

opinions

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The Daily Collegian
Friday, June 17, 1983

editorial opinion

Scouting for better representation

Be prepared. In the true spirit of the Boy Scouts of America, the University Faculty Senate is urging the University Board of Trustees to allow the University community a more active role throughout its next presidential selection — before incoming University President Bryce Jordan even takes office.

The process that selected Jordan began in 1981 when the Presidential Search and Screen Committee, composed of 15 representatives of the University community, was formed to reduce the list of presidential candidates to a workable number for the Presidential Selection Committee.

From a pool of 301 candidates, the Search Committee recommended 15 to the Selection Committee, which was made up of nine trustees. At that point, input from the University community stopped.

Now the Faculty Senate has requested, by a resolution, that for the next presidential search, the trustees again form a presidential search committee of administrators, faculty members and students.

Although the last Search Committee included members from each group, a committee of 15 is hardly representative of 64 administrators, 3,062 faculty members and nearly 53,000 students.

For the next presidential search, a larger committee is needed to bring more input and expertise to the process. Penn State is a large and diverse university. It needs a large and diverse body representing it when presidential selection time rolls around.

When Jordan was selected, three final candidates were interviewed by the Selection Committee only. None of those who were deemed responsible enough to trim names from the list of 301 even knew who those final three were.

Worse yet, the group that was supposedly the most representative of the University community also wasn't allowed to question the prospective presidents on their views of the University, its policies or its students.

For these reasons, the senate is also urging the trustees to allow the search committee or its selected representatives to participate in the selection of those candidates who are interviewed, and to participate in the interviews.

Ideally, interviews should be conducted publicly with the final three candidates. The University community would then be able to assure itself that it was getting a president who is both competent and concerned about Penn State. Also, the prospective presidents could learn more about Penn State people and their attitudes.

Jordan defended the board's secretive method of selecting a president, saying he would not have been interested in the job had he been subject to public interviews. He said he was happy with his job with the University of Texas System and he did not want to "broadcast to the world" that he was looking for another position.

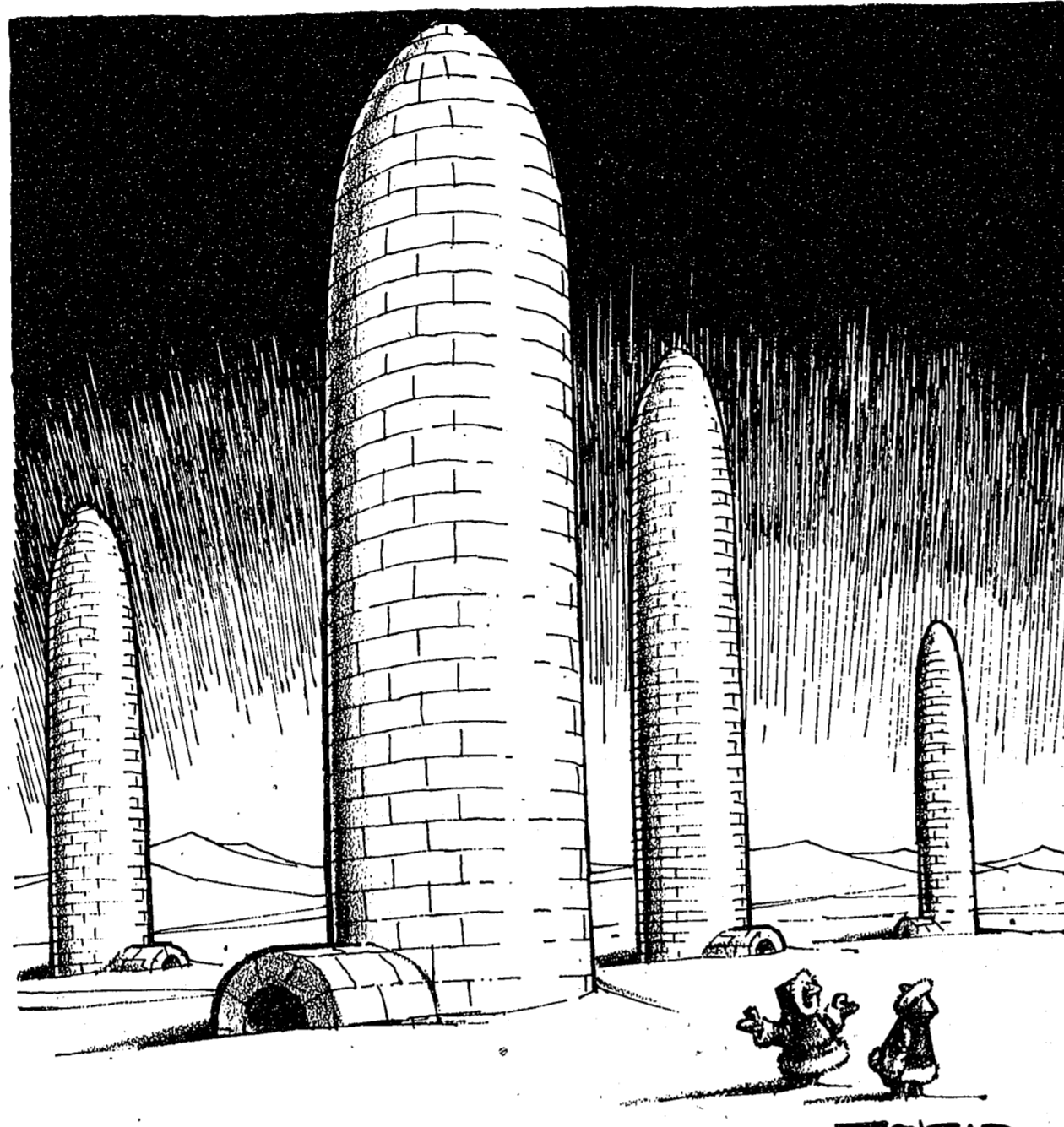
However, while discretion and confidentiality may be needed to assure that the best candidates for University president come forward, they should not in any way limit input from the University community in the final selection process.

The faculty senate believes the Search Committee should be able to offer its recommendations to the Selection Committee concerning the final selection of the next president. Because the selection of the University president very much affects the entire University community, a more active role for the search committee is essential.

Board of Trustees President Walter J. Conti has called the senate's resolution ill-timed: Jordan won't take office for another two weeks.

But if the University community is to have more say in the next presidential selection, then it should request more input while the memory of the last selection is fresh in everyone's minds. Asking for more input now shows foresight on the part of the faculty senate.

The Boy Scouts may be just a group of kids, but they provide a valuable lesson that hasn't been wasted on the Faculty Senate.



"WELL, FIRST THEY VOTED FOR THE FREEZE, THEN THEY VOTED FOR THE MK!"

reader opinion

The real No. 1

Almost everyone can recognize this situation. It's Jan. 2. When people finally get over their New Year's hangover, the most common gripe seems to be, "Who is No. 1?"

After the New Year's Eve and Day Sugar, Rose and Cotton Bowls, it sometimes requires a mathematical hours of derivations just to figure out who is in the running for the National Championship.

However, sometimes this problem doesn't exist. This year the two top teams squared off against each other in the Sugar Bowl, and there was no question that whichever team won would be the National Champ and the loser would be second. But I am sure there are still many supporters of Southern Methodist University who feel their team should have been No. 1 owing to their record, which was the best in college football this year. But we can only speculate on what might happen in a Penn State-SMU match-up because the two teams did not play during the regular season and there is only one post-season game in college football.

It is a very intense moment for the Penn State fan. Everyone sits around the holy television nervously sipping his or her beer. But on the other side of the country sit the faithful SMU fans, dejected and somber. It would be surprising if most of them are not even watching the game. The two top teams are squaring off, but SMU has a better record than both of them and no one but SMU fans cares.

Stuart B. Sacks, 3rd-classic
June 16

He wants right away... "Wow-wee! Congratulations, Mr. Pyrene! You just won yourself the new heart you need!"

"Now calm down, Mr. Pyrene. The last contestant who needed a new heart and won one dropped dead from the excitement right where you're standing... I thought that would calm you down."

"Now, Mr. Pyrene, we both know how expensive transplant surgery is. It could cost you and your family everything you and they own or ever hope to own."

"So how would you like to trade your new heart for what is behind the hospital doors Carrol Merrill is standing next to?"

"It could be a zonker. Or it could be... Tell him, Jay!"

"Right, Bill. An all-expense-paid heart transplant, heart included! That's right, Mr. Pyrene, you'd stay in the fabulous Beverly Hills Memorial Hospital. A private room, your own bath and round-the-clock nursing are all standard features of the Hospital of the Stars."

"And that's not all, Mr. Pyrene. You'd be operated on by the world's greatest cardiologist! That's right, we'll fly him and his staff from South Africa courtesy of Pan American Airlines. Pan Am — we've flown more cardiologists to more transplants than any other airline."

"Or do you want to trade your organ for another spin on the Big Wheel? Remember, just like most people, our heart has two kidneys — doubling your chances for winning one for little Jimmy... What's going to be Rev?"

Do not think the fun stops if someone spins the wheel and gets the

reader opinion

Unverifiable

I'm writing concerning an article printed in The Daily Collegian a few weeks ago about the Nuclear Freeze bill.

The column was in the Contrast section of the Collegian on April 21 and titled, "Nuclear freeze first step to peace." John Dougherty, the author, states that a freeze is what people want, that it is verifiable and that without it the arms race will continue indefinitely.

"The freeze is what people want," Dougherty says. But if a freeze is what everybody wants, why is it such an issue? The freeze outlined in Dougherty's column had, at the time, nearly 40 proposed amendments and caused one of the longest debates in Congress in years. And if people

wanted the freeze so badly one would think there would have been immense pressure on Congress to pass the bill. But there wasn't. Mr. Dougherty is correct in saying that people do want a freeze, but not everybody wants this particular freeze.

The reason that this bill presented such a controversy is that it has some potential flaws that could threaten American security. For instance it is, as Dougherty stated, essential for a freeze to be verifiable if it is to be effective. Both advocates and opponents agree to this. Dougherty pointed out that William Colby believes the freeze to be verifiable. Granted the former head of the CIA would be well informed on such matters, but there are a number of politicians, such as President Reagan, former Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Sen.

Henry Jackson (D-Washington), to name a few, who are not convinced. Because it was not stated in the column, I will assume that Dougherty is referring to the Satellite Detection System in which a satellite can use radio waves to determine the number of missiles that exist in both Russia and the United States. There is a suspicion in this system that the parts of a nuclear warhead could be built and as long as they aren't assembled into an actual missile, they won't be detected. While William Colby would freeze is verifiable, there are too many doubts for one man to state categorically one way or the other.

But let's assume for the moment that William Colby is right and the freeze is verifiable. Mr. Dougherty never deals with the issue of parity.

No one is really sure how equal the United States and Russia are in nuclear armaments. Freeze opponents claim that there is parity and that it's time to stop the arms race, while opponents argue that Russia has an advantage over us and the freeze would hamper the United States in negotiations. There is some evidence to indicate the latter observation to be more accurate. Jim Hoagland of the Washington Post Service reported the deepest level of debate here (European arms negotiations) is over Soviet intentions.

Rarely voiced publicly, there is a view that Moscow has little interest in reaching an interim agreement at Geneva that would allow the United States to begin deployment while establishing a mutually balanced ceiling for medium range rockets.

And according to retired Air Force General Brent Scowcroft, "The Russians have a hard-target kill capability (an ability to destroy U.S. missiles in their silos) that we don't have; there is no incentive for them to give it up."

Even in Mr. Dougherty's own argument for the bill one can see how dangerous a freeze can be. In the section where he shows how the arms race has gone full circle he states in the early '70s the Soviets new ABM system had made our current missile system obsolete. Dougherty then explains that the United States designed the MIRV system to overcome Russia's ABMs.

Later, he states, "If a freeze had been instituted in the early '70s, then MIRVs might never have been developed because they couldn't have been

the Collegian

Friday, June 17, 1983
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Search for organ donors shouldn't be a game

Ever since Barney Clark made the news by being the first human recipient of an artificial heart, the media have continually focused on the plight of those who need organ transplants. Typically, such a person is a child whose parents have tried extraordinary measures to obtain the right organ for their offspring.

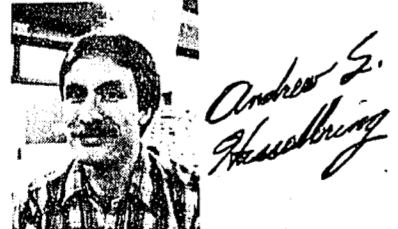
These parents have had to resort to almost anything — from begging doctors at conventions to spilling their innermost feelings to reporters in an effort to save their child's life or, at the minimum, to release

the child from the confines of a life-support machine.

Well, give me a break. I mean if someone shoots me in the head tomorrow, do I not have the right to be buried with all my organs intact and simply let them rot away? Why should I help someone else? After all, I'm dead — what do I care? And just where were these organ-deficient people when I needed help? Especially when that guy with the gun was coming at me?

So, don't give me that sob story stuff. Save it for the soaps.

To be truthful, I don't have any-



It is called "What's It Worth?" and is a combination of Family Feud, Real People and Let's Make a Deal. It is suited for those parents who have no pride and do not mind begging in front of millions in an effort to save their child's life. And it is perfect for those who like to watch without helping.

Here is how the show will work. Someone needing an organ (a patient or his parent, doctor, friend or clergyman) will get three minutes to plead his case. The contestants can do whatever they want — beg, cry, read letters, give life histories, whatever! Even dress up like a chicken if they think it will help. Then the studio audience will vote on whether or not they think that person should get an organ.

Most of the time they probably will. But that is OK, because after a person is voted an organ by the audience he or she will be led to the Big Wheel by the emcee. A spin of the wheel will decide what organ the



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