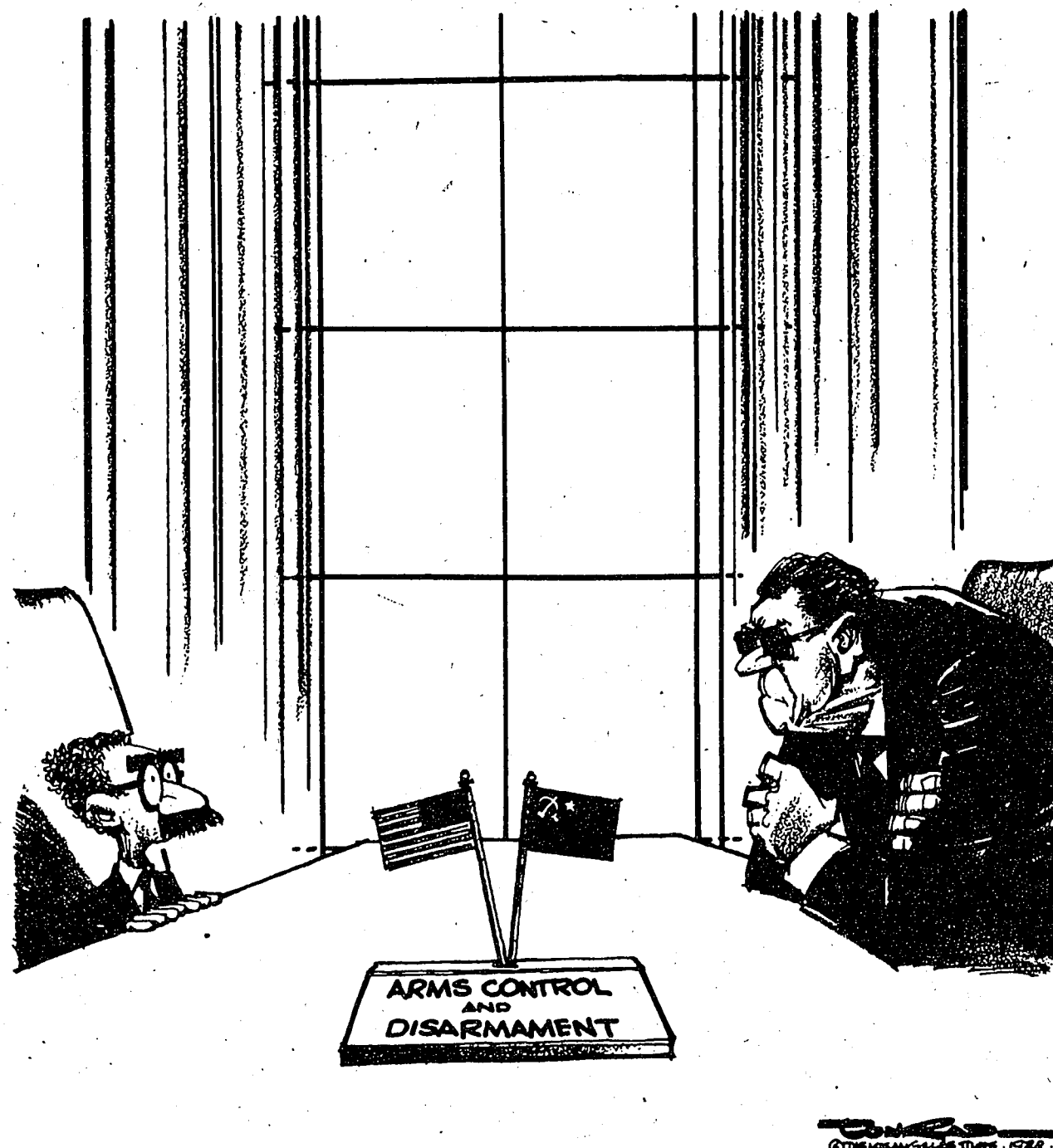


editorial opinion

The state nuclear freeze

The nuclear power industry received both a go-ahead and a halt from the U.S. Supreme Court last week. Much to the disappointment of some state residents, the Supreme Court ruled last week that federal law does not mandate possible psychological damage as a reason for not re-opening Unit 1, the undamaged reactor at Three Mile Island. TMI has been shut down since the Unit 2 reactor was damaged March 28, 1979. The court correctly assessed that psychological effects would be impossible to measure accurately. And the court's ruling was justified as the law was written. But the area's residents should not be dismayed just yet. The environmentalist still must be met and it may be some time before the plant is re-opened. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission does not intend to re-open the plant until a \$1 billion cleanup is completed. The faces of hundreds of people and of the whole nuclear power industry depend on the NRC's decision. The mistakes that led to the TMI shutdown must not recur. Also, Gov. Dick Thornburgh expressed opposition at re-opening Unit 1 until all health, safety and environmental concerns have been resolved. He also strongly supports developing plans for cleanup for the damaged reactor at Unit 2. Yet despite the governor's "hold" position

on TMI, the authority and jurisdiction for dealing with the question lies outside his official capacity and with a Nuclear Regulatory Commission monopoly. The governor should find some consolation in a related decision the court reached last week. The court ruled that states may ban construction of new nuclear power plants until the federal government develops a safe radioactive waste disposal method. Yet it's not enough to allow states to ban new plants; it should be done by region because the effects will be felt by an area larger than a state boundary. Nuclear waste does not stop at an imaginary boundary line. However, the effects of the court's ruling may only be cosmetic. That's why Thornburgh must continually voice opposition to the regeneration of TMI. And he should continue to do so until all problems have been resolved satisfactorily. As the state's official political leader, he must continually fight to safeguard the health of state citizens and the environment — even in the face of seemingly insurmountable commission monopolies and court rulings. Because by continuing to oppose any re-opening plans, Thornburgh also continues to safeguard the quality of life for citizens of Pennsylvania, and possibly, for citizens of the nation.



reader opinion

Scapegoat?

Came on Daily Collegian, do you really think Dr. Carr's resignation was front page material? What sort of sensationalist reporting tactics did you expect to be effective in beating the dead horse of last year, namely the University Choir controversy. This may come as a surprise, but it was not a crisis which rocked the entire music department. Why finish an already poor article with a topic that had been resolved four terms earlier? It appears as though the negative publicity is putting Dr. Carr in the category of the Wicked Witch of the North. Maybe her cause for resignation was not administrative in nature, but certainly some of the shortcomings of the School of Music stem from a source a bit higher in the chain of command. After all, it was not Dr. Carr who caused the wave of dissension in denying the tenure of a music education teacher/adviser. She also wasn't the administrator who when questioned by students, supported the decision with fallacies. She has never, to my knowledge, discouraged anyone from pursuing a career in music or attending Penn State, whereas another figurehead suggested that there were persons present who were unsatisfied with the way decisions were being made, then maybe this wasn't the place for them. We, the music students, are at a disadvantage. By overall ratios we have too many teachers for too few students BUT not enough to cover every area effectively. You may be able to teach a math or science class to 200 students simultaneously, but it's practically and aesthetically impossible to give instrumental lessons in the same manner. What do you listen to? Statistics? Reality? I'm sorry, Miss Rudolph, if you need an earthshaking story please don't use Dr. Carr

or the music department as your scapegoat. We have enough difficulties being caught in a Catch-22. The music programs will really shape up with the enrollment of more students, but there won't be as many applicants until the program is perfected. As far as the curriculum is concerned, Penn State's School of Music is one of the best there is without a conservatory atmosphere. Too bad the attitudes can't reflect this. Oh, and by the way, contrary to popular believe, I am not the unidentified music major of Friday's article. Did anyone who asked really think I'd wimp out on my name? Edie Smith, 6th-music education April 25

Invitation declined

I am the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences Student Council vice president and a USG Academic Assembly member representing the college. Being a member of the assembly, I received an invitation to the USG awards banquet that has come under a lot of attack recently. Much of the ill sentiment stems from the fact that the USG Senate allocated \$900 to the banquet but only \$750 of the original \$1,500 requested by Movin' On. Many students view this as being a selfish move on USG's part. In my personal role, I feel that there is nothing wrong with having an awards banquet. Can anyone deny that someone who sacrifices a lot of time for the benefit of others should be commended? It is common practice in major organizations to honor their leaders. We have provided a service voluntarily and to award those who have done a superior job. Concerning Movin' On, I was distraught by

the attack on USG for allocating only one-half of the requested sum. As ARHS, not USG, is sponsoring the event, USG was approached and asked for a gift of \$1,500. One can't overlook the fact that USG did present a \$750 gift to Movin' On. It's a question of "is the cup half full or half empty?" USG did not pour half of the cup out and into the banquet; they received an empty cup and filled it halfway. Personally, I wish they hadn't given any — I disagree with subsidizing what has historically become a two-day party complete with alcohol and drugs — on the HUB lawn. I do not condone any event which under any guise (including philanthropies) promotes illegal activities. Not being a member of the USG Senate, I don't know all of the intricacies of the proceedings, however I hope the funds were earmarked for activities such as clean-up, safety, security and/or University regulations enforcement. In this capacity the funds are being used for the students' benefit and best interests. On the other hand, being a student representative, I have an obligation to them to consider. In this role, I must say that the senate was not wrong in giving only \$750 mainly for the reasons cited above. Yes, the student representatives should listen and heed the students' requests, but at the time the students' request may not necessarily be in their best interests. Certainly everyone loves to party — including myself — but doing it like this is not the best. Concerning the banquet, as I have stated, I feel it is not wrong, but a lot of students have expressed their disapproval, and being a representative of the students, I feel I should convey their sentiments.

Therefore, in the name of fair representation, I have decided to decline my invitation to the awards banquet as a sign of student disapproval of USG's recent actions. Philip Candrea, 8th-mineral economics April 25

Check facts

We were disappointed in — but unfortunately not surprised at — the letter written by Ken Bartuska and Paul Walsh concerning the highly publicized Undergraduate Student Government banquet. The letter questions USG's decision to spend \$900 for an awards banquet. Their letter, like all the rest of the criticism we've read and heard, implies that USG is benefiting all students — and using it for a private party. In reality, they are not using public funds for a private party; they are using private funds for a public party. The money for both events is coming out of USG's unrestricted funds — it's money they raised themselves, not University money. Technically, USG doesn't have to give that money to any organization. It's theirs to do whatever they want with. They have chosen to give most of it to student organizations for programs to benefit the University community. Now they have chosen to use a small portion to benefit themselves. If Mr. Bartuska and Mr. Walsh think that the full \$1,500 should go toward Movin' On, let them supply the balance from their private (unrestricted) funds. The USG officers and senators deserve this banquet for the work they try to do. They do the best they can, considering the lack of

student support for the organization. Bartuska and Walsh's letter opened up with the statement "We, as students, find it hard to believe that the USG is our representative body." We have only one question for them: Are they among the embarrassingly small minority of 19 percent of the students who cared enough to vote for their representatives in the last USG election? If not, they have no right to criticize. In any case, it is usually a good idea to check the facts before passing judgment. Anemarie McDonald, 9th-broadcast journalism Bill Mount, 10th-math and computer science April 26

Share your page

This is your page, your opportunity to share opinions, comments and ideas on just about anything. But this page also belongs to about 40,000 other people who read The Daily Collegian every day. It is also their opportunity to communicate their observations about the University, the community and the world. So please share. Limit Your letters to 30 lines (about one page, typed double-space). Longer letters will no longer be accepted. Forums — expositions centering on a theme — must be three to four typed, double-space pages. Remember to include on the letter your term standing and major or title with your name and phone number. Bring identification with your letter to the Collegian office, 126 Carnegie.

reader opinion

Separatist

I would like to agree wholeheartedly with Tony Pitky's letter of April 15. Because of some opportunistic political posturing in the state Legislature, there is now a mad scramble here at the University to demonstrate the administration's devotion to minority recruitment. Minority recruitment per se should not exist. It is symptomatic of the ill-advised national push for affirmative action. If the University, as a vanguard of the future, blindly follows the idea of special assistance or attention to just one segment of the student body, it merely contributes to the division of society. With the Educational Opportunity Program and other programs, the University is totally open to any member of society, regardless of race. We do not need, in an already segregated world, further separation such as is

represented by a minority cultural center, black awareness studies or special recruitment programs. Lowered academic standards or undue attention to one minority will only cause resentment and further antagonism in the general student population, despite the best of intentions. Minorities are not really helped by such actions. The present paranoia brings to mind a magazine that was published by one of the big city Sunday newspapers a few years back. Called Tuesday, it was a magazine with articles written by blacks, about blacks and for blacks. The ads featured black men smoking Salem, black women cooking with Pam and black families brushing with Crest. There wasn't an Occidental or Oriental face to be found. In my opinion, that kind of unnatural separatism is the worst kind of segregation. Ideally, American stands for integration, the amalgam of cultures, not

splitter culturalization. We are all Americans, not Irish (as a St. Patrick's Day Daily Collegian editorial pointed out), not German, not Chinese, not African but American. The late British historian Arnold Toynbee called nationalism "the most divisive force known to mankind." Cultural separatism, especially in the melting pot of America, is similar and may be just as divisive. I urge the administration to take the long view. Larry R. Putterbaugh, 2nd-division of undergraduate studies April 17

Off key

All right, I've had enough. Kathy Tobin's letter only emphasized bigotry that we blacks

have been trying to overcome. In her opinionated letter, the term token black was referred to occasionally. What makes her think blacks must be tokens in order to be accepted within the lily white organizations? I was accepted to this University because of my academic credentials, NOT because of my color. How dare you imply that the small percentage of blacks that are here are tokens? You also mentioned that "all" the blacks join in with the Kappas or Deltas. If you had done sufficient research, you would have discovered that there are four other black Greek organizations at Penn State and that many blacks either choose among the six or remain independent. We are not a mass of groupies who flock to two Greek organizations. We also do not state that we'd accept only black brothers or sisters as you unjustly insinuated. Fine and dandy, you and your roommate

(whom I assume is black) "get along fine." But you are only two out of thousands of racially mixed roommates. There are special black organizations on campus for the sake of making the black aware that he/she is not alone. Most of us come from cities where the black population is a much higher percentage than that of State College. These "special places" succeeded in lessening the "shock culture" upon arriving in Happy Valley. According to the letter, "Penn State has created an unreal life for our black students that will disappear the day they graduate." On the contrary, one of Penn State's offenses for the rest of our lives — during and after college life. Gina Masterson, 6th-business administration April 26

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