

# editorial opinion

# EPA ban on EDB not good enough The Environmental Protection Agency —

plagued by scandals and the likes of Rita. Lavelle - proved its real worth last week by banning the use of the cancer-causing pesticide ethylene dibromide (EDB) as a grain fumigant.

That means EDB can no longer be used to kill insects in stored grain. Traces of EDB have already been found in a store-load of food products such as cake mix, cereal and flour. In fact, EPA chief William Ruckelshaus estimates that 7 percent of corn-based and 1 percent of wheat-based products now on grocers' shelves might exceed the "acceptable" limits.

EDB's effects on humans are uncertain, but the chemical has been linked to cancer and reproductive disorders in laboratory animals. But New York Governor Mario Cuomo

says the EPA's guidelines for EDB traces in some foods are five times as they should be. And if the federal government doesn't move to amend its standards within the next week, New York might order some food products off the shelves by mid-February.

But Pennsylvania, unfortunately, is content with the tolerance levels of EDB. The state government has found "acceptable" the amount of EDB in 10 food products on grocers' shelves and in federal food supplies destined for school lunch programs.

American Red Cross are critically low.

350 to 375 units have been collected daily.

You do not have to be a math major to

Misconceptions about Acquired Immune

Deficiency Syndrome may scare some do-

nors away. However, Red Cross officials

emphasize that AIDS cannot be contracted

Economic conditions in Pennsylvania

have not helped. Many bloodmobiles are

sponsored by private companies. But when

factories are closed, they are not holding

bloodmobiles. So donations from University

Last week a bloodmobile was held at the

HUB. But the turnout was poor and the goal

of 675 units over two days was not reached.

Only 463 usable units were collected. What

the **Collegian** 

Fhursday, Feb. 9, 1984

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Susan M. Melle

students are even more necessary.

realize that this situation is not good.

by donating blood.

is going on here?

Alecia Swasy

The state did, however, join last week the growing list of states that banned the use of EDB as a pesticide on fruit crops. But in reality, Pennsylvania had already stopped using EDB on crops when other pesticides proved more effective several years ago.

Amid wild rumors that most of America's stored grain would have to be destroyed, the problem seems to be in finding alternatives to EDB. In fact, about six of 16 possible substitutes will most likely be more widely used now that EDB has been banned.

But worse yet, these insecticides haven't even been tested as extensively as EDB. And chances are they may not be either.

That's because the Reagan administration reduced the staff that performs such tests from 127 to 20 people. The EPA should rigorously test these alternatives, and the administration should give it the money it needs to do so.

And until a suitably safe substitute is discovered, the EPA should reconsider its low, initial tolerance levels for EDB:

As Cuomo said, the EPA's guidelines are a "welcome governmental initiative," but they "are deficient in adequately protecting the public from the mutagenic, carcinogenic and reproductive consequences" of

EDB And protecting the public's health is well worth the additional cost.

# **Blood donors:** No time for apathy

Suppose they gave a blood drive and deferred because of colds and medication. nobody came? Supplies of blood in the area But with more than 30,000 students on camcovered by the Johnstown Region of the pus, there should have been be at least 675 healthy people with the time to donate one Hospitals in the region need about 400 pint of blood. units of blood each day. But recently, only

But there are encouraging signs. A bloodmobile held in East Halls last December had a goal of 100 units. By the time it was over, 215 units were collected.

Tomorrow, a bloodmobile sponsored by West Halls will try to beat this figure. Again the goal is 100 units but 300 appointments have already been made, according to Myke Atwater, campus donor consultant.

This is encouraging. Contests between residence areas increase blood donations. But the real winners are those who need blood products. Blood is used for more than just transfusions. One unit can be broken down into components that will help three or more patients. The patients that are helped may be neighbors or even family members.

Roll up your sleeves. Penn State. There is no substitute for blood yet, in spite of medi-Health may be an excuse for not donating cal advances. Blood — it's gotta be the real in the wintertime. Some donors must be thing.

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# EDB Gothic

### **Op-ed** postponement

Because of a lack of reader response, the op-ed page that was scheduled for today has been postponed until Thursday, Feb. 16. The topic, the efforts of the University to remove

physical barriers for disabled and/or handicapped students, faculty and staff, is one that merits a wide and enthusiastic respose. Letters and forums will be accepted from any

student, faculty member or interested citizen desiring to comment on this crucial issue. Respondents need not be disabled. The Daily Collegian encourages anyone who has something to say about everyday problems encountered by the disabled to contribute. No issue can be given fair treatment or examined constructively without the presentation of a wide range of views from a broad cross-section of con-

reader opinion

### Semi-toleration

cerned readers.

Perhaps "ladies"... "and men" are "TREATED help dictate his job. equally" at Mr. C's, as The Daily Collegian ad states, but In your pro-Reagan letter, you fail to say where your what of all the WOMEN? How are they treated? The usage municipal aid comes from now. If you know, why not tell of the label "lady," as opposed to woman, connotes a us all? In any respect. I feel obliged to disclose it for you. restrictive mode of behavior imposed upon women. I am afraid that Mr. C's is STILL not quite as progres- "New Federalism"), your aid will no longer come from sive as it would have us believe, but instead just another

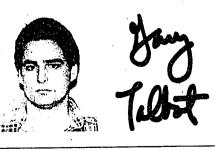
Mr. Councilman, your letter in the Jan. 31 issue of this Feb. 2

Feb. 15.

### Christine Murray; Assistant Campus Editor: Lori Musser; Editor Business Manager typical bar (i.e. men's club) where "ladies" are permitted Town Editor: K.L. Kane; Assistant Town Editor: Michael The Daily Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by Newnam; Features Editor: Jeanne Ann Curry; Assistant and women are tolerated . . . sometimes. its Board of Opinion, with the editor holding final Features Editor: Grace LoMonaco; Graphics Editor: Tony responsibility. Opinions expressed on the editorial Barbara J. Weaver, State College resident Ciccarelli; Copy Editors: Dina Defabo, John Holt, Patricia pages are not necessarily those of The Daily Collegian, Hungerford, Christine Kay, Marcia McGrath, Marcy Mer-**Jan**. 31 Collegian Inc. or The Pennsylvania State University. mel, Lori-Marie Vail, Rebecca Albert; Weekly Collegian Collegian Inc., publishers of The Daily Collegian and Keeping abreast Editor: Michele Jo Pupach; Weekly Collegian Assistant related publications, is a separate-corporate institution Editor: Laura Dunhoff. from Penn State

Divorce truly can be a new beginning, if you give it a chance

It's a subject you hear more about all the time. In fact, it's a subject that hits close to home for a good number of you. Divorce or the making of it — hit my home about three years ago, culminating legally two months ago. In that time I learned a lot about this seemingly dark subject.



mind lately. For some reason, holidays like Christmas tend to bring it into the limelight. I remember the fears I used to have about these holidays, "Oh my God, which parent am I going to spend Thanksgiving with?" I guess it never occurred to me that it is possible to visit two people on the same day. Fears and ideas that we put into our heads are what makes divorce so hard to accept. We can't picture our parents separated, so arguements ending up in dramatic court-

e paint horrible pictures of what life would

be like — only to conclude that it can't happen, there must be some way to straighten this out. Many years ago, when one of my closest

friend's parents got divorced, I found myself feeling sorry for him and was thankful that I didn't have to go through what he did. I didn't think I could handle it. Little did I know that it was right around the corner. It started around the time I was graduating from high school and heading to college. As a freshman far away from home. I was physically — but not emotionally — removed from the situation.

I knew my parents were having difficulties coping with each other but at the same time I felt it would work out. After all, they had been married for twenty years. When I would talk to them on the phone I'd always look for encouraging signs. "Hmm, they don't sound like they're mad at each other. By the end of the conversation I'd convinced myself that everything was O.K., only to have one of my sisters get on the phone and say, "It's really bad here. They don't get along at all anymore." Suddenly the gut becomes wrenched and the fears start flowing freely. I started assuming the worst. Pictures appeared in my mind of heated

room scenes. I began to think to myself. "Oh no, my family is dying." Divorce isn't the death of a family, it's more like a transition period. A family will always endure if you let it. However, the tion. hardest period to deal with is the time leading up to it. Learning to accept some-

thing your mind refuses to accept can be a very difficult experience. Once I accepted my parents inevitable divorce, I was able to see things much more clearly. I stopped worrying about whether they would ever find someone else to love and concentrated instead on helping them through it. At the same time I realized they were still the same mother and father I always had and my relationship with them remained as strong as ever. Suddenly I could talk about it and actually wanted to talk about it, whereas previously I tried to

Once the decision was made that my parents were definitely splitting up, and they actually separated, a kind of peaceful serenity settled over my family like the calm after a storm. The tight-lipped tension was relaxed. Immediately I realized that I wouldn't want it any other way. Yes, I was actually GLAD that they were getting a divorce and the sooner they did, the sooner everyone could get on with their lives. If our

parents make the decision to split up, it is our duty to accept it, as hard as it may be. To do otherwise would not only be selfish, but would only serve to compound the situa-

It's often as hard a decision for them to would have talked to someone about it, as make as it is for us to accept, yet we must hard as it was, but that meant facing up to respect them for it and not hold it against it, which was too scary. This is one of the either one of them. If two people can't live easons I felt compelled to write about it. with each other and don't have the love for While the divorce I had to go through may each other they need to remain happy, then not have been the nastiest, it was plenty it's wrong for them to go on as if nothing was difficult for me. I hope someone can use my wrong. Indeed, it's time for them to move on experience to enlighten themselves, by and try again. If they don't, they're only gaining a broader understanding of this cheating themselves. Sometimes a brief oublesome subject. separation is all two people need to realize that they really need each other, but if that's The divorce had it's rewards. I can talk not the case, then there is nothing shameful frankly with my family about things I never about a divorce. With my parents, divorce could before. I have no uneasiness about was the only answer.

Thinking back on the whole time period, I have only one regret. That is, when my family was going through their most difficult times, I was far away at college and unable to experience it with them. This has given me both feelings of emptiness and guilt as though I let them down or something. However, I know that there was nothing I could have done about it. I still felt the pain they were experiencing

ignore it and hoped it would all go away.

I bring this up because it has been on my

The Daily Collegian Thursday, Feb. 9, 1984



In attempting to present this public forum, the Collegian offers you, our readers, a chance to be heard. Those taking advantage of this opportunity will help others to properly understand all sides of a very important issue. Those interested in commenting on the issue of

barrier-free living may still submit their opinions. Forums should range from three to five double-space typed pages and letters should be no longer than one page (also double-space typed). Letters and forums will be accepted at the Collegian office (126 Carnegie Building) until noon, Wednesday

We apologize for the delay, and hope that next week The Collegian is able to present an interesting and thought-provoking op-ed page.

paper showed me how oftentimes a local government official can keep from staying abreast of the issues that

According to Reaganomics (which is a copy of Nixon's your state government. Unfortunately, like their federal counterpart, they don't want the responsibility of distributing such large sums of money (too much paper work and higher taxes, you know). So I put the question to you. The aid is there, but how can you get to it if no one is willing to

handle the burden of giving it out? Adam J. Trott, senior-architecture/urban design

### and after so much, I just wanted the pain to go away. By accepting their divorce I eased the pain. Then I realized that so much of the pain came from fighting a losing battle. It took a long time to think positively about it. I probably could have shortened that time if I

showing my love for them anymore. Divorce truly can be a new beginning if you le it. That fateful Christmas Eve of three years ago, when I was first told of my parents decision to separate, is no longer a nightmare. It's more like a sunrise.

Gary Talbot is a junior majoring in civil engineering and a columnist for The Daily Collegian. His column appears on alternate Thursdays.

# opinions

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of forums relating to the observance of Black History Month. By LAWRENCE YOUNG Director, Paul Robeson Cultural Center

Throughout America, the month of February is observed as Black History Month. In examining our understanding of Black America, it may prove instructive to examine the "image" of Black Americans, particularly the image created by the myth makers in Hollywood.

The historic portrayal of black people in films has suffered from the racist ideology that has pervaded the society at large. Author Donald Bogle has classified those portrayals into five basic categories.

## forum

First are the "Toms," those who serve their masters very well and are based on the named character in "Uncle Tom's Cabin,' which appeared in movie form in 1903. Tom, a black, was played by a white actor in

blackface. Next was the "Coon." This was the mindless and child-like portrayal of blacks as harmless and very stupid. This portrayal of a watermelon eating, chicken stealing, crazy, unreliable, crap shooting subhuman

was perfected by an actor named Lincoln work in ''Hallelujah'' made her Hollywood's films as Richard Widmark's lover in ''Death Theodore Monroe Andrew Perry — univer- first black star. After signing a five-year Of A Gunfighter." The tragic mulatto motif sally known as Stepin Fetchit. Next were the "Bucks," the bestial, brutal

black superstud, itching for virginal white flesh. Like the Tom, this character was introduced by a white actor in blackface in the 1915 film "The Birth of a Nation." The portrayals of women fall into two

basic categories —"Mammies," big-busted but sexless women, who are generally there to care for whites. The Mammy had its prototype in Hattie McDaniel's portrayal of character named (appropriately enough) Mammy in the screen classic "Gone With The Wind." McDaniel was the first black person to receive an Oscar for her work

The last of the categories is the tragic mulatto. This character's tragedy is that she was born only half white. This characterization has been one of Hollywood's most persistent stereotypes and nearly every black actress who has attained stardom has had to play this role once. The tragic mulatto motif is embodied in an actress who is quite beautiful, is an obvious sex object, and whose white half is pictured as "spiritual," while the black half is shown as "animalis-

The first of the Black actresses to play the tragic mulatto was Nina Mae McKinney. In 1929, she played the role of Chick in the film the light skinned black leading lady. Her thyites. In 1969, Lena Horne returned to established her as the '50s definitive tragic

contract with MGM, she found that there were few roles for black leading ladies. Facing a career headed nowhere, McKinney moved to Europe where she became a popular cabaret performer and was billed in Paris, London, Budapest and Dublin as "The Black Garbo." Her last film role was a minor part in the ultimate tragic mulatto film "Pinky" in 1949.

McKinney was replaced in the '40s by Lena Horne, a woman of unquestioned beauty, even now, though well into her 60's. Horne was one of Hollywood's brightest stars of the decade. She appeared in many films as a character who sang a song then lisappeared. In many Southern theaters, the scenes with Miss Horne were neatly edited out. She had her first starring roles in 1943 in the all black films "Cabin In The Sky" and "Stormy Weather."

As America's first black pin-up girl, she toured with USO and was required to play to segregated audiences, first to white soldiers, then to black soldiers. She walked off, the stage in Fort Riley, Kan., when she observed that at the black show all the best seats had been given to German prisoners of war. Miss Horne spent the '50s as an outcast from films and television, mostly due to her marriage to a white musician and her friendship with Paul Robeson, who was painted as a communist by the McCar- Her work in the 1954 film "Carmen Jones"

found new life. In her youth, with her beauty and talent, Ethel Waters could have filled the role of the tragic mulatto. Her destiny, however, was to create a hybrid of the Mammy in the form of "the strong, domineering black woman." After a successful career in vaudeville, Waters became, by 1939, the highest paid performer on Broadway.

After 1943's "Cabin In The Sky," she didn't work again until 1949 when she appeared in "Pinky" as the strong black grandmother of the tragic mulatto character. Her portrayal won her an Oscar nomination for best supporting actress. By this time, her good looks had succumbed to obesity, and she could carry for the image of the big strong black woman who was so full of humanity. Water's greatest accomplishment was the great dignity she brought to this stereotyped role. Unfortunately, her exploitation by the Hollywood system made her life a tragedy.

### Fair game

The Faculty Senate is, and should be, fair game at Penn State. By no means is the senate perfect. It's unwieldy, weak and inefficient — probably considered ineffective,

But, journalism Professor R. Thomas Berner's letter to The Daily Collegian of Feb. 6 requires some response in whether you know it now or not. I have already established that he blames the "last true fortress of conservatism" for that to know God is to understand, although not completethe defeat of computer literacy. Berner's professional prose continues: "Once again the conservatives held the day and turned back the advancing hordes."

those who spoke for/against computer literacy as to their us, the penalty may be far worse. Knowing the law helps. least as many self-styled liberals spoke against computer literacy. Some would even be shocked to be considered conservative.

The computer literacy goings-on are in the senate record available for anyone to review. Debate combatants with God. Man is the source of the controversy. Something can easily be contacted. Might make a useful class project is wrong with man. Recognize also that the church does — for journalism students.

Alvi O. Voigt **Professor Agriculture Economics Extension** 

### Excuses

Feb. 8

In reply to Sim David Aberson's letter (reader opinion, Feb. 8), I would only like to suggest that Mr. Aberson examine the issues a bit more thoroughly. The church does not cause the controversies over the Equal Rights Amendment and abortion, it merely offers could have easily had an abortion and that would have solutions. Mr. Aberson, if, by chance, you have been

swayed in your opinion of the church by some fanatic atop the Williard Building steps, I am deeply sorry. Perhaps, it would do you well to research what God, via the church, does in fact impart upon society. For those of you who have read Mr. Aberson's letter, l

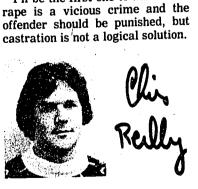
would like to add these corrections. First of all, the church in recent years has not "delegated" the roles that each sex should play - God has. The nor are we making her into a martyr, we are merely Supreme Being is something you and I cannot even begin asking what National Honor Society defines as "lead-

to conceive of. And yet, he knows of us. He does in fact love ership" us for what we are and what he wants us to become. Mr. Aberson, please do not confuse the matter by saying Why aren't you USG president? Why isn't there a question that God wants men to hold "masculine-oriented" jobs,

and women to hold feminine ones. You, yourself, do not graduate Admissions Application? understand what he wants. You and I can only pray that it will be revealed to us. (When you do not seek to know God, high school, but tell us where in the NHS code does it say however, you do not fully understand yourself. And by the that morality is a requirement. self, I do not mean your pet vice or jealousy, I mean what Walter J. Szmanski, sophomore-chemical engineerng you were placed here for to begin with.)

Secondly, Mr. Aberson, anything that runs counter to Feb. 8

### Two months ago, three South Carolina men were convicted of rape and given a choice of sen- curtailing repeat offenders. tences: 30 years in prison or castra-I'll be the first one to admit that



I'm sure many women will disagree, but I believe that castration is cruel and unusual punishment. Norval Morris, professor of law at Chicago University, said castration "is in the same spirit as lopping off arms of shoplifters or the tongues of libelists."

Should we revert to a system of justice that includes drawing and quartering and burning at the stake? These methods serve only to satisfy a vengeful public and do little to solve the problem at hand good because a prison environment - preventing rapists from repeatof incarceration and rehabilitation,

including new drug therapies,

fiable punishment to some, but it is atmosphere, but I do feel that con-

legal and ethical reprisals. through in rehabilitating rapists, Provera, the first injectable birth ested on many rapists in an effort o lower their sexual drive. The drug lowers the level of testosterone in the body, and has been proven effective in curbing rapists.

Depo-Provera. Only 15 percent of those treated have been repeat system is ineffective at best, but if of those traditionally incarcerated. ists often does more harm than

tends to escalate existing hostilities ing their crime. I feel that a system and does little to improve mental in journalism and a columnist for health. Prisons tend to turn out The Daily Collegian

### "church" beliefs is not a threat to the church --- it's a threat to yourself, meaning all of us. The church only has your welfare in mind. Whether you choose to accept its guidelines is your prepogative.

Thirdly, you are right; the ERA, feminism, birth control and homosexuality do conflict with church guidelines. They also collide head on with your own true nature, ly, your own true nature.

Finally, if you violate the laws of State College, you may frequently find yourself in jail. Similiarly, if you contin-Evidently, a definition of conservative is in order. Ask ually break the Moral Law which God has imparted upon liberal leanings. I'm betting at Knowing God helps even more. Without him we are illequipped for life in State College or anywhere else . So go ahead, Mr. Aberson, exercise your free will. That's what I'm doing. But please recognize: there is nothing wrong with the church . . . There is nothing wrong not alienate you, or anyone, from God — only you, yourself, can do that.

We are writing this letter in response to the lette

Mr. Murphy, you wrote about the lack of leadership and

responsibility of Ms. Pfeiffer. Mr. Murphy, Ms. Pfeiffer

been the end of it, but she decided to assume the large

responsibility of having the child and raising it as a single

She put everything on the line, her reputation, her social

life, and her future plans to have the child; that decision,

Mr. Murphy, shows me a person who can handle both

Michael Murphy (reader opinion, Feb. 8).

parent while finishing her education.

Scott Pyle, junior-journalism

### Leadership

Feb. 8

## Human nature

or another but we never think to write about it. It's 7:40, you're heading to class and you get to your destination without becoming part of the pavement. To those people who arrive to class without a hair out o place, I consider you to be Class I. Class I people haven't a clue to the definition of the word "embarrassment." The second class of people are those who walk, slip awkwardly on the ice for a moment but like weebles.

wobble but they don't fall down. These people, after regaining their composure, look around to see if anyone saw, take a deep breath, and sigh to themselves, "I'm cool, I'm cool." Class II people are extremely useful to society; they are walking detour signs. The third class of people, or better yet, the one closest to

my heart, are people who not only slip awkwardly, but turkey, chirping, "Here human, let me force feed you throw all their books 50 feet in the air and in a reverse pike some of this stuff. position land on their head. They now have two options Human nature is a funny thing. If you take a minute to one, to pretend they're seriously hurt to ease the pain of think about it, you will probably smile instead of criticizembarrassment, or two, stand up, pick up their recently ing the world that surrounds you. bought \$300 books which cost the bookstore \$35, limp to the nearest bathroom and chew on their Walkman. If you're in Class III don't feel bad. You are still better Corey O. Balzer, senior-hotel, restaurant, institutiona off than the person who comes to your aid. It doesn't management matter who comes to help, they fall symptom to the Feb. 7

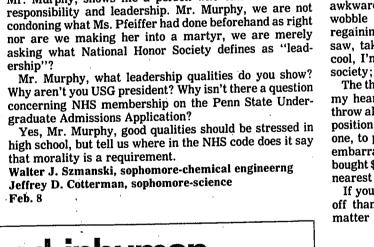
# Lost in space: right. The other day I dialed NASA's 900 number to listen to the space shuttle astronaut's conversations with ground control. But somehow the wires got crossed and I found myself listening to the following conversation: Mita NY

"Hello. Indonesian Astro Developments? This is NASA Orbital Delivery Company. We've got a little problem.' "What sort of problem, NASA?"

"Well, you know that satellite we were going t deliver to orbit for you?' "Ah yes. That wonderful satellite. Seventy-five mil-

lion dollars is a big investment for our poor country, but we're sure it will be worth it." "Er, yes. Did you happen to have the insured?

"Why? Has there been an accident?" "Not exactly. The satellite is working perfectly. But



Castration: cruel and inhuman

would be much more effective in Castration may seem like a justi-

not always entirely successful. After castration, a man may still be py can do far more to stop potential capable of having intercourse, and stosterone is readily available in pills or injections to restore potency. Also, many doctors refuse to perform such surgery for fear of

In tests at Johns-Hopkins Univer-

hard-core criminals rather than rehabilitated convicts. Don't get me wrong, I don't favor pampering rapists in a country club finement in conjunction with thera-

repeat offenders than castration. I realize that I could never experience the humiliation and fear that is felt by a rape victim, but being a male, I can identify with a man who is about to be castrated. The criminal brings back scenes from

man, it clearly violates the Consti-Our prison system today is becoming rapidly overcrowded. The courts sentence criminals and ship them out to prisons that can't accommodate them. Isn't it about time we tried to rehabilitate crimica reflects the fact that our penal offenders, compared to 85 percent we begin to adopt programs like Depo-Provera treatment, we could

Chris Reilly is a senior majoring

There has been a new break- thought of physically mutilating a and it comes from an unlikely the Inquisition or a Nazi death source - contraceptives. Depo- camp. Not only is castration inhu-

system.

control drug for females, has been tution. sity, 150 convicted rapists volun- nals instead of just locking them teered to undergo treatment with up? The rising crime rate in Ameri-

Traditional imprisonment of rap- go a long way in improving that

# Examining the 'image' of Black Americans through the eyes of Hollywood

The most successful black leading lady ever was Dorothy Dandridge. Her acting ability was unquestioned, and her talent for creating realistic emotion was recognized by the world. Add to that the sheer beauty of the woman, and you have a star of the first magnitude. Like many others, she was first a stage entertainer before turning to films.

mulatto. "Carmen Jones" was the most lavish and most publicized all-black film up to that point and featured a number of actors and actresses who would go on to great fame including Diahann Carroll, Olga James, Brock Peters, Pearl Bailey and Harry Belafonte

The film placed Dorothy Dandridge in the spotlight, and she became the first black person to be on the cover of "Life" magazine as well as the first black actress to eceive a nomination for Best Actress. Like Nina Mae McKinney before her, stardom brought few roles for Dandridge, but she did receive a great deal of publicity, particularly linking her to a series of white lovers that included Tyrone Power, Peter Lawford and Otto Preminger. Her next three films were all built around the theme of the tragic mulatto in an interracial love affair. Her last important role was that of Bess in the film "Porgy and Bess" in 1959. Following a series of disasters both personal and professional, Dandridge was found dead in 1965 at age 41, from an overdose of anti-depres-Miss Dandridge was honored by having

her star added to the Hollywood Walk of Fame in January of this year. The Paul Robeson Cultural Center will be

featuring films starring some of the actresses mentioned above throughout the month of February. All films are on Thursdays at 7 p.m., and are free. "Stormy Weather will be shown on Feb. 9, "Carmen Jones" on Feb. 16, and "Pinky" on Feb. 23.



ridiculous question syndrome. For example, someone, usually the person who was walking two steps behind you, Satire is a style of writing that seems to have gone out of sees you have just fallen and you're bleeding in a style circulation, so in this view I hope you will agree that there common to chainsaw movies, you look like a pretzel, and are three types of people during the winter; those who they say, "Are you hurt"? "No, I always wanted to see if I walk, slide or fall on the ice. We all fall into one category could wrap both my legs behind my ears and test my blood type at the same time."

The ridiculous question syndrome hits all of us including people in high places. The student government is taking a survey to find out if we liked the semester system. Why? If every Penn Stater answered no and we hated it, Penn State will obviously switch to a new system. Right?

I personally think semesters are too long. I felt like Pavlov's dog salivating a week before Thanksgiving. The break gave us only enough time to bring back every relative's leftover turkey. "C'mon take some back, your roommates will eat it," demanded my second aunt, three cousins removed. I replied, "I already have enough to feed every squirrel and chipmunk on campus." By the end of November I saw squirrels standing by Willard armed with

Eavesdropping on NASA Mission Control Everyone has those days when nothing seems to go we seem to have misplaced it.' "You mean you've lost it?"

"Oh, not at all. We know where it is. It just isn't where it's supposed to be." "Where did you put it? You were supposed to leave it 22,300 miles above the equator.' "Not really. NASA's job was to deliver it to low earth

orbit. And we did that; our crew did a great job." "Low earth orbit? But it won't do us any good there. You told us you would put it in geosynchronous orbit." "No, that's not our responsibility. According to the delivery agreement, Hughes and McDonnell-Douglas are responsible for sending it up the rest of the way. Unfortunately they experienced a slight malfunction in the Payload Assist Module. Your satellite didn't quite make it up to its parking space." "Well, can't you bring it back? We've heard so much

about how your wonderful space shuttle will be able to retrieve defective satellites.' "Sorry, no can do. We expected your satellite to be

22,300 miles out before it broke down. The shuttle can't fly that high, so we didn't bother to provide the satellite with retrieval hardware." "What are you going to do now?"

"Not much we can do, old chap. But look at the bright side. A \$75 million chunk of useless electronics in orbit makes for a pretty classy international status symbol.'

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