will have to come up with \$40,000 in addition to the FAA funding.

However, Penn State will not have to raise the funds until the federal money is received, he said.

George R. Lovette, assistant vice president for business, said the funding will have to be signed, sealed and delivered before midnight Sept. 30, the deadline for the current fiscal year.

Lovette said the FAA designates the funding "Crash, Fire and Rescue" and it is to be used for such equipment. A rescue vehicle will also be purchased, he said.

This funding is separate from the \$400,000 tentatively available to the University and the Centre County Airport Authority for fiscal year 1983. That funding will be used for a new terminal to replace the temporary one now at the airport.

—by George Mattar

Semester change to conflict with activities

By MARCY MERTEL
Collegian Staff Writer

Because the calendar conversion will affect out-of-class life as well as academic life at the University, the Calendar Transition Group of representatives from student organizations and the Office of Student Activities met yesterday to begin discussing the problems the conversion will cause activities.

John A. McCauley, assistant director of student activities, said the group's goal is "to identify areas where we're going to find problems and start talking about those problems and how to approach each one."

For instance, because Spring Semester classes will end in early May, some spring outdoor activities will have to be held in the fall, McCauley said. But someone must decide what activities must move — possibly into competition with football games.

One solution is to take some programs indoors and hold them during the winter, he said.

Chris Hopwood, president of the Undergraduate Student Government's Academic Assembly and a member of the Calendar Conversion Council, said a group could sponsor an outdoor winter carnival instead of a spring event.

Another solution is to merge similar programs, for example "Movin' On and Horizons," McCauley said.

"I think co-sponsoring is a way to get out of a bit of those scheduling hassles."

John Boland, chairman of the Associated Student Activities Budget Committee, said many organizations hold identical events the same day. For example, business student organizations sponsor similar speakers on the same evening, he said.

One reason for the duplication of services could be "there is not one place on this campus you can call to find out what is going on" on any given date, McCauley said.

Also under the semester calendar, "there's going to have to be a lot more advance planning," and that includes holding elections for officers earlier in the year, he said.

ARHS: Keep dorm line system

Even though results of a recent dorm contract survey were close, the Association for Residence Hall Students last night recommended the administration keep the first-come/first-served system now in operation.

Ten members voted for first-come/first-served, five for a combination of the present line system with the 11th line lottery option; and two people abstained.

The results for students surveyed who plan to live in dormitories but will not receive reserved space are: 60.1 percent in favor of the present system in Centre Halls, 46.4 percent in East Halls, 49.3 percent in North Halls, 44.1 percent in Pollock/Nittany Halls, 63.8 percent in South Halls and 61.7 percent in West Halls.

The same sample who voted for the combination totaled: 31 percent in Centre, 43.6 percent in East, 38.6 percent in North, 44.1 percent in Pollock-Nittany, 29.3 percent in South and 32.4 percent in West.

Although no members of ARHS plan to use the 11th line system themselves, several members recommended it be implemented on a trial basis.

The statistics are too close for those opting for the combination to be ignored, Dawn Smith, a representative for Pollock-Nittany said.

—by Rita McLay

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