

## editorial opinion

### New ideas to recruit and retain

Sometimes it takes a little push to get the ball rolling.

For the University, the push to increase minority representation may have come with a federal judge's decision to include the state-related higher education institutions in a federal court order to eliminate discrimination in Pennsylvania's education system.

In response to the federal court order, the University has formulated a proposal that will be forwarded to the federal Office of Civil Rights. The proposal includes new suggestions for increasing the University's enrollment of black students, with the goal of 5 percent black enrollment in five years.

It took a federal court order for Penn State to get serious about developing a comprehensive plan to increase minority recruitment and retention.

And the order for the plan could be just what the University has needed all along. Penn State is now being required to take a thorough look at why its retention rate for black students is so low and to re-evaluate the programs it offers to recruit black students to the University, and even more difficult, to keep them here.

Among the recommendations offered in the ordered plan is more centralization of support services for minority students.

Robert J. Scannell, vice president and dean of the Commonwealth Educational System, and a member of the plan's drafting team, said centralization would help avoid problems such as those some students face when trying to juggle admissions offers and financial aid forms. Instead of having to deal with both Shields and Boucke, minority students could find assistance in one centralized office.

While care must be taken that the fine line between service and segregation is not crossed, a centralized office or administrator for minority student services would provide the benefits of administrative communication and easy access for black students.

Additional services may also be provided at some of the Commonwealth campuses, although only those that have potential for

significant increases in minority enrollment will be targeted.

And the plan does not stop at the undergraduate level. Minority enrollment at the University's graduate and medical schools may also be increased by the plan, especially in cooperation with the state's traditionally black institutions, Lincoln University and Cheyney State University.

The University has so far attempted to meet the requirements established by the government, but the state and the federal Civil Rights Office must be willing to provide financial support if they intend to see the plan fulfilled. The University is already suffering a severe financial crunch and it would be wrong to hurt the entire student population — minority students included — by having to increase tuition or cut other programs to implement this plan.

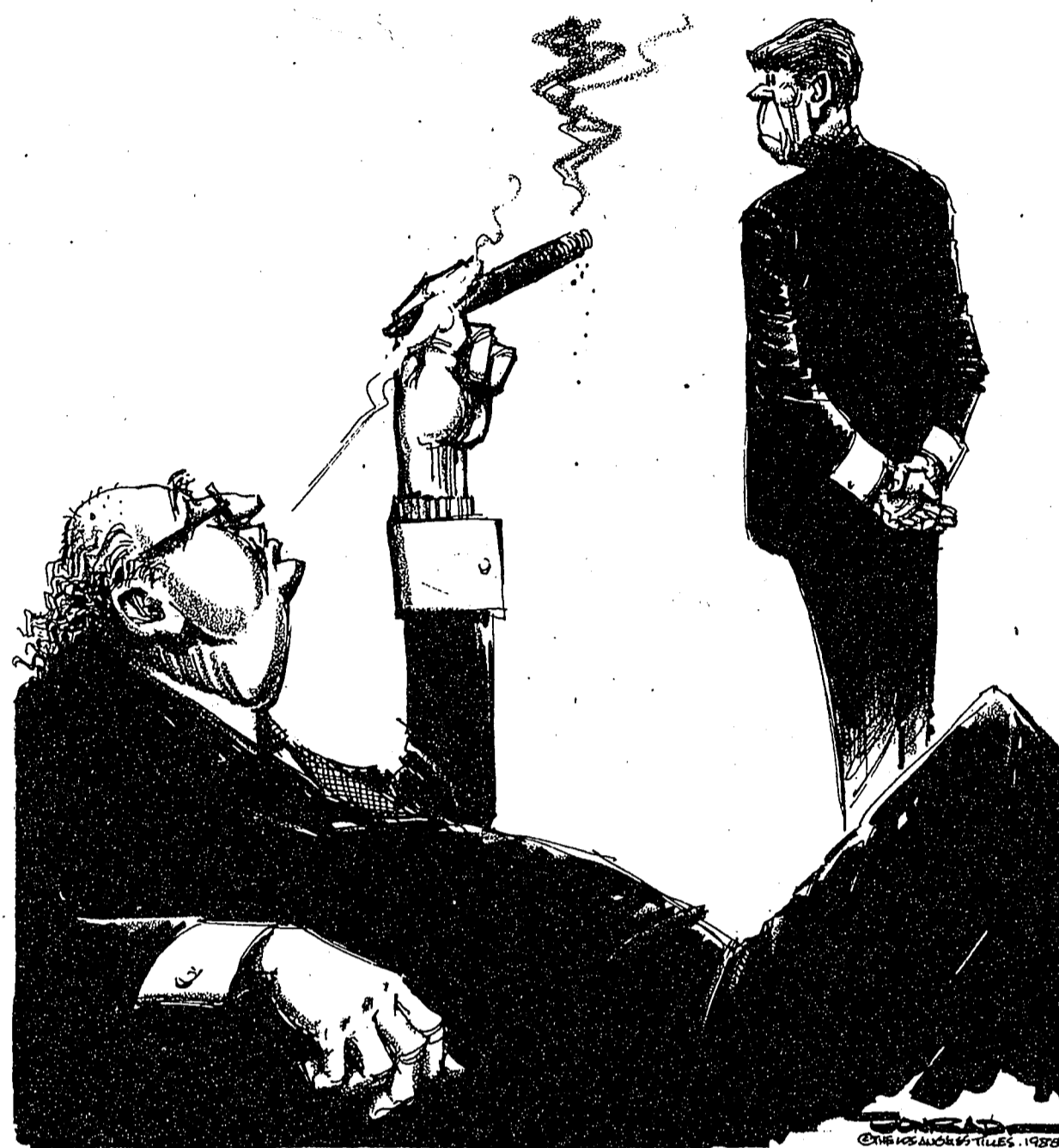
In its proposed plan, the University did not focus on increased black representation in the administration, faculty and the University's Board of Trustees. The University already has an approved affirmative action plan for the former two and because many of the trustees are elected, it has no control over those positions.

However, those groups that appoint trustees have been advised to consider qualified minority representatives. The groups would do well to heed the advice, for diversity is something sorely lacking in the board and would provide support for changes at the University, including demographic ones.

Whether the University will be able to make that demographic change will be a matter of commitment from the University, state and federal governments and students themselves.

Once the immediacy of the court order has blown over, that commitment to improve, create, streamline and encourage must continue and even intensify to ensure that the University's land-grant mission is fulfilled.

And perhaps someday consistent black enrollment will be so embedded in University tradition that the extra effort will no longer be necessary.



"WELL, I SAY LET REAGAN BE REAGAN... AND LET VOLCKER BE VOLCKER."

### Be a columnist!

Don't waste your summer. While other students are lying in the sun and watching the world go by, you could be expressing your thoughts, observations and opinions about Penn State, State College and the world beyond. We need talented, dedicated students to write columns for The Daily Collegian's editorial page. This is your

chance to have your work published on one of the most-read pages in one of the nation's top college newspapers.

But first you have to apply. To do so, you'll need an application which can be picked up in the Collegian office, 126 Carnegie. Summer Session is short, so please submit your completed application by Saturday, June 25. Would you rather have a column than a sunburn?

### Write to us

We want to know what's on your mind. The Daily Collegian's editorial page is for some students the only opportunity to be heard at the University. And the page is here for other members of the University and State College communities as well. Letters to the editor and forums may be written about topics as far out as the space program or as close to home as the residence halls. The issues raised may affect many or just a few, but if they're on your mind, they deserve to be heard. To insure that your letter is published, please limit it

to one page (typed double space). Forums should be three to five double space typed pages centering on a theme.

All letters and forums should include the name, ID number and phone number of the writer. Students should also include their term standings and majors; University employees should include their titles; and alumni should include their years of graduation and majors with their letters. Letters may be brought or mailed to The Daily Collegian office in 126 Carnegie. Write a letter to the editor and let Penn State know what you're thinking about.

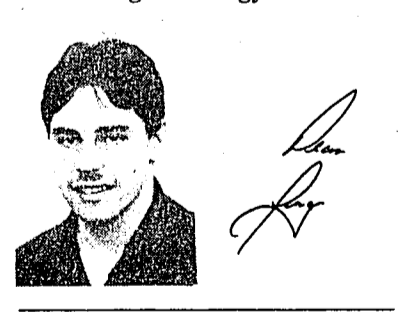
## Space travel more than a Ride in the Shuttle

I have been following the adventures of the space shuttle for a couple of days and I figured I should write a column about Sally Ride, America's first woman in space. However, after doing some think-

ing about the subject, I decided that it would be a tremendous waste. It would be a waste not because Ride's achievement is not significant, but because relatively speaking, it is not all that important. There is a much greater event that

is being glossed over in the process. With the landing of the Space Shuttle Challenger today, another era of space travel will have come to an end. No longer is Man in the exploration stage where fearless crews

braved the unknown to bring back information only dreamed about. No longer is Man in the prodding stage, where he dared go into alien environments, taking small steps at a time, cautiously trying to find his limits. Man is now in the look and learn stage. His current limits have been found and practically speaking, Man has gone as far as he can go on the existing technology.



Now it is time to expand, to gain the technology that will not only help on earth, but will also help in the future of space exploration. Man no longer relies on "astronauts" now there are "mission specialists" filling the spacecraft bringing back valuable experimental data. And no longer is reaching out into space a so-called "man's job." The stage has been reached where what is more important is breaking the traditional stereotypes and sending the most qualified people, be it man or woman.

Man is not only learning more about space with the Pioneer satellite that recently left the Solar System, but now he is also learning

how to use it. Many of the great advances during the past two decades have been a direct result of space exploration. Many great advances for the next few decades to come will be direct result of space experimentation, including those that are currently being carried out in the Shuttle. The last "prodding" experiment was done Wednesday, when mission specialists released a satellite and then successfully recaptured it — the current limits have been reached. Now things such as the production of drugs to combat disease and of experimental gardens that may lead to increasing food supply are being tested in space.

Not only is Man learning a great deal, but he is doing it with a greater efficiency than ever before. With Congressional cutbacks in the space program budget, the National Air and Space Administration found the importance of economy. It took NASA and the United States budget \$24 million to reach the moon with \$35,000 just for the trip itself. The current inventory of four reusable shuttles costs approximately \$12 million, that is, without counting monies received from private industry, foreign governments and the Defense Department, which rent space aboard the Shuttle.

No longer are the millions of dollars available. No longer is the mass popular backing available, inspired by President John Kennedy. The only thing that is not only still available, but available in

massive quantities, is the learning potential.

Based on the amount of knowledge gained during the Apollo years, the possibilities for the Shuttle are not only more varied, but are endless.

Not only does Man's knowledge increase, but also his self-image. There is no other time when so many people band together with so much pride within themselves than when those engines roar and the spacecraft goes flaming upward. It brings about a spirit that can never be broken. It is the type of spirit that knows no race, no nationality, no sex. It is the "We are Mankind" spirit, and that achievement is too valuable to have a price placed on it.

So you see, conquest of space is not just a conquest of space, but also a conquest of the earth and some of its major problems. Soon, Man will be able to reach out beyond the limits he is working to understand.

When that time comes no one can predict what life will be like here on earth, although one thing is sure: the more we learn about space, the more we learn about earth. The old philosophers who dream of Man living in space, leaving behind a devastated world are wrong. Not only is space being used for Man to stay here on the earth, but it is also being used to make it better.

Dean Longo is a 14th-term computer science and math major and a columnist for The Daily Collegian

## reader opinion

### Swim test necessary

Last June, while adjusting to my new dormitory home here in Happy Valley, some common sense arose among students, orientation leaders and Resident Assistants concerning information that was printed in the Orientation Express — information which pertained to a supposedly "required" swim test.

The swim test to which these students were referring lasted a brief 10 minutes and consisted of one lap around the sides of the natatorium pool. The remaining time was used to test the students' abilities to stay afloat, with the students either treading water or floating on their backs.

The Physical Education Department in cooperation with the University first employed this test to take notice of being exempt from graduation ceremonies. Objectively, the test offered students a better understanding of their physical capacities. Those few students who failed this test were not forced, but encouraged, to enroll in a beginner swimming course as one of their physical education requirements.

Penn State traditionally had provided for this test with no complaints from students. Hostility, however, arose when a small minority of strong-voiced students felt, in a

sense, belittled and humiliated when it was suggested that they take this test so they worked to eliminate it.

After much debate between the Physical Education Department and the University's Faculty Senate, a decision was made to abolish the swim test. I am proposing that a swim proficiency test be not only offered, but mandatory for all University students.

Swimming essentially is a survival skill which someday could make one very grateful for having been taught. A swim test would provide only benefits for students, for it would be during this test that well trained, highly skilled instructors could take note of a problem swimmer and could then encourage that student take beginner swimming.

According to a poll given by the Physical Education Department in reference to the swim test when this subject was most controversial, of the students who were asked if they thought a swim test should be given at the University, a surprising 78 percent agreed that a swim test should be given.

If it is possible to prevent just one drowning accident — to save one life because we were able to recognize an incompetent swimmer during a 10 minute swim test — then a swim proficiency test should be mandatory and immediately put into effect, not only at Penn State but at other institutions.

Lynn Sebald, 4th-arts and architecture  
May 13

### SOUTHGATE . . .

One & Two Bedroom Apartments  
Three Bedroom Townhouses

- Gas forced air heating
- Wall-to-wall carpeting
- Fully equipped kitchens: Dishwasher, refrigerator, freezer, range, disposal, color coordinated
- Air conditioning
- Cable TV
- Soundproof construction
- Free spacious parking

**SOUTHGATE**  
801A Southgate Drive  
State College, PA 16801  
234-0333

Color your day . . .



Tonight at the **Phyrst**

## Mischief

Shows at 5:30 and 10:30

The Phyrst Bottle Shop has your brand Mon-Sat.

**BEST FOREIGN FILM** PREMIERE

"A stirring and sensitive love separated merely by age."

Directed by Jaime de Armentia  
Starring: Heather Mataro, Ana Torroja, Luis Puelles, Adriano Bardi

**the nest**  
An unusual love story that should never happen... but did.

Sat & Mon 7 & 9 p.m. 112 Kern France-Cinema

**SATURDAY SPECIAL**  
was 27.95  
Now 19.99

The Sneak by Beene Bag. Cool, canvas comfort in a chorus of colors: sky blue, moss green, soft peach, light gray and pure white.

**Bostonian Ltd.**  
PENN STATE  
one hundred six South Allen  
Store Hours: Mon-Wed, Fri & Sat 9:15-5:30pm, Thurs 9:15-9:00pm

**Attention Summer Graduates**  
Friday, July 1st is the deadline for ordering your Cap & Gown. Don't Delay!

**Penn State Bookstore**  
on campus

Owned and Operated by the Pennsylvania State University

**EXECUTIVE HOUSE APARTMENTS**

FALL APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED  
DELUXE 1 AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS

- Free Bus Pass
- Cable TV
- Laundry & Storage Facilities on Premises
- Free Parking
- 24 Hour Maintenance
- Fully Equipped Kitchen
- Gas, Heat

238-7211  
411 Waupolani Drive  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5 Sat 9-12

**ANNUAL SUMMER CLEARANCE**

Sportswear 20% - 50% off  
Dresses 20% - 50% off  
Spring Jackets & Raincoats 50% off

**STARTS THURSDAY!**

**SMART SHOP**  
"Where Fashion is First"  
128 South Allen

**WILSON'S SIDEWALKSALE SAVINGS TO 60%**

**Bakers & Painter Pants \$8.88**  
sizes 24 to 30 only

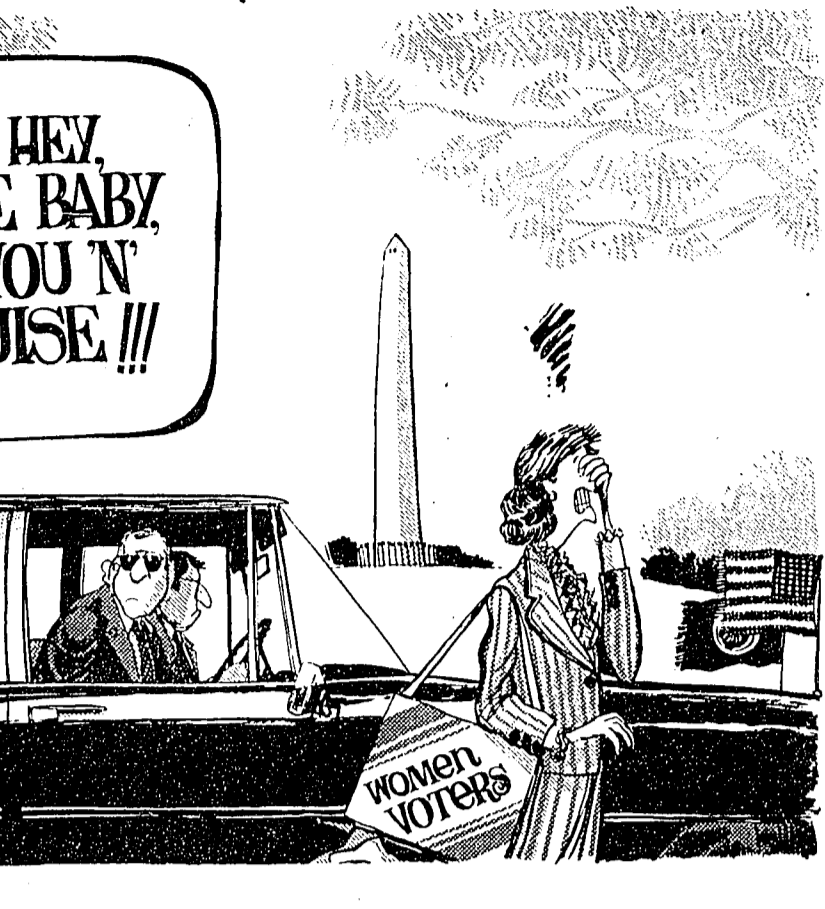
**20% OFF SPEEDO Swimwear**

**Wamo Frisbee 1/2 OFF** Regular Price

**Summer Tops For Men & Women all at GREAT SAVINGS**

**Close-Out 3.99, 6.99 & 9.99 Shorts**

**Wilson's**  
Calder Way Two, State College  
M-W 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
Th-Fri 9 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Sat 9 a.m.-6 p.m.



**The Rathskeller**  
Fri  
Terry Whitlock  
Sat  
Ken Mathieu

**WORK STUDY AVAILABLE POSITION**

**The Graduate Student Association needs a COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT with GENERAL OFFICE SKILLS TO WORK WITH OUR OFFICE PERSONNEL.**

Apply in 705 Kern Bldg. M-F 9-5 Full Time

**The Scorpion**  
232 W. Calder Way  
presents  
Emotional Recording Artists  
**THE DADDY LICKS**  
from Allentown, PA  
Tonite

**DOMINO'S PIZZA**

**FREE BLACK OLIVES on any large pizza**

one coupon per pizza exp 7-1-83

limited delivery area drivers carry less than \$10 North: 237-1414 1104 N. Atherton South: 234-5655 421 Rear E. Beaver

**DOMINO'S PIZZA**

**FREE HAM on any large pizza**

one coupon per pizza exp 7-1-83

limited delivery area drivers carry less than \$10 North: 237-1414 1104 N. Atherton South: 234-5655 421 Rear E. Beaver

**DOMINO'S PIZZA**

**FREE GROUND BEEF on any large pizza**

one coupon per pizza exp 7-1-83

limited delivery area drivers carry less than \$10 North: 237-1414 1104 N. Atherton South: 234-5655 421 Rear E. Beaver

**DOMINO'S PIZZA**

**FREE ONIONS on any large pizza**

one coupon per pizza exp 7-1-83

limited delivery area drivers carry less than \$10 North: 237-1414 1104 N. Atherton South: 234-5655 421 Rear E. Beaver